

Friday 15 January 2021

Gen.3,6: *“When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.”*

Lk.6,39: *“Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into a pit?”*

By giving her husband the fruit so that he too might eat it, the woman sought to legitimise what she had done. His eating signalled agreement and the agreement signalled “It is good so; it is right for us to do so”, even though it wasn’t.

But why did he eat it? Was he tempted by the thought of what it would mean for their being together if he didn’t? Did he eat because that was the way to keep the peace? But if it was a peace-keeping mission, peace was not the result...

This short bit of Scripture gives opportunity to consider the fact that sin seeks our agreement so that in appearing to be legitimate it may appear no longer to be wrong; to consider how tempting it is to go along with sin in the conviction that it will make for peace, which must be right.

But sin doesn’t become right by agreement, and peace is not established by what is not right.

Peace comes to be established, however, where sins are forgiven – in Christ who procured that forgiveness for us through his death on the cross “for the sins of the world”.