

INTRO: In the **Fall of Man *Pt.1**, we learned that Satan beguiled Eve by twisting God's Word, thus causing her to doubt the goodness of God. As a result, **Adam and Eve disobeyed God's only prohibition**, seeking to determine "good" for themselves. – As a result, they suffered spiritual death immediately and their physical condition changed. As forewarned by God, **they became mortal!** (Gen 3:7) told us *"their eyes were opened, and they knew that they were naked."* This explains WHY they tried to "cover their nakedness" with Fig Leaves (i.e., the first act of shame, which is an effect of sin). – As we **review the 2nd part** of **this lesson**, we will learn of the deeper consequences of sin, and how it affected ALL of God's good creation. (*Sin effects everything!*)

III. THE SEPARATION IN EDEN (8-13) – After their attempt to hide "their sin" (v.7), they also tried to hide "themselves" from the presence of God (v.8). This again reveals their awareness of sin. **But NOW they would learn of its greatest consequence...**

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A. Sin Separated Them From God (8-11) – As always, God appeared to them in the cool part of the day, seeking to walk with his special creation. The verb indicates, strolling or meandering rather than travel to a specific destination. **To walk with God is to fellowship with God**. We see this with **Noah (Gen 6:9)** and with **Enoch (Gen 5:22)**, where he got it right! *"Enoch walked with God; and was not, for God took him"* (Gen 5:24)

1. What were the "sound" of God footsteps like? (8a) – Thunderous Stomping or Gentle Pacing, I do not know! But previously, I am sure Adam ran to God when he heard His footsteps. **Now, Adam was fearful** at the presence of God, and **hid from God** (*definitely not a game!*)

- One thing that needs to be clear here is that as God arrived, He did so as a Father. God did not call out to Adam in hot displeasure and anger, but rather **in a gentle and merciful tone**.

2. The first question God asks, Where are you? (9-10) – God was NOT inquiring where Adam was **LOCATIONALLY** but questioned Adam for his own benefit. He did NOT overwhelm him with judgment and disappointment, but He responded in a way which showed concern for his Well-being and Betterment. – **(James 1:13)** *"Mercy triumphs over Judgment"*

- Adam's reason, **he was afraid**. He was never afraid before this moment. (*Sin produces fear!*) Notice that Adam's response was NOT a confession, only remorse over his condition!

3. The next question God asks, Who told you? (11) was quickly followed by the Third Question *"have you eaten...that you should NOT eat?"* Once again, **God asks questions to prompt a confession from Adam?** But Adam is reluctant to do so! Herein lies the fundamental unwillingness of sinners to recognize their transgression and agree with God about their sin. – **The subject of repentance was birthed from sin.** (Rom 10:10) says, *For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

B. Sin Separated them From Each Other (12-13) – When we sin against God, it often shows up in our relationships with those closest to us. Adam and Eve were the first to experience this! What was once **Beauty and Blessings for Breakfast**, now became a **Buffet of Blame-Shifting and Betrayal!** When confronted by God, both **Adam & Eve had No Shame in Blame!**

1. **ADAM** said, “*It was the woman that THOU givest me!*” (Expound) – Likewise, **EVE** said, “*It was the serpent, who deceived me...*” (i.e. the Devil made me do it argument!) – The tendency of Sin emboldens the guilty party to justify themselves from any wrongdoing. (It is ALWAYS something or someone else’s fault!) But if you take a closer look...

2. **Who were they really placing the blame on? GOD!** Because He placed them in that position. (**Adam**: “*I was fine all by myself!*” **Eve**, “*I was fine until You put that serpent in Eden.*”)

APPLICATION: As Christians we need to know that our sin can keep us from being in God's company. *Sin is like a dark curtain drawn across a bright window. The sun remains, but the curtain separates us from its warmth and light. Repentance removes the veil, restoring the relationship we formerly had.* (cf. 1 John 1:9)

- (Prov 28:13) *He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.* (Ezek 18:4,20) bluntly states: *The soul who sins shall die!*

CLOSING THOUGHT: Part of God’s perfection is His perfect justice, and justice demands that sin be reckoned with. To overlook Adam’s sin would not be just. Sin Separates... it stands between humanity and the Righteous Judge. Next we see...

IV. The SENTENCES In Eden (14-19) – What I find interesting in this section is that God FIRST listened to the response of His children, THEN He went to the source of the problem for Judgment. – The first two sentences bring **Condemnation** for the actions of the Serpent and Satan. But when God turns back to address Adam and Eve, **God used Chastisement instead.**

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A. The SERPENT (14) – If indeed the serpent was upright, it was now **CURSED** to crawl on his belly and lick dust. Lit. scavenging and slithering in the lowest parts (*Snakes represent everything disgusting and detestable*)

- After cursing the physical serpent, God then CURSED the SPIRITUAL SERPENT, Satan, the liar and deceiver...

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B. The DEVIL (15) – Satan, is **cursed again!** FIRST, he was cast down to the earth (**Rev 12:9**) and NOW he would have an even greater struggle...**ENMITY!** – ULTIMATELY, he is defeated and *cast into the Lake of Fire and brimstone* (**Rev 20:9**). – The term **ENMITY** = is hostility, mutual hatred, or antagonism between two parties. In particular: **Satan and the Woman, but this is NOT in reference to EVE!**

Though somewhat mysterious, this verse introduces The Contrast between two SEEDS. The conflict between the children [seed] of the Devil and the children [seed] of God. – It is a **WAR** between Satan’s evil influence upon mankind, and the Saintly seed, Jesus Christ; to redeem those who are subject to sin in this world. (i.e., God’s redemptive Plan...needed a Seed!)

