

The Fall of Man

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Genesis 2:4-25 – (v.4 - This is the account of; this is what became of)

- God creates man from the dust and puts him in a special place, a garden called Eden “pleasure”
- God allows Adam complete freedom to enjoy everything He has made in the garden with one restriction, a command – **v.16**
- Seeing that it was “not good” that man was alone, God creates Eve from Adam
- Sin still does not exist in the world

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Genesis 3 – The Fall of Man

- Adam and Eve sin
- God curses the serpent, then Eve, then Adam and all of creation onward
- By **Genesis 4**, murder
- By **Genesis 6:5-6a**. – “But the Lord saw that the wickedness of humankind had become great on the earth. **Every inclination** of the thoughts of their minds **was only evil all the time**. 6 The Lord regretted that he had made humankind on the earth,...”
- Then God sends a flood to destroy everything that He had created except Noah and his family and representatives of the animals
- Everything that God said was “very good” is now gone and we, and all of creation, are cursed and hopeless

“What’s the importance of **Genesis 3** to our thinking? The primary importance is that it sets the stage for the entire Bible storyline. Problems and solutions must match. If you want to understand what the gospel is about, what Jesus is about, what the cross achieves, then you must understand the nature of the problem they address.”

- D. A. Carson

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- A popular way to think about the Bible's storyline is:
Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Consummation
- **Genesis 1 and 2** cover **Creation**
- **Genesis 3** covers the **Fall**
- Most of the rest of the Bible covers how the Fall plays out, and shows us our overwhelming need of a **Redeemer** (Jesus), to reverse the curse we're under
- **Consummation** is when everything finally gets brought to completion in the end
- The Bible has this overarching theme of the original Creation being cursed and corrupted because of the Fall
- God then reverses the Fall through His Redeeming work of salvation to restore things to better than they were
- Creation, Fall, Re-creation

Creation, Fall, and Re-creation

- In God's sovereignty, He has a plan to redeem all that was good in the original **creation** by making a **new creation** from what was corrupted because of the **fall**
- The act of God creating and redeeming are closely tied together
- Redeeming is the work of God creating something new
- Have you ever thought of redemption (salvation) as a work of creation?
- Of God creating something like He did in **Genesis 1**, only new?
- Just like God brought the heavens and Earth into existence in **Genesis 1**, through Salvation, God brings into existence new life, new hope, and a new nature
- We are re-created at salvation

John 3:3 - Jesus answered him, Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is **born again** he cannot see the kingdom of God.

2 Corinthians 5:17 – Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creation**. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

- Notice that the one who is making you new is the same one who made the old
- God made you, you sinned and were cursed (fallen), then He re-created you
- The original creation and the redemption are both God creating something new
- Your salvation (redemption) through Jesus Christ is more than just the forgiveness of your sins, it's more than just a way for you to escape from hell
- Salvation is a re-genesis of you, to restore what was fallen
- It's also a re-genesis of everything else that was created
- Let's look at a couple examples of creation, fall, re-creation

The Garden of Eden

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- Where is it? **Genesis 2:8**
- What does it look like? **Genesis 2:10**

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- Where is it? **Genesis 2:8**
- What does it look like? **Genesis 2:10**
- Is it possible Eden was on a mountain?
- Ezekiel equates the Garden of Eden with a mountain

Ezekiel 28:13-14 - You were **in Eden, the garden of God;**...14...I placed you; you were on **the holy mountain of God;**

- Later, Ezekiel describes a future temple of God on a mountain

Ezekiel 40:2 - By divine visions he brought me to the land of Israel and placed me on a **very high mountain,** and on it was a structure like a city, to the south.

The Garden of Eden

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genesis of the Garden of Eden?

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Isaiah 2:2-4 – It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, 3 and many peoples shall come, and say: Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths. For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. 4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

The Garden of Eden

- Isaiah predicts that when the Messiah finally rules, the world will migrate to where He dwells in response to Him proclaiming His word
- v. 3 – “that he may teach us his ways...For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the Lord”
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- Notice the description of how the nations get up the mountain to God’s house
- V. 2 – “and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it,...”
- They flow, like water against its natural course, up the mountain
- In Eden, we see a single river that separates into 4 branches and goes out to water the world
- Now, we see a reversal of that
- All the nations of the world merge into one flowing river of people and go back up the mountain to restore what was lost in Genesis

The Garden of Eden

- Our job in **Matthew 28:19** was to “go make disciples of all nations” to bring them to God
- Here, we see that being fulfilled

- Right after the fall, there was murder
- **Isaiah** says there will be a reversal of this mindset
- **V. 4** - they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;
- No longer will instruments of war and bloodshed be needed
- We can go back to “plowing” and “pruning” like the original garden was
- A total redemption and re-creation
- Creation, fall, re-creation

Matthew 11:2-5 - Now when John heard in prison about the deeds Christ had done, he sent his disciples to ask a question: 3 “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” 4 Jesus answered them, “Go tell John what you hear and see: 5 The blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news proclaimed to them

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- Jesus is telling John to remember the scriptures
- Remember what the scriptures say the Messiah is coming to do
- Jesus is telling John to compare the re-creative work that He’s doing to what John has studied in God’s Word
- Jesus points John the Baptist to **Isaiah 34-35**

Isaiah 34:1-4; 9-11

- So far, everything we've read is all bad
- **V. 3-4** - It smells bad, the heavens rot
- **V. 9** - The ground turns to sulfur(rotten eggs)
- **V. 10** – The land has become a wasteland
- **V. 11** – “confusion” and “emptiness” are the exact same word as used in **Genesis 1:2** to describe before creation as “without form” and “void”
- Immediately the reader makes the connection that this is describing something before the world was made
- Definitely before it was pronounced “good” or “very good”
- **Chapter 34** is a description of creation being undone
- It appears hopeless
- A world that has fallen and is no longer good

Isaiah 35:1-4

- **Isaiah 35** seems to suddenly reverse everything
- **V. 1** - Creation itself is happy
- **V. 1-2** - The dry, lifeless, wasteland of the desert, suddenly rejoices with life
- **V. 4** – The reason for this sudden change is that God has come to Save

- What will be the signs that God has come to save you?

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- Creation, fall, re-creation
- We are born spiritually blind and deaf, dead
- When your blindness and deafness are removed and you finally see and hear, when you are awakened because of the proclamation of God’s Word, know that God has saved you
- The hope that we have right now while living in this hopeless, cursed, fallen world is that one day we will be fully re-created
- And we will dwell with God on His Holy mountaintop
- **Isaiah 35:8-10**