



# 9 | GENESIS 3:1-15

## JESUS AND THE GOSPEL

*The power of sin is enslaving, and our only hope for freedom is the divine mercy and grace of Jesus Christ. Nothing else can wash away our sins and give us a life of joy and faithfulness.*

### Outline

- 1. THE PLUNGE INTO DEPRAVITY (3:1-7)**
  - The Author of Depravity
  - Satan Attacks God's Word
  - Satan Attacks God's Warnings
  - Satan Attacks God's Character
  - Satan Makes Sin Attractive
  - Satan Spreads Sin like Cancer
  - We Choose Satan's Clothing
- 2. THE POWER OF DIVINE MERCY (3:8-13)**
  - God Pursues Us
  - God Confronts Us
  - God Convicts Us
- 3. THE PROMISE OF DIVINE GRACE (3:14-15)**
  - The Devil's Defeat
  - The Gospel's Glory

### Call to Worship

The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.—Exodus 15:2

### Songs

*10,000 Reasons*  
*Behold Our God*  
*Amazing Grace*  
*How Great Thou Art*  
*In Christ Alone*

### Announcements

**WELCOME:** We are glad you are here! Be sure to grab a Welcome Packet if you are visiting with us.

## Introduction

Today, people are more and more medicated. It is estimated that **over 40% of people** in the USA are on **psychiatric medicine**. Anxiety and anger and deep depression are so bad for most of the population, 40% have assistance from a doctor another **14% of the population** are currently using **illicit, illegal drugs**.

Life is hard. Life is chaotic. Without Christ, we are prone to **look for just about anything** to fill in the emptiness in our soul. We are so filled with pain, suffering, guilt and shame, and only the gospel can help us.

**Where did all this sin come from?** It all began in Genesis chapter 3.

In Genesis chapter 3, we are **introduced to the chaos and confusion of sin**. Satan enters the Garden of Eden and **murders the spiritual life** of the human race. Hopelessness, anxiety, and rebellion enter in. Sinful lust is born into the heart of man.

But in this chapter, in all the chaos, we are introduced to hope in the Seed of the woman: Jesus Christ. That is the only true meaning in life. Without that purpose of knowing and becoming like Christ, all our suffering is chaotic and meaningless and vain.

As we begin Genesis chapter 3, Adam and Eve are living in **unparalleled splendor**, enjoying worship in the beautiful Garden Temple of Eden.<sup>1</sup> They are walking with God in the cool of the day. Adam enjoyed his marriage. There was no fighting. Adam enjoyed work. There was no exhaustion or tiredness. Adam and Eve were in perfect harmony with God and with each other. They could hear the chorus of animals. They have **never experienced sin or guilt or shame**. They've never known anxiety or anger, hatred or confusion. That is all about to change.

**A snake enters**. But he's more than a snake. He's a demonic entity in the form of a serpent. His venom is infinitely more dangerous than a mere poisonous snake. His venom is sin, and it can banish a soul to the lake of fire for all eternity.

The serpent represents **sin, death, enslavement, and the power of evil**.<sup>2</sup> Our text today is sometimes called "the **protoevangelium**" or the "first mention of the gospel." We know the story.

**Satan enters**. He tempts. He destroys. He enslaves. He murders. **God enters** and with the curse of sin comes a promise. The **Seed of the woman**, Jesus Christ, God's Son, Yahweh in human flesh, will **conquer our demonic kidnapper** and his twisted pride, and restore us to humility with God.

Last week, Bro. Bill Kroll talked about Jesus being on every page of the God's word from Luke 24. Remember the resurrected Christ took a few disciples through the Bible, beginning with Moses, which means he began in Genesis. He showed how he was on every page.

*Luke 24:27* | Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

I wish I could have heard Jesus talk about how he was the promised Seed of the woman who would crush the serpent's head. This is the first mention of the gospel. **The gospel means "good news."** It is in this text that **Christ guarantees his victory** by taking

<sup>1</sup> R. Kent Hughes, *Genesis: Beginning and Blessing*, Preaching the Word (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2004), 65.

<sup>2</sup> Gordon J. Wenham, *Word Biblical Commentary, Volume 1: Genesis 1-15* (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1987), 80.

up the battle on the believer’s behalf. It is in this chapter that we have the enslavement of humanity into sin. Mankind seems completely defeated, taken captive—kidnapped if you will, by the wicked one.

Key thought: The power of sin is enslaving, and our only hope for freedom is the divine mercy and grace of Jesus Christ. Nothing else can wash away our sins and give us a life of joy and faithfulness.

