1 Peter 2:21-25 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. v22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." v23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. v24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. v25 For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Genesis 2:8-9 Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. v9 And the LORD God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground-trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 2:15-17 The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. v16 And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; v17 but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

THE MASTER ON A TREE

I. <u>THE MASTER ON A TREE UNDERSTOOD THE EFFECT OF THE</u> <u>FALL</u>

Romans 5:12-14 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned-- v13 for before the law was given, sin was in the world. But sin is not taken into account when there is no law. v14 Nevertheless, death reigned from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command, as did Adam, who was a pattern of the one to come.

i. <u>EATING FROM THE TREE WAS A CHALLENGE TO GOD'S</u> <u>SOVEREIGNITY</u> –

Genesis 3:1-7 v1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" v2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, v3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die." v4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. v5 "**For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil**."

ii. EATING FROM THE TREE CAUSED CONDEMNATION FROM GOD – Genesis 3:23-24 So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. v24 After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

iii. <u>EATING FROM THE TREE CAUSED ETERNAL SEPERATION FROM</u> <u>GOD</u> –

Genesis 2:15-17 The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. v16 And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; v17 **but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die**."

II. THE MASTER ON A TREE UNDERSTOOD THE NEED TO REVERSE THE SYMBOL OF THE FALL

1 Peter 2:22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." v23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. v24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree...

i. JESUS OBEYED THE WILL OF GOD -

1 Peter 2:22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

Adam and Eve were specifically told not to eat of *the tree of the knowledge of good and evil*, **YET DISOBEYED**

Matthew 4:1-11 The Temptation of Jesus

v1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. v2 After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. v3 The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." v4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." v5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. v6 "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone." v7 Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test." v8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. v9 "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." v10 Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" v11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

ii. JESUS WILLINGLY TOOK THE BLAME FOR OUR SIN -

1 Peter 2:23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

The first thing Adam and Eve did was to blame someone else for their sin. (THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT!!!)

v9 But the LORD God called to the man, "Where are you?" v10 He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid." v11 And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" v12 The man said, "The woman you put here with me--she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it." v13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

iii. JESUS RECEIVED OUR PUNISHMENT IN HIS BODY -

v24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree.

SIN HOLDS PEOPLE IN BONDAGE

Genesis 3:23-24 So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. v24 After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side [5] of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

III. THE MASTER ON A TREE SET US FREE FROM THE EFFECT OF THE FALL

1 Peter 2:21-25 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. v22 "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." v23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. v24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. v25 For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

i. JESUS IMPUTED HIS RIGHTOUSNESS INTO US -

v24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness

We are accepted by God not because of our goodness, we are accepted based purely on what Jesus did for us.

ii. JESUS HEALS US COMPLETELY -

v24 He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; **by his wounds you have been healed**.

The healing we receive is far better that the teaching of "health and wealth" promised by false churches. This HEALING is HEALING IN THE DEPTH of our SOUL.

iii. JESUS PROMISES ETERNAL SECURITY –

v25 For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

ONLY JESUS CAN KEEP YOUR SOUL SAFE!