

PARSHAT B'RREISHIT
Genesis, Ch. 3 - Ch. 6, v8

I. How Can You Possibly Trust a Snake?

- A. How did the Nachash (snake) convince Eve that she could eat the “apple” and not die?
- B. What is the point of this story?

II. The Challenges and Responsibilities of Parenting.

- A. In the story of Cain and Abel, where are Adam and Eve?
- B. Was any concern demonstrated by the “family” for its various members?
- C. Can this be seen as a significant message about the value of parental involvement, as opposed to neglect, in dealing with children?

III. Free Will.

HaShem imbued “man” with free will. Yet we note that “man” faced consequences as a result of choosing not to comport with HaShem’s moral and ethical expectations. That being the case, what was the value of giving “man” free will?

IV. Evolving Expectations.

- A. How did HaShem’s expectations of “man” change as “man” evolved in the stories related in Parshat B’Reishit?
- B. In what way do you think this is reflected in the story of Adam and Eve after the murder of Abel?
- C. In what way was it reflected in the depiction of Cain and his descendants?

V. An Evolving Deity?

- A. What does the last sentence of this Parsha suggest about HaShem’s readiness to adapt a plan... “But Noah found favor with the Lord.”?
- B. Would you say that as “man” evolved, HaShem also adapted?