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## 1. THE PLUNGE INTO DEPRAVITY (3:1-7)

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God had made everything within his creation not just good, but “very good.” As Solomon says, “God made man upright, but they have sought out many schemes” (Eccl 7:29).

Mankind goes from being “very good” and innocent. Adam was the “priestly guardian” of Eden, the place of worship of Yahweh. God allows a test to be given to him. He’s to act on what he has been taught by God. **He’s to protect his wife** and **defend God’s glory**, to stand up to Satan, this **hostile, psychopathic intruder**, and overcome the evil one in God’s name.<sup>3</sup> God is not the author of sin. Satan is the author of sin and rebellion against God. The first seven verses show us what leads us down the pathway of sin. First, we see the author of depravity.

### THE AUTHOR OF DEPRAVITY

After God’s beautiful creation, in comes the serpent, whom the New Testament identifies as the devil.<sup>4</sup> **Like a tailor, Satan weaves the garments of sin together.** He is the tailor of treachery! He’s ready to **kidnap Adam and Eve** and **enslave them to sin.**

*Revelation 12:9* | That ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world.

The question is: how does such an evil creature deceive such innocent creatures as Eve and later her husband Adam?

*Genesis 3:1a* | Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

First, we have to understand that this isn’t just any serpent. Snakes are part of God’s good creation (1:24). All things are pronounced “very good.” This is **not just an “it” but a “he”**. This snake is not merely a serpent, but the personal presence of Satan himself coming to usurp God’s authority and overthrow his glory and power.

Satan’s nature is **crafty**! He’s a liar and deceiver. He’s the **chief psychopath of the underworld**. He masquerades as an angel of light. He desires nothing good for you. He prowls about as a lion seeking whom he may devour.

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<sup>3</sup> Meredith G. Kline, *Genesis: A New Commentary*, ed. Jonathan G. Kline (Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2016), 21.

<sup>4</sup> Allen P. Ross, *Creation and Blessing: A Guide to the Study and Exposition of Genesis* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998), 133.

In the broad picture, here is one who **utterly opposes the work of God** (Rev 12:7; cf Zech 3:1; 1 Thess 2:18; Jude 9), who is a **murderer** (Jn 8:44), a **deceiver** (2 Cor 11:14; Eph 6:11) and a **liar** (Jn 8:44). How does Satan lead us down the pathway of sin?

## SATAN ATTACKS GOD'S WORD

Genesis 3:1b | He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'"

Satan's plan of attack is quite simple: overthrow God's precious representatives (humankind) and take them captive. Enslave them. How does he do this? **Twist God's word. Bring doubt!** The author of depravity is depraved himself. He is completely, and thoroughly, and utterly depraved. There is no good whatsoever in him. He has no conscience at all.

Satan's main goal is to **twist the word of God**. Nothing characterizes his depraved purpose than to bring doubt to the word. We see this in our Lord's temptation. Satan loves to twist the word of God and replace it with lies.<sup>5</sup>

The **chief way that Satan takes people captive** and enslaves them is to **destroy the reverence for the word of God**. Why? Divert a person from the word, and you **remove the fear of sin** and overthrow the integrity of the character of God.<sup>6</sup>

**Replace God's word with feelings, hunches, impressions, and you have idolatry.** That's what Satan does to Eve. His deception relies on diverting her devotion to God's word to instead focusing on her own feelings. He introduces **doubt to God's word**. Satan is the great whisperer. He twists God's word.

## SATAN ATTACKS GOD'S WARNINGS

Remember God's warning to Adam and Eve. "Of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil **you shall not eat**, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die" (Gen 2:17). Don't eat of it. He doesn't say you couldn't touch it.

Why couldn't they eat of it? Because it's a tree with knowledge only God should have. It's a **tree of God's sovereignty**. **We are dependent creatures** and are never to act like we are sovereign. Our joy comes from being completely and totally dependent on God. Satan aims to take that away from Eve and Adam and all of us.

Genesis 3:1b-4 | He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?'" <sup>2</sup> And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die."

We can see that Eve was already **open to attack** because **Adam was neglecting his priestly duties to protect his wife**. She was already confused. She had already added to God's word. God never said, "You shall not touch the tree of the knowledge of

<sup>5</sup> Cf F. D. Kidner, *Genesis*, TOTC (IVP, 1967), 67; D. Atkinson, *The Message of Genesis 1–11*, BST (IVP, 1990), 84.

