

THE EDENIC LAW

Toledoth is a Hebrew term used to divide the second manuscript of Genesis into eleven sections.

We are currently studying Toledoth I (Gen.2:4-4:26) entitled, "The Toledoth (generations) of the Heavens and the Earth." (Gen.2:4)

Today's lesson deals with the only recorded commandment given to mankind during the Garden of Eden period (tsawah / piel impf) (Gen.2:16).

This lesson will study six aspects of the Edenic Law.
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1. We will examine our lesson text by the following three homiletical points regarding the Directive Will of God (Directive, Permissive, Over-Ruling).

- Provisional Will of God (Gen.2:16) Freely
- Prohibition Will of God (Gen.2:17a) Forbidden
- Punitive Will of God (Gen.2:17b) Fatal

2. The Edenic Law is the only commandment that carried a punitive consequence upon the entire human race throughout human history for its violation.

(Gen.2:17) "But from the tree of knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die."

The 13 judicial charges resulting from Adam's Original Sin (AOS) is passed down onto every member of the human race through physical birth (Rom.5:12-21; 1 Cor.15:22; John 1:29; 1 John 2:1-2).

3. The Edenic Law became the model for other biblical commandments like the Ten Commandments of Exodus 20.

One aspect of the model is the difference between a Hebrew imperative, which is a positive command and a Hebrew prohibitive imperfect, which is a negative command.

"Prohibitions are expressed either by (lo) [not] with the imperfect or by (al) [not] with the jussive" (Yates and Owes, pg.44).

An example of this principle is found in the last six commands of the Ten Commandments (Ex.13-17).

The fifth commandment is honor (piel impv). The next five are prohibitions (kal imperfect 2ps) (**lo**) ["You shall not"]

In Gen.2:17, the prohibition (negative command) is, "You shall not eat (akal / kal impf.2ps) (lo).

4. The Edenic Law introduced a second Hebrew grammatical model. It introduced the positive and negative absolute infinitive.

“When an infinitive is used before a finite verb, it intensifies the meaning of the finite verb.”

- Gen.2:16 introduced the positive absolute infinitive: “Eating, you may eat.”
- Gen.2:17 introduced the negative absolute infinitive: “Dying, you will die.”

Only two of the four categories of trees of the Garden of Eden were given names by God:

- _____ and _____ (Gen.2:8-9).
- Only one tree was forbidden _____.

Divine knowledge doesn't come from disobedience but from studying and applying the Word of God (Rom.10:17; 1 Tim.2:15; Luke 24:27).

What happened to the Garden trees after the fall? (Gen.3:22-24; Rev.2:7; 22:1-2, 14, 18-19)

5. The Edenic Law was given by the Lord God at Bible study in the Garden of Eden (Gen.2:16-17; 3:1-3).

After the fall, when they heard the Lord God walking (John 4:24), it reminded them of the good times of Bible study. They referred to it as in the “cool of the day” (Gen.3:8). They lived under perfect climate. Apparent this was a reference to word of God bringing **refreshment to the soul**.

It also show tone orientation and familiarity to issues of the heart.

The best way for a Believer to learn the truth of the Word of God is in assembly study.

(Heb.10:25) “Not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.”

6. One purpose of the Tree of Knowledge (death / ginosko) was to teach Believers that “Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.” (Matt.4:4)

Knowledge of good and evil comes from obedience to the directive will of God (Eph.1:9-12; Gen.3:5-7; 2 Cor.10:4-5).

(1 Tim.4:16) “Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things; for as you do this you will insure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.”