

3:1

Now the serpent identified as Satan (Revelation 12:1-3; 12:9; 20:10) and the devil (John 8:44) was ^bmore cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?” This is untrue. God told them in chapter two they could actually eat any tree of the garden but one.

3:2-3

And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the ^cfruit of the trees of the garden; She doesn’t seem surprised (any more than Balaam does that he is talking to a donkey, Numbers 22-24). Of course, she corrects the serpent’s error but then adds something, apparently, in the next verse. We may assume that God never forbade their “touching” of it, but that is a minor point. **3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat it, nor shall you ^dtouch it, lest you die.’**” perhaps she thought it was said this way. She didn’t hear it from God’s mouth, and we are sure that Adam didn’t lie to her (or that would have been “the fall”).

3:4-5

^eThen the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. This dispels the idea that Eve wasn’t sure of God’s words. She knew He promised death (or else Satan’s rebuttal wouldn’t make sense). **5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God,** the same Hebrew word is used in Genesis 1:1 and so the singular is important here. **knowing good and evil.**” This was true. This **God** said so, and is yet an “us” (3:22).

you will be like God just as he desired (Isaiah 14:14). He offers to those in God’s image that which he himself could not obtain.

^b2 Cor. 11:3

^cGen. 2:16, 17

^dEx. 19:12, 13; Rev. 22:14

^e2 Cor. 11:3; 1 Tim. 2:14; 1 John 3:8.