<sup>6</sup> Alec Motyer, *Look to the Rock: Old Testament Background to Our Understanding of Christ* (Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2020), 113-114.

good and evil.” He said you shall not *eat* of it. **Adam should have been there** to defend and rescue his wife.

Satan aims at the mind. He fills our heart with lies. Eve was fully aware of the consequences. She was fully aware, but she buys into Satan’s lies. **Satan whispers**, “You’ll not really die. It’ll be ok. It’s worth it.” Satan is a liar. He’s hiding the cost of sin. God is clear, there is a terrible cost to sin.

*Romans 6:23* | The wages of sin is death.

*Proverbs 13:15* | The way of transgressors is hard [ruinous, disastrous, destructive].

Sin is what put Jesus on the cross. Yet Eve is beguiled. Adam was not the one initially deceived, but it was Eve, because Adam just left her alone with the devil.

*1 Timothy 2:14* | Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.

## SATAN ATTACKS GOD’S CHARACTER

How does Satan attack Eve? He does it by attacking God’s character—**questioning God’s goodness**. We believe that “God is good all the time,” as we like to say. But Satan does not want us to believe it.

*Genesis 3:4-5* | But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.  
<sup>5</sup> For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Satan seeks to undermine our **confidence in the goodness of God**—he suggested to Eve that God was “**holding out on them**” by keeping them from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.<sup>7</sup>

Satan always puts self at the center. “God knows that when you eat... you’ll be like God” (3:5). You’ll be autonomous and sovereign. You can run your own life. You can gauge everything from your own understanding. **Did they become like God? No! They became like the devil.** He lied.

Satan told Eve the **ultimate lie**— “**You will not surely die.**” (3:4). He lied. She died that very instant that she partook. No more joy. No more relationship with God. She was separated from her Maker. **She shared the forbidden fruit with her husband**, and they began **looking for a place to hide**. They were no long God’s children. They were now of their father the devil (*cf* Jn 8:44-45).

Satan promised on the day Eve ate the fruit, her “**eyes would be opened**” (3:5). Satan lied. **Her eyes were already opened**. They had seen the goodness and glory of the Lord all around them! Everything she had brought her happiness. Now Adam and Eve could no longer see the beauty of God. **They were now blinded to his glory**, and they were no longer happy, but were **paralyzed by fear**. They were afraid! Satan was lying to her. Satan is a deceiver. Remember Jesus’ warning.

*John 8:44* | When he [the devil] lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

<sup>7</sup> Warren W. Wiersbe, *Wiersbe’s Expository Outlines on the Old Testament* (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993), Ge 3:1–6.

This is the primary reason we as God’s people must maintain sound doctrine. Wayward doctrine leads to wayward practice. Wrong doctrine will blind a person’s heart with lies. Don’t take of the forbidden fruit! Instead taste and see God’s goodness.

*Psalm 34:8* | Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good! Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

**Satan attacked God’s goodness.** Oh, let me just exalt God in his goodness. All of us are sinners, but God is so good!

## SATAN MAKES SIN ATTRACTIVE

*Genesis 3:6* | So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Remember the weakness of your flesh. We are drawn away from our own desires. We deal with temptation. There is this inward Velcro for sin in all of us. It’s desire for pleasure, possession, and the pride to be lifted up. What we need is Christ, not sin. We need to make Christ first in our heart. Be satisfied in him alone.

### *The Lust of the Flesh – Pleasure*

*Genesis 3:6a* | ... the woman saw that the tree was good for food...

“You’ll feel good!” “Come on, this will satisfy you!” Live by your flesh and your **cravings** and **feelings**. Living by our feelings is the pathway of the old life. Ephesians 2:3, “We all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.” We are not made to follow our flesh, but to die to the old life. Live as if the “old sinful you” is dead.

*Ephesians 4:22-24* | Put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, <sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

### *The Lust of the Eyes – Possessions*

*Genesis 3:6b* | ... the woman saw that the tree ... was a delight to the eyes....

“Come on, this will make you happy!” The truth is if you put your trust in anything temporal, it will eventually break, die, or atrophy, and you will be sad and mad and miserable.

Yet the world says: “Buy it now! You can pay for it tomorrow” Go to “Stuff Mart” and **you’ll be happy for only \$19.95**. Lay up treasure on earth! You really need just *one more thing* to be truly happy. You need to think of yourself. You need to reward yourself! Live for possessions! We are **not to find our purpose and happiness** in the **latest fad or fashion**, but we are to “put on the Lord Jesus Christ”. In every situation we are to be content (Phil 4:11).



