

The Drama of Scripture: The Fall (Part 3)

Act 1: Creation. This part of the drama is full of beauty and reveals a God of goodness and awesome power. The highlight of the act is the creation of humanity (man and woman) in God's image. It's a beautiful scene. Unfortunately, the story quickly takes a terrible turn in Act 2: The Fall. We'd love to skip to the end of the story to find better news, but it is vital that we understand this Act with all of its darkness for it explains our world, our history, our relationships; . . . it explains us.

Opening Question: *"We human beings are a mystery to ourselves. We are rational and irrational, civilized and savage, capable of deep friendship and murderous hostility, free and in bondage, the pinnacle of creation and its greatest danger. We are Rembrandt and Hitler, Mozart and Stalin, Antigone and Lady Macbeth, Ruth and Jezebel"* (Daniel Migliore, *Faith Seeking Understanding*, p. 139).

What's your reaction to this statement?

Read Genesis 3

1. What does this chapter reveal about the world in which the man and woman find themselves?
2. What was the basic sin of Adam and Eve?
3. What would you say to the person who says, "What was so evil about this sin? All they did was eat some fruit. It seems sort of trivial"?
4. What were the consequences of Adam and Eve's sin? How did it affect their relationship with each other? With God? With creation?

