

Genesis Ch. 3

V: 1 Three persons present:

1. Serpent
2. Woman
3. God: they are talking about God, what He said – and God is omnipresent.

- This truth would later be recorded in the Psalms:

Psalm 139:7-8 “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? ⁸If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.”

Jesus told us:

Matthew 28:20 “... lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

- The issue isn't God coming or going, whether He “appears” to be there or not.
- The issue is our awareness of His presence – because He is always there.

Seeing who is there, it seems obvious to note who is not there – Adam.

- Why isn't Adam there? Is he simply silent?
- Is he not paying attention to where his wife is?
- Has she wondered off and left him un-awares?
- Is she where she shouldn't be, near the forbidden tree?

All speculative questions with no real answers on this side of heaven.

- The serpent is known by many names and titles; Lucifer, Satan, Devil, Tempter, Accuser, Adversary, Dragon.

Revelation 20:2 “He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;”

- Serpent: in Hebrew literally means “ the shining one.”

The serpent was more cunning / subtle than any beast of the field.

Cunning, subtle, crafty – all in a negative sense.

- Satan poses the very first question described in the Bible.

The very first recorded statement of Satan is to question the Word of God?

“Has God indeed said?...”

- At the same time Satan purposefully mis-quotes the word of God – making God’s word appear to be un-reasonable or even unfair.

“...you shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”

- God had given the trees of the garden to man for food – our God is not in any way unreasonable.

V: 2-3 Engaging in conversation with the Serpent is the first mistake – giving ear to the enemy.

- The woman gets the first part of it right – “*we may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden.*”
- But the second part of what she says is not accurate; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, “*You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.*”
- The fact that she attributes this extra caution to God is where the error is.
- If she had said “and my husband says I can’t touch it either” that would be different – the fact is that this is not what God had said – even though it was probably not a bad idea.

2 Timothy 2:15 “Study / be diligent to show yourself approved unto God, a workman that needs not be ashamed, rightly dividing / handling the Word of Truth.”

- Knowing God’s word well enough to quote it accurately – taking care not to misrepresent God.
- As Moses would attest, God is very aware of how we represent Him – and the accuracy of our words.

Exodus 17:6/ Numbers 20:10-12 strike, speak, hear now ye rebels.

V: 4 “You shall not surely die.” – directly contradicting God’s word.

Genesis 2:17 “for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

- What have we seen thus far? Satan’s strategy:
 1. Question the Word of God.
 2. Mis-quote the Word of God.
 3. Contradict the Word of God.

Ecclesiastes 1:9 “That which has been is what will be, that which is done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.”

Questioning: Did God really say?

1. “You can’t really believe the Bible because it’s just a collection of old wives tales, and traditions”
2. “Oh it’s a good guideline in some things, it has good morals, but you can’t take it literally.

Misrepresenting: all the trees...

1. “Well, you know that David and Jonathan were lovers – so the Bible approves of homosexuality.”
2. “Money is the root of all evil!”
3. “God helps those who help themselves.”

Contradicting: “you will not surely die...”

1. “I know what the Bible says, but if two people are really in love...”
2. “Yes, but – you have to understand, in that culture, at that time....”
3. “Millions and millions of years ago...”

Proverbs 14:12 “There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.”

Proverbs 28:26 “He who trusts in his own heart is a fool,...”

Psalms 119:105 “Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”

God’s Word is timeless, and God’s Word is true – all of it.

2 Timothy 3:16 “For all scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

Jesus said:

John 8:31-32 “... If you abide in My Word, you are My disciples indeed.³² And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

- Free from the power of sin.
- Free from the lies of the enemy.
- When you know the truth, you will recognize the lie when it is presented.

Turn to: **Psalm 19:7-11**

Psalm 19:7-11 “⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; ⁸the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; ⁹the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether. ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. ¹¹Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward.”

V: 5 “*For God knows...*” – falsely representing God. God knows no such thing!

Isaiah 44:6 “Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel, and His Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: I am the First and I am the Last; besides Me there is no God.”

- What Satan is tempting Eve with is not an original thought; it’s been done before:

Isaiah 14:12-15 “How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! ¹³For you said in your heart: “I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.” ¹⁵Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit.”

“Knowing good from evil.”

- God doesn’t want us to know both, He only wants us to know good.

Romans 16:19b “... but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil.”

Elements of Hinduism & New Age movement:

1. You will not die – re-incarnation.
2. Your eyes will be opened – enlightenment.
3. You’ll be a god – blasphemy.

V: 6 “*So when the woman saw...*”

1. Good for food.
2. Pleasant to the eyes.
3. Desirable to make one wise.

Turn to 1 John 2:15

(V: 6 – cont.)