## The Pride of Life – Pride, People., Power

**Genesis 3:6c** | ... the woman saw that the tree ... was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

“Come on, this will make you wiser than others!” Live for people, what others think about you! You will love it! Jesus says of those who live for pride, people and power:

**John 12:43** | They love the praise of men more than the praise of God.

Anyone who is caught up in these things does not know God. They need Christ to call them and awaken them. John gives a strong warning.

**1 John 2:15-16** | 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. <sup>16</sup>For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer describes in his little book *Temptation* how temptation works:

With irresistible power desire seizes mastery over the flesh.... It makes no difference whether it is sexual desire, or ambition, or vanity, or desire for revenge, or love of fame and power, or greed for money.... Joy in God is ... extinguished in us and we seek all our joy in the creature. At this moment God is quite unreal to us.... Satan does not here fill us with hatred of God, but with forgetfulness of God.... The lust thus aroused enslaves the mind and will of man in deepest darkness. The powers of clear discrimination and of decision are taken from us. ... It is here that everything within me rises up against the Word of God.<sup>8</sup>

Resist temptation. Throw yourself upon our merciful God. Resist the devil by your total surrender to God, and Satan will flee from you. Resist the devil by drawing near to God.

**James 4:7-8** | Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

### SATAN SPREADS SIN LIKE A DISEASE

**Genesis 3:6b** | So ... the woman ... took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

**It is difficult to sin alone.** Something in us makes us want to share the sin with others. Eve took and ate. It was satanic communion. Eve should not have “given place to the devil” (Eph 4:27); she should have held to God’s word and resisted him.

Eve was deceived, and then she shared this forbidden fruit with her husband. **Adam was not tricked like Eve**, but deliberately sinned and plunged the world into judgment.

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<sup>8</sup> Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Temptation* (London: SCM Press Ltd., 1961), 33.

<sup>9</sup> Warren W. Wiersbe, *Wiersbe’s Expository Outlines on the Old Testament* (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993), Ge 3:1–6.

*1 Timothy 2:14* | **Adam was not deceived**, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.

We wonder, what was Adam thinking? Something tragic took place. Sin is a slow fade. He chose not to lead. He chose to be passive. And Satan through Eve tempted Adam. Sin never stays with the sinner. Our choice to sin affects others. Adam's choice affected the entire human race. **It spreads like a disease**. It's more deadly than a pandemic.

## WE CHOOSE SATAN'S CLOTHING

Having allowed sin to enslave them, **the stink of spiritual death** begins to waft from the souls of Adam and Eve. If we choose to sin, we bring guilt upon ourselves. Like Adam and Eve our eyes are opened to our shame. We hide and make fig leaves.

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

**With their eyes now open to sin, they became spiritually blind!** Something horrible happened that day. Their eyes were opened to sin and shame. They are **no longer free but enslaved**. Adam and Eve died spiritually and were given a sentence to die physically.

*1 Corinthians 15:22* | For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Adam **did not die physically right then**. But his life with God died. His **joy and happiness** in the Lord died.

Adam chose a **new master**. He was now enslaved to sin and Satan. What does he do? **Adam started running from God**. Ever since, man is always running from God.

*Genesis 3:7b* | They sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

All the problems of the human race have to do with our own human remedies for sin. We **find ways to hide our sinful choices**. We have our own fig leaves. We try to fix ourselves! Adam thinks he can sew fig leaves together to hide their guilt and shame and hide from God among the trees of the garden. **Can anyone hide from God?**

*Psalms 139:7-8* | Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? <sup>8</sup> If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

Hiding has become a chief skill of each human being fallen into sin. We hide behind the fig leaves of human effort, trying to make ourselves better without being born again.

Some hide under the fig leaves of **good works and service**. No matter how good of a person we are or how sacrificially we serve, they **cannot hide an unregenerate heart** where Christ is not the center of your life. No amount of good works or service can take away even one sin.

Some just check out and hide behind the fig leaf of **numbing yourself** with alcohol, lust, marijuana, or binge watching.

Sometimes people hide behind the fig leaves of **mom and dad's religion**. It could be Christianity. Remember God has no grandchildren. No matter how devout your



parents were, you have to come to Christ for yourself and to relieve you of the guilt of your own sin. Someone else's faith will not help wash away your sin.

Some hide behind **family traditions and family loyalty**. Their parents are Catholic, and they just could not think of disappointing their parents by leaving the Catholic faith and being born again in Jesus. This also goes for non-Christian religions. Muslims and Hindus and animists stay bound by the **approval of their parents or family instead of following Christ**.

