

# God's Grace in the Fall

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**Text:** Genesis 3<sup>1</sup>

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**Series:** Genesis

**Introduction:** In that fall, the entire human race was plunged into darkness, sin and death. In that terrible **moment** when man sinned against God, man died and became spiritually separated from Almighty God.

Man also became helpless in his ability to get back in a right relationship with a God. From the moment mankind fell into sin and ruin, God has made it His business to seek fallen man and to call unworthy sinners to relationship with him. This truth is clearly presented in the story of the fall of Adam and the immediate aftermath. I want to show you how gracious God is even in the Fall of Man.

I want us all to see that were it not for grace we would all immediately fall away. We have such a gracious God. Yet God does not compromise His holiness for us.

Genesis 3, “Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” 2 And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, 3 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.’” 4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

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. 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.”

- I. **Notice first that God Came to them** (vs. 8) “We love Him because He first loved us” (1 John 4:19).

**Verse 8**, “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”.

- A. Man had transgressed the commandment of God and had sinned. Now, there was great gulf between God and man – Isa. 59:2. (Ill. 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! That is grace!)

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all Scripture is from the *English Standard Version* of the Bible.

- B. He is still doing that today! When the sinner's heart is stirred and he is made aware of the great love of God. That is just the Lord walking in the cool of the day seeking fellowship! (Ill. Jesus – Luke 19:10) (Ill. God – Eph. 2:1-9)
- C. It is grace and grace alone that allows Holy God to come to us! Thank God for Grace!

## II. **Notice then that God Called them** (vs. 9-10)

**Verses 9-10,** “But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” 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.””

- A. He didn't just come to look upon their misery., He called out to Adam in an effort to reach him.
- B. Ill. Man is dead in sin, Eph. 2:1, until God awakens him to that fact. It is only at the call of God that the sinner can be saved – John 6:44; John 6:65.
- C. Again, it is pure grace that Holy God would call any one into love relationship with Himself. (Ill. The disciples –**John 15:16**, “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you.””

## III. **Thirdly, that God Confronted them** (vs. 11) Verse 11, “11 ¶ He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?””

God challenged man on the basis of His sin. God wasn't fishing for information, He knew what Adam and Eve had done. He was looking for a confession. What He got was accusation. **Verse 12 - 13**, “The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate. 13 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.””

This is what God does for the sinner. He reveals to us the sinfulness of our lives and calls upon us to repent.

## IV. **Fourthly, God Cursed them** (vs. 14-20)

**Verses 14-19,** “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; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. 15 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.””

16 ¶ To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”

17 ¶ And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; 18 thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. 19 By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return. 20 ¶ The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.”

God must give a just retribution for every action. I want us all to see that were it not for grace we would all immediately fall away. We have such a gracious God. Yet God does not compromise His holiness for us.

#### V. **Then, God Covered them.** (vs. 21)

**Verse 21,** “And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.”

- A. Their sin became real when that animal died to cover their nakedness. They instantly realized that they were responsible. It was the grace of God that accepted the sacrifice of an innocent party to atone for the sins of the guilty.
- B. Our salvation is the same way. It is pure grace that saves the sinner., cleanses him and clothes him the righteousness of Jesus Christ. Our salvation is free, but it is anything but cheap! The Cross is grace in action.
- C. Grace is the sinner’s only hope. Pure grace alone and nothing we can ever do can atone for sin. It is through grace that we enter salvation.

#### VI. **Then, God Commanded them** (vs. 22-24)

**Verse 22-24,** “Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—” 23 therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. 24 He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.”

- A. The implications of man being allowed access to the tree of life in a fallen state! What a horrible hell that would have been. Eternally separated from the presence and love of God. His command to cast them out was a command of compassion and grace!
- B. His grace is evident in our lives in the things He keeps us from. He isn’t a cosmic killjoy, He knows what is best for you and me. Therefore, some things are off

limits to us as children of God. It is grace that protects us, our testimonies, and our fellowship with the Father.

C. Grace is why you and I can rest assured of a home in Heaven.

1 Peter 5:10 ¶ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

Jude 1:24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,

Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

It is the grace of God that saves us. It is the grace of God that keeps us!

**Conclusion:** Thank God for grace this evening. It is evident all the way back to the Garden of Eden. It is still evident tonight! We ought to praise Him for His grace and rest in it with full assurance of faith. His grace truly is amazing!