

# Why Did God Put the Tree of Knowledge in the Garden of Evil?

## (Part Two – Free Download)

### **Lesson objection:**

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to explain why God gave Adam and Eve a choice and what it means to love and trust God freely.

### **Let's make this simple.**

Imagine I just baked a fresh batch of cookies. The whole kitchen smells amazing. I call you in and say, **"You can have anything in here—but don't touch the cookies. I'll be back soon."**

Then I step out.

What you don't know is... I've set up a secret camera.

Now stop and think:

### **Why would I do that?**

Am I trying to trap you? Set you up to fail?

Or... am I trying to see something deeper?

I want to know:

Will you obey when no one's watching?

Will you honor what I said just because you trust me? Not because you're being watched—but because you care about our relationship.

This isn't about cookies.

**This is about your heart.**

God did something similar in the Garden of Eden. He gave Adam and Eve everything they needed. But He also gave them one clear boundary—the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Not because He wanted them to fall. But because He wanted them to choose love. Real love. Real trust.

Because love without a choice isn't love at all. It's control.

Here's how the Bible puts it:

Deuteronomy 8:2 (ICB)

"Remember how the Lord your God has led you in the desert for these 40 years. He took away your pride. He tested you. He wanted to know if you would obey his commands."

God still does this.

Not with trees or cameras or cookies—but with choices. Little moments where He asks, "Will you trust Me?"

So next time you're faced with a test—

A cookie on the counter.

A tree in the garden.

A temptation when no one else sees—

Remember:

It's not just a test. It's a chance to reveal what's in your heart.