1 John 2:15-17 “Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world. ¹⁷And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.”

¹⁶For all that is in the world:

- A. “The lust of the flesh”, (Good for food).
- B. “The lust of the eyes”, (Pleasant to the eyes).
- C. “And the pride of life” (Desirable to make one wise).
“Is not of the Father but is of the world.”

“She took of it and ate.” – very often, we want things that we just shouldn’t have. ☹

James 4:3 “You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may consume it upon your lusts.”(KJV)

Hebrews 4:15 “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.”

- The 2nd Adam – Jesus was tempted as well, yet without sin.
- How did He do it?
 1. He was led by the Spirit.
 2. He relied upon the Word of God.

Luke Ch. 4 **Temptation of Jesus.** (Turn to)

- Jesus being filled with the Spirit, led by the Spirit into the wilderness and fasted, ate nothing for 40 days.

At the end of that:

¹**Luke 4:3** “And the devil said to Him, If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” - *appealing to the lust of the flesh.*

Jesus’ response:

Luke 4:4 “But Jesus answered him, saying, it is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.”

²**Luke 4:5-7** “Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. ⁶And the devil said to Him, all this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. ⁷Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours.” – *appealing to the lust of the eyes.*

Later Jesus would pray:

Matthew 26:42

(V: 6 – cont.)

Matthew 26:42 “... O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.”

- Satan is in essence saying – “let it pass”, you don’t need to go to the cross.
- This is one of Satan’s attempt to circumvent the cross – “just worship me and I’ll give it to you – same difference right?”

Jesus’ response:

Luke 4:8 “Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.”

³**Luke 4:9-11** “Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, “if You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. ¹⁰For it is written: “He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you, (in all Your ways) ¹¹and in their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.”” – *Appealing to the pride of life.*

- The crowds of people at the Temple would see this obvious miracle and recognize Jesus as the Holy One sent from God – again circumventing both the cross and God’s word.

Jesus’ response:

Luke 4:12 “And Jesus answered and said to him, It has been said, you shall not tempt the Lord your God.”

James 4:7 “Therefore submit to God. Resist the Devil and he will flee from you.”

- Jesus resisted the enemy and he fled – not necessarily at the very first, but he fled.

Psalm 119:11 “Thy word have I hid in my heart that I might not sin against you.”

1 John 2:13-14 “I write to you, fathers, because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the wicked one. I write to you, little children, because you have known the Father. ¹⁴I have written to you, fathers, because you have known Him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the wicked one.”

(V: 6 – cont.)

- All this time Adam was with Eve, observing, but not entering into the discussion, not supporting, not defending – not praying.
 1. Adam let the serpent talk without rebuke.
 2. Adam let Eve take the fruit and eat it.
 3. Adam took of the fruit from Eve and ate it also.

James 4:7 “Therefore submit to God. Resist the Devil and he will flee from you.”

V: 6b *“She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.”*

- Later, Adam would snivel to God, that Eve gave it to him – essentially blaming his wife.
- Wrongo dongo! – (Loosely translated) Hebrew for what a bunch of whooey!
- Adam was at a point of decision – to obey God, or to follow his wife.

Matthew 10:37 “He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me.

Matthew 19:29 “And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

- The issue wasn’t so much following his wife; the issue was obeying God, or making any other choice but to follow God. – Nothing else is justifiable.
- Eve was deceived, but Adam made a conscious choice.

1 Timothy 2:13-14 “For Adam was formed first, then Eve. ¹⁴And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.”

- Adam made a conscience choice to disregard what God had spoken.
- Adam disregarded the Word of God, committing willful sin.
- Loving his wife more than God - knowing that the consequence of his sin would be his own death.
- Adam had never seen death, nothing else had ever died.
- His only understanding of death would have to have come from God Himself.
- The Bible describes death in spiritual terms; which is eternal separation from God – spiritual death.

V: 7 3 things happened:

- The eyes of both of them were opened.
 - They knew that they were naked.
 - They tried to cover themselves up.
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- We can only really understand what has taken place in light of what our Lord has taught us in the New Testament.

Galatians 5:16 “I say then: walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

2 Corinthians 5:7 “For we walk by faith, not by sight.”

- When their eyes were opened, when they went from seeing in the Spirit to seeing by sight in the flesh.
- God had told them that *“in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”*

God created man in His image, an inferior trinity – Spirit, soul, and body.

1. God breathed life into man, the very Spirit of God, giving man life in the Spirit.
2. He gave man the ability to think and reason to exercise his mind – his soul.
3. He gave man a physical body with which he could work, and fulfill the purposes of God.

