

An Exposition of the 2nd (1689) London Baptist Confession
Chapter 6.1: Of the Fall of Man, of Sin, and of the Punishment Thereof

6.1 Although God created man upright and perfect, and gave him a righteous law, which had been unto life had he kept it, and threatened death upon the breach thereof, ^a yet he did not long abide in this honor; Satan using the subtlety of the serpent to subdue Eve, then by her seducing Adam, who, without any compulsion, did willfully transgress the law of their creation, and the command given to them, in eating the forbidden fruit, ^b which God was pleased, according to His wise and holy counsel to permit, having purposed to order it to His own glory.¹

^a Gen. 2:16–17 ^b Gen. 3:12–13; 2 Cor. 11:3

1. God created man upright and perfect, and gave him a righteous law, which had been unto life had he kept it, and threatened death upon the breach thereof, yet he did not long abide in this honor.
 - a. Man was created “good”, upright and perfect (Genesis 1:31).
 - i. Upright – endowed with goodness; able not to sin.
 - ii. Perfect – pure and without defect (Genesis 2:25).
 - b. God gave him a righteous law.
 - i. Moral law (cf. Romans 2:14-15).
 - ii. Positive law (Genesis 2:16-17).
 - iii. Covenant of Works – why the omission?
 - c. Man did not long abide in this honor.
 - i. How long?
 - ii. What was this honor (Genesis 1:27-28)?
2. Satan using the subtlety of the serpent to subdue Eve, then by her seducing Adam, who, without any compulsion, did willfully transgress the law of their creation, and the command given to them, in eating the forbidden fruit.
 - a. Satan used the subtlety of the serpent to subdue Eve (Genesis 3:1-6).
 - i. How did this work?
 - ii. Eve was “subdued” (cf. 2 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Timothy 2:14; Romans 6:17-18, 20, 22).
 - b. Eve “seduced” Adam (Genesis 3:6, 12-13).
 - c. Adam willfully transgressed the law of their creation **and** the command given to them in eating.

¹ **WCF** 6.1 Our first parent, being seduced by the subtilty and temptations of Satan, sinned, in eating the forbidden fruit. This their sin, God was pleased, according to His wise and holy counsel, to permit, having purposed to order it to His own glory.

Savoy 6:1 God having made a covenant of works and life, thereupon, with our first parents and all their posterity in them, they being seduced by the subtlety and temptation of Satan did willfully transgress the law of their creation, and break the covenant in eating the forbidden fruit.

- i. The law of their creation (Genesis 1:27-28; 1 Peter 1:15-16).
 - ii. The command given (Genesis 2:16-17).
- 3. Which God was pleased, according to His wise and holy counsel to permit, having purposed to order it to His own glory.
 - a. The fall was a manifestation of God's wise and holy counsel.
 - b. God permitted the fall (i.e. it was not coerced).
 - c. God purposed the fall to His own glory (Romans 11:32).