

Genesis: The Consequences

Genesis 3:7-24

Colossians 3:25 But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.

- There are always consequences for wrong decisions.
- Because God is just means there has to be consequences for evil.
- We have the privilege to do right or to do wrong, but we must live with the consequences of our choices

Consequences for humanity

Genesis 3:7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

- Last week – shame and manmade solutions
- First act of religion – cover their sin. Shame is introduced. Innate awareness of our own guilt.
- We cover by doing religious things. We go through motions. Whatever it takes to not feel guilty.
- Justify our actions. Get others to affirm them as right.

Our efforts to cover our guilt and shame are about as effective as fig leaves that will dry up and disintegrate.

Genesis 3:8 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

- Loss of fellowship with God.
- We no longer see God connecting with man by being physically present with him. Now, prayer is the way we connect.
 - Prayer is a result of the fall because it is not as intimate as it was before the fall.

- **Exodus 33:19-23** Then He said, “I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.”²⁰ But He said, “You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.”²¹ And the LORD said, “Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock.²² So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by.²³ Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen.” Hid themselves - If I can't see God, God can't see me.
- We hide from God through philosophy, false religions, hiding in church.
- Among the trees – Hiding among the blessings of God. People want to reject God and still live in His blessings.

Genesis 3:9 Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, “Where *are* you?”

- Confrontation = first act of mercy
- Getting busted is not fun. But here it is an act of mercy.
- God had made known the consequences. God could have gone straight to punishment.
- Consequences are not the worst thing that can happen. The worst thing that could happen is to be left to continue in unrepentant sin.
 - **Hebrews 12:6** For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives.”
- Where are you? A Loving Father calling to His son.

Adam's Response

Genesis 3:10 So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.”

- First instance of fear.
- We were not made to have fear.

- **Romans 8:14-15** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”
- We are definitely not meant to be afraid of God
- Why was Adam afraid? - I was afraid because I was naked – Guilt, but not remorse. He was afraid that God would see his failure.

Genesis 3:11 And He said, “Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?”

- The tree of the knowledge of good and evil is not about knowing right from wrong.
- Adam and Eve already knew that. They knew it was wrong to eat of that tree. They knew it was right to eat of the others.
- It is that now they can define good and evil for themselves instead of listening to what God defines as good and evil.
 - **Isaiah 5:20** Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!
 - **1 Timothy 4:1** Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons,
 - **Romans 1:32** Though they know God’s righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

Genesis 3:12-13 Then the man said, “The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³ And the LORD God said to the woman, “What *is* this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

- Broken fellowship with each other.
- Adam blames Eve. It’s the woman’s fault. That you gave me. Excuses.
- Nothing is my fault. Repentance requires you to admit it is your fault.

- Eve blames the serpent.
- We do not naturally accept blame.

Consequences for the serpent

Genesis 3:14 So the LORD God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, You *are* cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.

- Note that the serpent is in the category of cattle and beasts of the field. Not in the category of things that creep on the ground.
- The physical form of Nachash is being cursed.
- This creature is now a symbol of the danger of sin.
- Why curse the animal? Wasn't it Satan's fault? Anytime an animal is a vehicle for destruction against man the animal must face consequences. An ox that gores a human is put to death. This shows the superiority of man to all nature.
 - **Isaiah 65:25** The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, The lion shall eat straw like the ox, And dust *shall be* the serpent's food. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain,” Says the LORD.
 - Jesus refers to pharisees as brood of vipers. Snakes are symbols of evil.

Consequences for Satan

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”

- Satan's plan was to go after God's greatest creation. Get God's chosen to follow him.
- There is now hostility between righteous and unrighteous.
- There is One coming who will defeat you.
- Protoevangelium – First Gospel.
- God tells Satan that a human will come and destroy him. (important for next week)

- Who is the offspring of Satan?
 - **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.
 - **1 John 3:8** He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.
- Unredeemed man is the seed of Satan.
- We are children of the devil until we are born again, where God becomes our Father.
- The offspring of the woman = Jesus
 - **Colossians 2:15** Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.
 - **1 John 3:8** He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.
- Jesus escapes the sin nature by being born of a woman. Those that put their faith in Him become His offspring. (important for next week)
- Bruise His heel – The cross. For Satan it is a death blow. But it will come with a price. God will have to pay a great price to remove our sin. A mortal wound will be inflicted on the seed of the woman.

Consequences through Eve for women in general.

Genesis 3:16 To the woman He said: “I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire *shall be* for your husband, And he shall rule over you.”

- Maternal: pain in childbirth – Every time you bring forth a child it is a reminder of the first sin on the earth.
 - God gave the mandate to go forth and multiply. There was no expectation of pain in this mandate.
 - The actual word for conception is pregnancy. Now it carries hardship.

- Marital: Relationship between men and women becomes complicated.
- The beginning of male domination starts here.
- Originally man loved and cherished. Now he rules.
- Desire – This same word for desire is used in Genesis 4:7 of the desire of sin to master over Cain. Because of the curse, woman will not want to submit to her husband. A product of the fall. She will not want to follow an imperfect man.

Consequences through Adam for everyone:

Genesis 3:17-19 Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, “You shall not eat of it’: ‘Cursed *is* the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life. ¹⁸ Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. ¹⁹ In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; For dust you *are*, and to dust you shall return.”

- Adam listened to Eve over God.
- All nature is cursed.
- **Romans 8:20-22** For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected *it* in hope; ²¹ because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.
- Food is no longer just provided, work is made difficult.
 - Work is not the curse. Work is no longer easy and fulfilling. It takes a toll.
- Face = nose. Sweat drips off our nose. Our bodies wear out and eventually leads to death.
 - **Romans 5:12** Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned—

Genesis 3:20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.

Eve = Chavvah = Life-giver. She went from identity to role

The Covering

Genesis 3:21 Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.

- Animals die. Blood is shed. By God. To cover their shame.
 - This is a precedent. Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin.
 - Jesus is referred to as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. This is the first reference to that.

Genesis 3:22-24 Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"—²³ therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken.²⁴ So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

- To protect man from living forever in sin.
- **1 Corinthians 15:45** And so it is written, "*The first man Adam became a living being.*" The last Adam *became* a life-giving spirit.
- **Adam got Sorrow, pain, sweat, death**
- **Jesus:**
 - **Man of Sorrow, well acquainted with grief**
 - **Pain = the cross**
 - Sweat great drops of blood
 - Death on a cross.

You were born of the first Adam. It is God's will that you are born of the second Adam.