- The death that man died was death in the Spirit, no longer seeing in the Spirit, nor operating in the Spirit.
- As the spirit of man died, there came an immediate awareness of the physical realm – man saw that he was naked.
- Because God is a Superior Trinity consisting of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – it was in the realm of the Spirit that man had communion or fellowship with God.
- Now that man was dead spiritually, fellowship with God was broken – and man like Satan was now in a fallen state.

This is why Jesus would later tell us:

John 3:5-7 “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not marvel that I said to you, you must be born again.”

(V:7 cont.)

“They knew that they were naked;”

- Self-realization, it went from being all about God, to being all about me.

Matthew 6:33 “Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.”

- The 1st sin begets the 1st conspiracy: Eden gate – the 1st cover up.
- They tried to do what no man can; that is to cover their own sin.
- When it says that they sewed fig leaves together we think in terms of the fig leaves we see today – which given their relatively small size would actually fit in with our culture today.
- The fig leaves in the ante-deluvian world – the world before the flood were probably much much larger – and probably did a fair job of covering up.

Earlier in the description of the fall of Lucifer, “How you have fallen...”

Adam & Even started out clothed in God's light, in His glory...

Isaiah 61:10 “I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness,...”

Psalms 104:1-2 “Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great: You are clothed in honor and majesty, who cover Yourself with light as with a garment,...”

Now they seek to clothe themselves in their own righteousness...

Isaiah 64:6 “But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags;...”

V: 8 “God walking in the garden” – stated in such a casual way that this must have been a normal practice or occurrence, later Enoch would walk with God also.

- They just covered themselves with fig leaves, why are they hiding?
- They could cover their bodies, but they couldn't cover their sin.
- In their fallen state they could not stand in the presence of a Holy and a Righteous God.

Habakkuk 1:13 “You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, and cannot look upon iniquity.”

Isaiah 6:5 “So I said, woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Hosts.”

1. Sadly, this is the beginning of religion. Man attempting to cover his own guilt and sin by good works is what religion is all about. (Isaiah 64:4 self-righteousness)
2. Every religion begins with finite man on earth reaching out to an infinite God in heaven.
3. Finite man on earth trying to reach up to and or work his way to heaven.
4. The only way, is through a relationship with our infinite creator, who in love would condescend, and reach down to pick us up, and bring us to Heaven.

“Adam and his wife hid themselves, from the presence of the Lord.”

Psalm 139:7-8 “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? ⁸If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there.”

V: 9 God is the initiator, God is the one who initiates a relationship with sinful man:

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

Romans 5:8 “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”

- Man did not and does not in the flesh seek out God; he’s trying to hide.

Romans 3:10-11 “There is none righteous, no, not one; ¹¹there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God.”

- God “called” to Adam as opposed to “spoke” to Adam.
- “Called” implies distance, not being in His direct presence as it would be if God has “said” to Adam, or was “speaking” to Adam.

Isaiah 59:1-2 “Behold, the Lord’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. ²But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”

Called (H-7121). qara', kaw-raw', also translated as “cried out to”.

Where are you? What tone? Anger, grief, sorrow?

- The tone of a broken hearted Father.
- God knew exactly where Adam was, He was simply helping Adam to see where he was – what his condition was.
- God was bringing Adam to a place of truth

Psalm 51:6 “Behold, You require truth in the inward parts,...”

It is important to stop here and make sure that in this book of beginnings that we have a right concept of God. Too many have a wrong concept of God – that He is angry.

1. God is love.
2. God initiates His love toward us.
3. He wants us to be saved.
4. He wants us to be with Him and to have fellowship with Him forever.

This is the broken heart of a loving Father – He’s not condemning us, is not lashing out or even punishing us.

- He is paving the way for His Son Jesus to save us.

1 John 4:10 “In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

V: 9

Where are you?

- This question validates two things:
 1. Man was lost.
 2. That God had come to seek that which was lost.

V: 10 With sin, came death, and fear – the opposite of faith, and finally shame.

- Downward spiral – where will it end? (At the cross)
- Can we really hide from God? Can we really hide our sin?

Numbers 32:23 “... take note, you have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out.”

- Adam heard God’s voice, he heard the word of God – and it caused fear.

1 John 4:15-19 “Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him. ¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that

we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love. ¹⁹We love Him because He first loved us."

- Adam and Eve are just now entering into this process, a glorious process of learning the depth and breadth of God's love for us – Love so strong, so intense, that He would sacrifice all that He has and all that He is for us.
- God's Word is a revealer of sin, and in the child of God it brings conviction – awareness of sin – and it draws us to the natural conclusion; our need for repentance.

