

Face to Face Bible Bits

The Book of Genesis
Chapter 2 verses 4-9, 15-17,
Chapter 3 verses 1-13

1 God the life-maker face to face with humans the life-breakers



When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, no grass or plants were growing anywhere. God had not yet sent any rain, and there was no one to work the land. But streams came up from the ground and watered the earth. The LORD God took some dirt from the ground and made a human. God breathed life into the nostrils of the human, and the human started breathing. The LORD made a garden in a place called Eden, which was in the east, and he put the man there.



The LORD God filled the garden with all kinds of beautiful trees and fruit trees. Two other trees were in the middle of the garden. One of these gave life—the other gave knowledge of good and evil



The LORD God put the human in the garden to take care of it and to look after it. But the LORD told him, “You may eat fruit from any tree in the garden, except the one that has the power to let you know the difference between good and evil. If you eat any fruit from that tree, you will die.”

Some time later

The snake was sneakier than any of the other wild animals that the LORD God had made. One day it came to the woman and asked, “Did God tell you not to eat fruit from any tree in the garden?”

The woman answered, “God said we could eat fruit from any tree in the garden, except the one



in the middle. He told us not to eat fruit from that **tree** or even to touch it. If we do, we will die.”

“No, you won’t!” the **snake** replied. “God understands what will happen on the day you eat **fruit** from that **tree**. You will see what you have done, and you will know the difference between right and wrong, just as God does.”

The **woman** stared at the **fruit**. It looked beautiful and tasty. She wanted the wisdom that it would give her, and she ate some of the **fruit**. The **man** was there with her, so she gave some to him, and he ate it too. At once they saw what they had done, and they realized they were naked. Then they sewed **fig leaves** together to cover themselves.

Late in the afternoon, when the breeze began to blow, the **man and woman** heard the **LORD God** walking in the **garden**. So they hid from the face of **God** behind some **trees**.

The **LORD God** called out to the **man** and asked, “Where are you?”

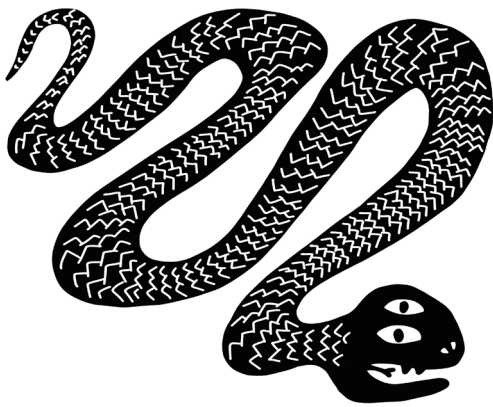
The **man** answered, “I was naked, and when I heard you walking through the **garden**, I was frightened and hid!”

“How did you know you were naked?” **God** asked. “Did you eat any **fruit** from that tree in the middle of the **garden**?”

“It was the **woman** you put here with me,” the **man** said. “She gave me some of the **fruit**, and I ate it.”

The **LORD God** then asked the **woman**, “What have you done?”

“The **snake** tricked me,” she answered, “and I ate some of that **fruit**.”



(read more in Genesis 2 and 3)

Bonus Story:

When Jesus lived in the middle east in the first century in a visible human body he did and said such things that people began to scratch their heads in amazement, because the things he did often reminded people of the stories of God from their traditions and ancestors – a God who reaches out to help those suffering, a God who loves life and loves people and celebrates and cares. A God who gets angry when people are ripped off or not given a fair go.

And then, there was this one time when Jesus got his hands muddy to heal a man who was born blind. It kind of reminded them of the oldest stories they knew of a God who carefully molded and made humans from the muddy earth itself, and gave them a home in glorious garden.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man who had been blind since birth. Jesus' disciples asked, "Teacher, why was this man born blind? Was it because he or his parents sinned?" "No, it wasn't!" Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him.

Then he spit on the ground. He made some mud and smeared it on the man's eyes. Then he said, "Go wash off the mud in Siloam Pool." The man went and washed in Siloam, which means "One Who Is Sent." When he had washed off the mud, he could see.

The man's neighbors and the people who had seen him begging wondered if he really could be the same man. Some of them said he was the same beggar, while others said he only looked like him. But he told them, "I am that man."

"Then how can you see?" they asked.

He answered, "Someone named Jesus made some mud and smeared it on my eyes. He told me to go and wash it off in Siloam Pool. When I did, I could see."

(Read more in John 9)