

THE CHICAGO BRANCH

"I am the vine; you are the branches".

John 15:5

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The Price We Pay

by GINO PESCE

DATELINE: EDEN

After years of peace and quiet, the Garden of Eden became the scene of an unbelievable story.

At last report Adam and Eve were enjoying a perfect relationship with God and each other, not to mention a lifestyle in which all their needs were met, without any hassles. A perfect couple in a perfect world with a perfect God (sounds like a perfect setup to me) blew it, so to speak, by one act of disobedience.

Yes, it was the serpent again. The last time we reported on him he was doing his best to corrupt as much as he could, whenever he could, and wherever he could.

God told man not to eat the fruit of a certain tree in the garden. The crafty serpent lied to Eve, "Come on, you don't believe that stuff about dying do you? God just wants to spoil your fun and keep you dumb all your life." Well . . . Eve swallowed that line along with some of the forbidden fruit. Adam figured it didn't kill Eve, so he might as well partake, too. One small bite for man, one giant mess for mankind.

You may be thinking, "What is the big deal about eating a little fruit." Remember, however, it was God they disobeyed. You know, Creator of the universe and all that other good stuff.

Meanwhile . . . Eve blamed the serpent, Adam blamed Eve, Adam hid from God and God

laid down some rules for his people.

He dealt with the serpent first. That snake will be crawling around on his belly, eating dust, from now on. Human beings end up with pain in childbirth and cursed ground which has to be tilled for food (you know, WORK!); not one, but two kinds of death--physical and spiritual; and disease. They also have to wear clothes, because they are ashamed of their bodies (more WORK!). It sure seemed easier the other way. God did mention a way out of this mess, but that's another story.

God also said humans lost the direct access they had to Him before the fruit incident. Boy, it sure was a stupid, idiotic notion to think that man could disobey God and get away with it. Yeah, Stupid Idiotic Notion, that's what I'll call it--SIN. If it wasn't for SIN, everything could be perfect again.

This story was written by Arnold the Angel, commenting from the heavenly realms.

PS: This just in! The serpent is quoted as saying, "Don't you reporters have anything better to write about than someone eating a fruit in a garden! You guys are always making a big deal out of nothing!!"

For information on how to get out of the "Sin Mess," write visit or call:

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