Hebrews 4:12 "The Word of God is quick and powerful (alive), and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Galatians 3:24 "Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith."

- God's word is intended to bring us to a right conclusion:

Jeremiah 29:11 "I know the thoughts that I think towards you says the Lord, thoughts for good and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. (to bring you to an expected end. KJV)

V: 11 Pointed questions: to which God already knows the answers.

- God is drawing Adam out, not only out of the bushes, but out of his deception, false pretenses, out of his delusions – just as He does with each of us!
- God is giving Adam an opportunity to confess and repent; the only Biblical solution for sin.

Psalms 51:6 "Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts..."

1 John 1:8-9 "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

- Confession and repentance is the only way to break the grip of sin in our lives, otherwise it has a strong hold upon us.
- Even though God knows the truth, He is not accusing – He is asking: God is giving Adam an opportunity to admit to / confess to His sin.

V: 12 There are only two responses to sin:

1. Repentance.
2. Rationalization.

- The woman You gave... she gave...

1st Adam blames God for giving him the woman.

2nd Adam blames the woman, for giving to him.

Trying to pass the buck, not accepting responsibility for his choice.

- It's not his fault – it's his environment: He was in a perfect place, paradise.
- It's not his fault – it's his parents fault, they didn't nurture him enough: God blessed Adam and gave him everything he needed.
- God doesn't "scold" Adam, He simply lets Adam's own words sink in, lets him think about what he just said.

V: 13 God now turns to address Eve.

- Eve follows her husbands lead, pass the buck. ("It's above my pay grade...")
- No repentance for either of them.

2 Corinthians 11:3 "But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."

Testimony: Ron (Couch): saved from Mormonism, married a Christian woman. Became an Christian apologist regarding cult of Mormonism: wife began to question Christianity / Mormon doctrine due to exposure – Ron saw the danger and rid himself of the materials to protect his wife.

Darryl (Fong): reading "Why The Bible Has Failed Us" – giving ear to the enemy.

Ephesians 4:27 "Neither give place to the devil."

Romans 16:19 "For your obedience has become known to all. Therefore I am glad on your behalf; but I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil."

V: 14 God doesn't ask Satan any questions.

1. God already knows.
2. There is no chance of getting the truth from Satan.
3. There is no possibility of his redemption or salvation.

John 8:44 “You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.”

“cursed” – 1st use, applied directly to Satan, to the ground, but not to man.

To pronounce evil upon, mis-fortune, doom.
Anathema: to condemn to damnation.

- Man is redeemable, angels are not as far as we know.

Hebrews 6:4-6 “For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, ⁵and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, ⁶if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.”

Hebrews 8:20 “For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope;”

V: 15 One of the practical outcomes of the fall is that women and snakes would become enemies.

- Like Eve and the Serpent, when people base their relationship on sin, they too inevitably become enemies.
- 1st Messianic prophecy: your seed, the enemy – and her seed – the “seed” of the woman.
- Woman don’t have “seed” per se, that is normally the man’s contribution.
- “Her seed” indicates the virgin birth.

Isaiah 7:14 “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you sign: behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.”

- An angel came to Mary and told her that she had found favor with God and would bear a son, who would be called the Son of the Highest. Mary, who had never known a man, wondered how this could be, and the angel explained the method God would use to bring to pass the birth of the child.

Your seed and her seed: **Ephesians 2:3-5**

1 John 3:9-10 “Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.
¹⁰In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.”

- Who is the serpent’s seed? The antichrist is called the “son of perdition”.
(2 Thessalonians 2:3)
- The seed of the woman is Jesus Christ.

“He shall bruise your head...”

Psalm 2:7-9 “I will declare the decree: the Lord has said to me, You are My Son, today I have begotten You. ⁸Ask of Me, and I will give You the nations Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth Your possession. ⁹You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

All the enemies plans were crushed on the cross of Jesus – victory!

“... and you shall bruise His heel.”

Isaiah 53:4-5 “Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God and afflicted. ⁵But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.”

V: 16 God is working in the same order chronologically – Satan fell first, then the woman, then Adam.

- God is not so much “cursing” Eve, or even judging her.
- God is declaring the natural inevitable consequences of sin.

Consequences:

Galatians 6:7-8 “Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸for he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.”

“Greatly multiply your sorrow” (H-6093) 'itstsabown, labor, pain, sorrow, toil.

“In pain you shall bring forth children” (H6089). 'etseb, painful toil; sorrow.

V: 17 Heeded / obeyed the voice of his wife over the word of God.

