

INTRO: Genesis chapter 3 has provided much important content for us to comprehend and integrate into our lives. We've learned that the introduction of sin through Adam has brought about **Curses** and **Consequences** that drastically changed his existence. These final verses now reveal **the Settlement of Eden**, detailing important facts and conditions that transpired.

V. THE SETTLEMENT OF EDEN (20-24) – In (v19), God just told Adam that he would eventually **die physically**, returning to the dust. What **Adam does next is a response of faith!** He heard what God promised about sending a deliverer through her Seed and responded by...

A. Selecting A Name (20) – We first see that **ADAM named his wife** – In (2:23) Adam called his wife **woman**, which designated her sex (*dif. from man*). Here, he names the woman: **{Heb. *Chavvâh*; EVE}** = *“mother of Life or Living,”* lit. **LIFE GIVER**. **Adam's name for her was perfect!**

- Her NAME designates the 1st Mother**, from whom all human life would originate.
 - God gave to women **the unique characteristic and ability to bear children** and care for them in a loving and nurturing way.
 - In (Proverbs 31) the virtuous woman spoken of is a **MOTHER**, who prioritizes her husband and kids in life, along with many other responsibilities. **She cultivates her God-given abilities and makes use of them for the good of her community, family, and herself.** She is an asset to her spouse and a model to her kids. **She conducts herself honorably** both at home and in public. The product of her years of devoted mothering is seen in (v. 28), “Her children rise up and call her blessed.” (Prov 31:28)
- Mothers are to be HONORED (tt. Eph 6:1-3)** *Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ² “Honor your father and mother,” which is the first commandment with promise: ³ “that it may be well with you, and you may live long on the earth.” (Do you Honor your mother?)*
- This verse also reveals God's exclusive assignment for a woman. **Only a woman can bear children and bring forth life!** – By God's design, it is biologically impossible for a man to accomplish this responsibility! (*Satan has twisted many to think otherwise! i.e., outside of God's plan*)
 - The Apostle Paul warned **ALL Christians to be careful (2 Cor 11:3-4)** *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. ⁴ For if he who comes preaches another Jesus whom we have not preached, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different gospel which you have not accepted—you may well put up with it! (Dangerous!)*

APPLICATION: Faith Believes God's Promises and Acts Upon It! When recognition of our sins are followed by genuine repentance, restoration can begin! Eve indeed was the mother of all living, able to bear many children and instruct them to obey God. – (*Today is Mother's Day... I encourage you to call you mom and thank her for the hardship she endured when raising you!*)

God fully understood the circumstances that Adam and Eve were in, how their sin exposed their Nakedness, both spiritually and physically. So, He graciously intervened by making...

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B. Sacrificial Coverings (21) – God provided *Tunics of Skin...* to cover their physical nakedness! Every time Adam and Eve looked at each other would be a reminder of their sin. Even though they **tried to hide it with Fig Leaves,** God knew that it was an insufficient garment. **Instead of Fig leaves God gave them Skins!** *But where does leather come from? An Animal... A DEAD ANIMAL!*

- Whereas Adam and Eve should have died for their own sin, **God provided animals as Substitutionary Sacrifices, which meant that their blood was shed.**
- **Henry Morris** provides a sobering comment on this circumstance, *“Perhaps, they silently and sorrowfully watched as God selected two of their animal friends, probably two sheep, and slew them there, shedding the innocent blood before their eyes. They learned, in type, that an “atonement” or “covering” could only be provided by God and through the shedding of blood on the altar.”* (Whoa!)
 - This law was written down later in **(Lev 17:11)**, *“For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood that makes atonement for the soul.”* (Appeasement or Expiation)
 - The author of Hebrews put it in simple terms for all to comprehend, **(Heb. 9:22)** *And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission. (i.e., no forgiveness!)*
- God’s action therefore provided a **“covering”** for them which served as **“atonement”** for their offense. – **A type of what God would have to do to redeem mankind from their sin! To remove sin God would ultimately provide His Son as the Sacrificial Lamb!**
 - John the Baptist declared, *“Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.”* (John 1:29b)
 - At the last supper, Jesus declared, *“For this is **My blood of the new covenant, Which is shed for many for the remission of sins.**”* (Matt 26:28)

APPLICATION: If this is how it happened... How to you think this impacted Adam and Eve? How did it impact the Sacrificed Animals? How did God feel as He KNEW this was the ONLY way to cover their sin? – He did this for Adam and Eve because he loved them so much... Likewise, He gave His Son for you and me because He loves us so much! **(John 3:16)** *R U covered in the blood?*

As much as God loved Adam and Eve, He had to take further precautionary measures to protect them from an even greater tragedy. He therefore mandated their...