1. The “Seed of the Woman” is a direct reference to the **VIRGIN BIRTH** as promised in (Isaiah 7:14) *Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.* (Lit. God with us – Wonderful News!)

2. The Latin term “Protoevangelium” means: The **FIRST** gospel! Wow...this means that before God chastised Adam and Eve, God pronounced the **promise of redemption and deliverance** through the Seed of the woman. This is A direct reference to **JESUS CHRIST** who would **CRUSH** the head of the serpent at the Cross (cf. Rom 16:20)

3. Since the admittance of evil into this world, the **seed of the serpent** has been imposed on every human being. Satan’s propagation was so successful in the antediluvian world (Gen 6:6-7) that God decided to exterminate it. – But in His infinite wisdom, God **STILL** uses this promised **ENMITY** to reveal the children of God, and the children of the Devil. (1 John 3:10) says, *In this the children of God and the children of the devil are manifest: Whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is he who does not love his brother.*

The practical question for today is...What seed are you?

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C. The **WOMAN (16)** – God now circles back to His children to pronounce the **consequences for their actions**. Eve’s consequence affected her body directly with **extreme pain during childbirth**... a reminder that **she brought sin into this world**, and it passes to all children. – In (1 Tim 2:15) Paul latter comments that women are delivered from this curse when they raise Godly children *Nevertheless, she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.* (i.e., teach them to obey!)

1. **Her Desire Changed (16a)** – Her pre-fallen role was as a **helpmate** to compliment her husband (Gen 2:20). Now, she **has the propensity to dominate and control her husband**.

- Sin twisted the orderly framework of God's established assignments into unpleasant conflicts of self-will. As a result, man and woman will struggle in their relationships.
- **Only “in Jesus Christ” can marriage be what God intends it to be!** (b/c pride/selfishness).

2. **Her Position Clarified (16b)** – The woman's desire will be to **Lord it over her husband**, but the **husband will rule by divine design (Eph 5:22-25)**. Both should rule together, but the man is granted Final Authority (1 Cor 11:3; 1 Tim 2:13).

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D. The **MAN (17-19)** – The reason for Adam’s Chastisement was based on his **FAILURE to Listen and Lead!** Adam listened to his wife's counsel instead of God's. **He chose His wife over His God!** (i.e., a complex form of idolatry) – (1 Sam 15:22b) *Behold, to OBEY is better than sacrifice, and to HEED [listen, is better] than the fat of rams.* (Not selective or partial obedience!)

1. God’s **CURSED** the ground as a result of Adam’s sin (17b-19a). This meant that Adam would now have to **Work Hard**, i.e., **“Toil the Soil”** for a decent meal! – Thorns and Thistles, Sowing and Sweat would remind him every day that **disobedience has consequences!**

2. I find it interesting that **Adam's Chastisement is similar to Eve's**, with both Physical and Psychological Components.

- **Psychologically**, they would try to master one another (*one-up each other*)
- **Physically**, it is revealed in the Hebrew word for **PAIN (v.16)** is the same word **TOIL (v.17)**, {*Heb. 'etseb, eh'-tseb or ate-sabe*} **Wow! Increased Pain and Increased Toil** affected the WOMAN in her AREA: the **HOME!** Likewise, it affected the MAN the man in his AREA: **WORK!**

3. **The Final Curse (19b)** – God now reminds Adam of the ultimate recompense for his sin, Death! We already discussed sin brought death spiritually, **this verse speaks is a stark reminder of physical death (Gen 2:7; 5:5)**

APPLICATION: As Christians we need to know that our world is cursed as a result of the fall. We live in a broken world with broken people. We still suffer the consequences of Adam's sin, as well from our own. **But God is not done yet!**

V. THE SACRIFICE IN EDEN (20-24) – We first see that **ADAM named his wife (20)**. – 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**. This name designates the 1st mother from whom all human life would originate.

- This verse reveals another origin of God's specific design 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! (*Yet, Satan has twisted so many to think otherwise!*)

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A. GOD Made the First Sacrifice (21) – *Tunics of Skin*. Adam and Eve's disobedience produced their nakedness (*Spiritually and Physically*). God therefore had to provide a "covering" for them which served as "atonement" for their offense. – Whereas Adam and should have died for their own sin, **God provided an animal as a Substitutionary Sacrifice, which meant that its blood was shed.** (*Heb. 9:22*) *And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.* – A type of what God would have to do to redeem mankind, using His Son as the blood sacrifice

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B. Adam's Awareness of Evil (22-24a) – God protected Adam from the TOTKOGE so that he would NOT live forever in a sinful state! **So, God sent Adam out of Eden!** (*An act of Mercy!*)

C. The Nature of the Tree of life...(24b) – Partaking of this tree provides eternal life! But the TREE was now **Heavily Guarded by Cherubim, and a Flaming Sword!** – Cherubim is plural, so at least, two of more may have been positioned there. *Access is Currently Prohibited, but...*

- **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: This lesson 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.

COMMUNION: **Unconfessed sin in a Christian's life causes a sense of separation from God!**