

Unmanageable **Unmanageable Temptation**

I. Introduction

A. Genesis 2:15-17 (NLT) ¹⁵*The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ¹⁶But the LORD God warned him, "You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden ¹⁷—except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die."*

B. Genesis 3:1-2 (NLT) ¹*The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day he asked the woman, "Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?" ²"Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden," the woman replied.*

1. Satan is planting a little seed of doubt in Eve's mind about the goodness of God.

C. Genesis 3:3 (NLT) *"It's only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, 'You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.'"*

1. Eve is rationalizing, and justifying what she wants to do!

2. If you're walking down that road, and rationalizing in your mind doing something you know you shouldn't do, stop for a moment and face reality!

D. Genesis 3:4-5 (NLT) ⁴*"You won't die!" the serpent replied to the woman. ⁵"God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil."*

1. Eve does not involve Adam in her decision-making process!

2. One of THE most important things you can do with temptation is to tell somebody!

E. Genesis 3:6 (NLT) *The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too.*

F. Genesis 3:7-9 (NLT) ⁷*At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves. ⁸When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man and his wife heard the LORD God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the LORD God among the trees. ⁹Then the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?"*

1. What God is doing is He's giving Adam the opportunity to freely choose to confess his sin.

G. Genesis 3:10 (NLT) *He replied, "I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked."*

H. Genesis 3:11 (NLT) *"Who told you that you were naked?" the LORD God asked. "Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?"*

I. Genesis 3:12 (NLT) *"It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it."*

1. That's when blame enters into human history.

J. Genesis 3:21 (NLT) *And the LORD God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife.*

1. God doesn't want sin to have the last word!
2. This blood is shed so their shame would be covered; so that their fellowship with God might be restored.

K. Hebrews 4:15 (NAS) *For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.*

1. God has not given up on you!

II. Conclusion