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C. Segregation From Eden (22-24a) – This verse provides the **Godhead perspective** of Adam’s New Awareness of Evil. You may recall in **(Gen 1:26)**, that this council decided on the creation of man, but now the divine council determined Adam’s Banishment of from Eden!

1. **What was God's COMMENT? (22a)** – “Behold the man has become like one of Us...” Adam only became **AS the Godhead in “Understanding of Good and Evil!”** Obviously, he NEVER possessed the many other outstanding attributes of God, **as insinuated by Satan (3:5).**

- Some have assumed that God's comment hinted Jest or Sarcasm. But this is not God's character. **God's comment** rather was with deep **Sorrow and Compassion**. – When we make bad decisions, we can grieve the Spirit of God! (Isa 63:10; Eph 4:30).

2. **What was God's CONCERN? (22b)** – **Adam's Eternity!** Notice the phrase, “...lest he put out his hand and take ALSO...” Adam would have frequently partaken of the **Tree of Life**, which somehow **inhibited cellular decay**, thus producing eternal life. **But He just TOOK of the TOTKOGAE.** – If Adam were to **TAKE ALSO** [again] of the Tree of Life in his new fallen state, **he would live eternally in a Cursed Condition!** Never able to enjoy intimacy with God as before. (God knew that this was NOT GOOD!)

3. **What was God's CONCLUSION? (23-24a)** – “He *SENT him out of the garden.*” Away not only from the Tree of Life, but from God's presence. – This was a greater manifestation of the pronounced curse (3:17-19); the REALITY of it, if you will! (Sin has consequences!) **Adam was SENT AWAY** from God's presence to till the cursed ground! **How did Adam react?**

- **Reluctantly!** – Verse 24 emphasizes that God “**DROVE OUT THE MAN!**” Why? Possibly because Adam lingered...he did not want to leave the presence of God. Maybe for fear of the unknown? – This was **not an extra element of punishment**, but a **necessary step** in ensuring that they ultimately received what is best for mankind's future.

APPLICATION: Partaking of this tree provides eternal life! God protected Adam from the Tree of Life so that he would NOT live forever in a sinful state! **God's driving Adam out of Eden was An Act of Mercy!** – (1 Tim 2:4) tells us that, *God desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.* (Even though His methods would seem like madness!)

The final Settlement Steps of Eden included...

D. Securing the Tree of life...(24b) – By divine order, God saw it necessary that the Tree of Life be especially **Guarded by Cherubim and a Flaming Sword!**

1. **Cherubim** are a type of angel created by God. They are spirit-beings assigned to specific duties in the spirit-realm. Throughout the Bible we see that Cherubim are mentioned most in connection with the **ARK OF THE COVENANT**, where golden representations of them covered of the Ark (Ex 25:18–20; 37:7–9; 1 Sam 4:4). – Apparently, Cherubim are always associated closely to the throne of God (Psalm 18:10; 80:1; 99:1) – **Ezekiel describes their appearance as having Four Faces:** those of a Human, a Lion, an Eagle, and an Ox (Ezek 1:4-28), which moved in a peculiar way. – When Ezekiel saw the glory of God leaving the temple (**Ezek 10**), he describes cherubim carrying the throne of God.

- Their assignment to **GUARD the Tree of Life** hints that God's throne is situated near the Tree of Life.

2. **The FLAMING SWORD** is also mysterious. Its mention describes a revolving action, which watchfully guards access to the Tree of Life. It's flame: Burning, it's Blade: Sharp!

- There was no possibility that Adam and Eve or any other person could later reach the Tree of Life.

3. This is the final historical reference of the Garden of Eden in the Bible. We could speculate that God did not demolish it, but instead left it to the consequences of the curse, and that it generally degraded from its initial condition, merging with the surrounding environment.

- My hypothesis is that it still remains in-tact, possibly in some other dimension hidden from our understanding.

The Bible tells us that at the end of time, God's people will experience the blessings of a restored creation and renewed access to the tree of life in heaven (Rev 22:1-3a).

CONCLUSION: Genesis chapter three taught us that **Sin separates us from God**, but the entire Bible teaches us that the Grace and Mercy of Jesus Christ restores anyone who will confess and repent of their sin, surrendering to Him as Lord of their lives.

LOOKING AHEAD: The **SETTLEMENT OF EDEN** sets the stage for the **FALLOUT OF MAN**, where Genesis chapter 4 records just the beginning of Mankind's Depravity and Moral Failure.