We can even hide behind the fig leaves of the mere **externals** of **Christianity** itself. You can be a member of the church—even be a preacher, or an officer in the church and miss Christ, because you are wrapped in the fig leaves of Biblical knowledge and good works (which are all wonderful things if you are already a Christian). Yet, **lawless living** is a sign that you are still hiding behind fig leaves.

Some think that by doing some sort of **religious ceremony** (like baptism or communion) and keeping some religious creed or doctrine will take away their guilt and shame.

My friend, our sins are so great that there is nothing any of us could ever do to bring justification between us and God!

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## 2. THE POWER OF DIVINE MERCY (3:8-13)

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Adam and Eve had been having wonderful fellowship in the presence of God, but suddenly their fellowship was broken. At the moment of the fall, God, being infinitely kind and merciful, begins to pursue Adam and Eve. pursuit

### GOD PURSUES US

**Genesis 3:8-9** | And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.<sup>9</sup> But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

They heard the sound of God walking in the garden, like before, but **instead of joy, there was dread!** This was the Lord's earthly palace, his garden-temple. Their most beautiful experience could no longer be enjoyed because **fear had now enveloped** them.<sup>10</sup>

Apparently, it was God's custom to join Adam in the cool of the day for fellowship and communion. Now, man had sinned, and **God had every right to stay away**, but he came anyway!

God's grace is irresistible. When the sinner's heart is stirred, and he is made aware of the beauty of God's love, it is because of God's pursuit. God is seeking fellowship with man.

**Luke 19:10** | The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

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<sup>10</sup> Gerhard Von Rad, *Genesis: A Commentary* (Philadelphia: Westminster, 1972), 91.

*John 6:44* | No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him.

*John 15:16* | You did not choose me, but I chose you...

*John 17:6* | I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me.

We were not looking for God, but God was looking for us! God seeks out man who is dead in trespasses and sins and brings him resurrection (*cf* Eph 2:1-9). It is grace and grace alone that allows Holy God to come to us! Thank God for grace!

## GOD CONFRONTS US

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

God was not ignorant. **He knew where Adam was.** Adam was keeping himself away from God. It was not Adam that sought out God, but **God that sought out Adam.** Adam was hiding because of his sin.

Most of us picture evangelism as us **throwing out a lifeline to mankind.** We just need to get them to latch on to the lifeline. Dear friend, man cannot latch on to the lifeline because he is not sick or struggling with the lifeline. He is **dead on the bottom of the ocean floor.** There are many people that would take offense to this.

### ADAM WOULD NEVER HAVE SOUGHT GOD

Truly **if God would never have sought after Adam,** the man **would have died without** ever seeking to walk with God again. The Scripture is clear.

*Romans 3:11-12* | No one seeks for God. <sup>12</sup>All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.

We are all **born “dead in trespasses and sins”** (*cf* Eph 2:1-3). No one seeks God. God, as he called out to Adam, calls out to you today.

## GOD CONVICTS US

God pursues us in order to convict or arrest us. He places us under the arrest of his Spirit. He gives us eyes to see the nakedness of our sin. How does Adam resist God's conviction? He hides.

### *When Convicted, We Hide*

*Genesis 3:10* | And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.”

Before God can get you to the place you need to be, **he has to open the sewers of your soul and clean them out.** Adam is being drawn by God to repentance. Repentance means you have a completely new view of everything. Now what was so promising to Adam looked horrific. **He was so terrified he hid himself at the sound of God.**

For Adam it was the shame of his nakedness. He had now given his authority over to the devil. Before the fall, Adam and Eve were covered with the glory of God. They had a

humble self-forgetfulness and were unaware of their nakedness. With God's glory being stripped from them, they were now naked and ashamed. They began to hide.

### *When Convicted, We are Held Accountable*

**Genesis 3:11** | I was naked, and I hid myself.... He [God] said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

**The law of Moses had not yet been written.** Yet God presses Adam with questions that he already knows the answer to regarding the command he had given concerning one tree in the garden. **God had given them one law:** do not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. They could eat of all the trees of the garden. What a kind God overflowing with generosity and grace. They could eat all but one tree, that was the law. It was a law to protect them from guilt and sin and shame. And they broke that law. **The law is the schoolmaster that leads us to Christ.** The law breaks and humbles the proud. The proud must be crushed by the seriousness of God's law before repentance can occur.

### *When Convicted, We Blame Shift*

**Genesis 3:12-13** | The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup> Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

**Neither the man nor the woman is willing to take responsibility for their sin.** They are lost without Christ, without hope in the world. They need the blood of the Lamb of God to take away their sins.