Matthew 6:33 “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you.”

Luke 14:26 “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.”

Isaiah 30:21 “You shall hear a word behind you saying, this is the way, walk in it when you turn to the right hand or when you turn to the left.”

“Cursed is the ground for your sake;”

- The whole laying it off on God and on Eve doesn’t seem to be getting much play here....

Prayer of Jabez:

1 Chronicles 4:9-10 “Now Jabez was more honorable than his brothers, and his mother called his name Jabez, saying, because I bore him in pain. ¹⁰And Jabez called on the god of Israel saying, Oh, that You would bless me indeed, and enlarge my territory, that Your hand would be with me, and that You would keep me from evil, that I may not cause pain! So God granted him what he requested.”

- Our actions, our sins impact others.

“cursed” – applied directly to Satan, cattle, every beast of the field, to the ground, but not to man (everything under his dominion) – man is redeemable!

To pronounce evil upon, mis-fortune, doom.

Anathema: to condemn to damnation.

V: 18-19 Thorns, a symbol of the fallen world, of the curse.

Matthew 27:27-29 “Then the soldiers of the governor took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole garrison around Him. ²⁸And they stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. ²⁹When they had twisted a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand. And they bowed the knee before Him and mocked Him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews!”

- The 2nd Adam was to bear the sins of the 1st Adam, and all the results thereof.
- Thorns, thistles, sweat & toil – until we die.
- Does anyone see retirement in this scenario?

“In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground...”

“For dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”

2 Corinthians 5:1-5 “¹For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands,

eternal in the heavens. ²For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, ³if indeed having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. ⁴For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. ⁵Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.”

V: 20 Adam resumes what he was doing before the fall, naming God’s creatures.

- Eve: life, living, “the giver of life”
- No longer just “Isha” – woman, “giver of life”.
- Adam speaks this new name by faith, as yet no children had been born.
- Adam understood what God meant in verse 15, he now realizes that from her will come his savior.
- He looked forward to the fulfillment of God’s word, and to his own salvation.

V: 21 God clothes Adam & Eve.

- Did they ask for this?
- Did they do something to deserve this or earn it?
- It appears to be a gift from God.

Ephesians 2:8-9 “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹not of works, lest any man should boast.”

Isaiah 61:10 “I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, ...”

- The fig leaves could not cover their sin, so God makes a covering of animal skins.
- The animals that died to allow this to happen; in a sense died a substitutionary death to provide a temporary covering – a kophar.

Hebrews 9:22 “And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.”

V: 22 When Adam and Eve rebelled from God's Word; they died spiritually, and they began the process of physical death, however slightly their bodies became subject to the law of death – something that we are all too familiar with today.

- It took Adam 930 years to succumb to this process. That same process is now working at an accelerated pace in each of our bodies.
- Today the average life span in the US is 79.5 yrs. Back in the 1800's it was around 40 yrs. Ponce de Leon's would've been please to get another 40 years.
- Imagine if the body continued to decay, and rot – but never die. It would be a living hell, a miserable existence.
- To ensure that this would not happen, got prevented access to the tree of life.
- As our bodies fall apart and die right out from under us – we too long for paradise! God uses aging to motivate us, not only to prayer, but to looking forward to being with Him!

1 Corinthians 15:54-55 “So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory. ⁵⁵O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?”

V: 23-24

- Why did God have to use a flaming sword? At this point man has proven un-trustworthy and rebellious.
- Why can't we control our heart beat or our breathing? Same reason; we're not trustworthy.
- God knows that we would die if left to our own devices, so he controls the most vital functions. I'm glad that He does!
- God “sent” him out of the garden, so he “drove out the man” – I wouldn't have wanted to go either.

Effect of sin:

Spiritual death - Curse: pronouncement of evil. - Enmity / contentions. - Sorrow
Pain - Toil, sweat - Eviction, up-rooted - Physical death

As Adam and Eve were leaving the garden, and looking back – what did they see?

- Cherubim; “im” = plural
- Two angels, bloody animal carcasses at their feet.
- [The Mercy Seat of God.](#)

Exodus 25:17-22 2 cherubim - at the two ends of the mercy seat – the presence of God; “And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat,”

John 20:12 “And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.”

A flaming sword, turning every which way:

Jeremiah 23:29 “Is not My word like a fire? Says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces.”

Hebrews 4:12 “The Word of God is quick and powerful (alive), and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

John 1:14 “And the Word became flesh, and we beheld His glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

- This chapter starts out with the Serpent, but it ends with a picture of Jesus!
- Happy ending! 😊