

The Tree of Life ...

- (Proverbs 3:18 ESV) She [wisdom] is **a tree of life** to those who lay hold of her; those who hold her fast are called blessed.
- (Proverbs 11:30 ESV) The fruit of the righteous is **a tree of life**, and whoever captures souls is wise.
- (Proverbs 13:12 ESV) Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is **a tree of life**.
- (Proverbs 15:4 ESV) A gentle tongue is **a tree of life**, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.
- (Revelation 2:7 ESV) He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of **the tree of life**, which is in the paradise of God.
- (Revelation 22:1–2 ESV) Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, **the tree of life** with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.
- (Revelation 22:14 ESV) Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to **the tree of life** and that they may enter the city by the gates.
- (Revelation 22:18–19 ESV) I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in **the tree of life** and in the holy city, which are described in this book.



■ Early, basic lessons from Genesis.

- We are no match for the schemes of the devil, 3:1.
- We must always obey God’s clearly stated truth, 3:2-3.
- We must never allow the devil to obscure clearly stated truth with unanswered or unanswerable questions, 3:4.
- We must never allow the devil to undermine the goodness of God with unanswered or unanswerable questions, 3:5-6a.
- We must choose God over humans, 3:6b.

■ The facts of the disobedience of the man and the woman.

- **The woman and her husband both ate fruit from the tree.**
—(Genesis 3:6 ESV) So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.
- **The woman was deceived.**
—(Genesis 3:13 ESV) Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”
- **The man was not deceived.**
—(1 Timothy 2:13–14 ESV) For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.

■ So why did the man also eat the fruit?

- **The man and the woman were a perfect fit. God had seen to that.**
—(Genesis 2:18 ESV) Then the Lord God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”
- **The man was exultant at the creation of the Woman.**
—(Genesis 2:23 ESV) Then the man said, “This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.”
- **BOTTOM LINE:** Adam chose Eve over God.