The incredible effects of sin to the human race because of Adam's choice is incomprehensible.

Adam blamed the woman first, but then he **pointed his finger at God himself.** "It's the woman *you* gave to me." Look how hopeless Adam is!

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## **3. THE PROMISE OF DIVINE GRACE (3:14-15)**

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The Bible teaches us that **where sin has abounded, grace will super abound** (Rom 5:21). As horrific as sin and suffering are, God's grace is astronomically and infinitely greater. The oceans of God's grace far overcome all the sin. **God "hurls our sin into the depths of the sea"** and remembers them no more (Mic 7:19).

### **THE DEVIL'S DEFEAT**

Here we see the defeat of the serpent, but this is more than a serpent. With the curse on the serpent there is the first hint that **something other than the reptile** was

present.<sup>11</sup> This is the personification of Satan himself. Here God curses him. He relegated to the dust of the ground.

**Genesis 3:14-15a** | The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.<sup>15</sup> I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring...

## TWO HUMANITIES

Here we see a spiritual war announced between the children of the world and the children of God. Remember how Jesus addressed the lost Pharisees? “You are of your father, the devil” (Jn 8:44). **There is a war going on between those who know serve the Lord** and those who serve themselves. As we read in Ephesians, there is an old humanity under the seed of Satan, and there is a new humanity, under the seed of the woman, Christ.

## THE GOSPEL’S GLORY

God sets up a plan where God will get glory even through the most ugly and catastrophic circumstances. **The very planet upon which Satan had sought an advantage will become the place for Satan’s final defeat.**

**Genesis 3:15b** | I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel... <sup>21</sup> And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

Man himself would be the instrument of his defeat and doom, for God would become a Man to accomplish that glorious end. The “seed of the woman” would put a final end both to sin and to Satan. Christ defeated Satan. **Satan bruised Christ through crucifixion on the cross**, but Jesus **crushed Satan’s head by destroying sin** and death by death.<sup>12</sup>

The very planet upon which Satan had sought his vengeance would become the place for the final battle. The place where **man was enslaved by Satan, mankind would be set free by the blood of the cross**. Man himself would be the instrument of his defeat and doom, for **God would become a Man to accomplish that glorious end**. The “seed of the woman” would put a final end both to sin and to Satan. Suddenly the earth assumed an awesome significance in the universe.<sup>13</sup> Jesus Christ came to this earth, was born of a virgin to be fully man and yet fully God, so that he could become our sacrifice for sin and be raised in victory, crushing the serpent’s head.

**1 John 3:8** | The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

<sup>11</sup> Allen P. Ross, *Creation and Blessing: A Guide to the Study and Exposition of Genesis* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998), 145.

<sup>12</sup> John Phillips, *Exploring Genesis: An Expository Commentary*, The John Phillips Commentary Series (Kregel Publications; WORDsearch Corp., 2009), Ge 3:14–19.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

Ultimate victory will come through Christ, the Seed of the woman (Gal 3:16). Born of a woman, born under the law (*cf* Gal. 4:4).<sup>14</sup>

#### Conclusion

Although the victory has been won for us by the Lord Jesus Christ, there is nevertheless still another to be won by those who follow Jesus.<sup>15</sup> The total defeat of Satan **will ultimately come at Christ's return** when Satan is thrown into the lake of fire.

*Romans 16:20* | The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

On that day when Jesus comes, the devil will never tempt another person.

*Revelation 20:10* | The devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

The gospel is that if you believe in Christ, you can be set free from this evil tempter. You can be given eternal life.

#### THINGS I THAT ARE NO LONGER IN EXSITENCE

Dear saints, **I don't own certain things because they don't make them anymore.** I don't own any **CDs**. I don't own any **8-Track tapes**. I don't own a **rotary telephone** or a **Sears Roebuck catalog** anymore. Why? Because they **don't make them anymore.** They are going out of existence.

There's coming a day when we will say the same thing about sin and death. **Sin will no longer in existence!** There's no more any tears, because God wipes them all away. There's no more death and sin, because the Satan's head's been crushed. Hallelujah. Come quickly Lord Jesus.

#### RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS CHURCH COVENANT

#### Benediction

*Romans 16:20* - The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

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<sup>14</sup> Allen P. Ross, "Genesis," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 1 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 33.

<sup>15</sup> James Montgomery Boice, *Genesis: An Expository Commentary* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1998), 205.