

The Fall and God's Promise of Redemption

Genesis 3:1-24, Romans 5:12-21

THE BIG IDEA: Sin entered God's good creation through humanity's rebellion, bringing separation, death, and brokenness. Yet even in the midst of judgment, God promised redemption—a promise ultimately fulfilled through Jesus Christ, the second Adam.

The Biblical Story

CREATION → FALL → REDEMPTION → RESTORATION

Last week we looked at **God's good design**. Tonight we see what happened when humanity chose to reject God's design.

1. THE FALL BEGINS WITH DOUBTING GOD'S WORD

Read Genesis 3:1–5

- The serpent begins by questioning what God said. **"Has God indeed said...?"**
- The temptation begins before Adam and Eve ever eat the fruit.
- It begins with a question about **God's Word and God's goodness**.

The enemy's strategy is often to get us to question what God has said.

2. SIN IS REBELLION AGAINST GOD'S AUTHORITY

Read Genesis 3:6

- Eve saw, desired, and took. Adam joined her.
- The issue wasn't merely eating fruit.
- The deeper issue was: **Who gets to determine what is good and evil—God or us?**
- Sin says: **"I will decide what is right for me."**
- Faith says: **"God is Creator. I will trust His definition of what is good."**

At its heart, sin is choosing our will over God's will.

3. SIN PROMISES FREEDOM BUT PRODUCES BONDAGE

Read Genesis 3:4–7

- The serpent promised that their eyes would be opened and that they would be like God.
- The temptation suggested that obedience to God was limiting them.
- But the result was not greater freedom.

- It was:
 - shame
 - fear
 - hiding
 - blame
 - separation
 - brokenness
 - death

Sin always overpromises and underdelivers. What looks like freedom apart from God ultimately becomes slavery to sin.

➤ **John 8:34**

➤ **James 1:14–16**

4. SIN BRINGS SHAME

Read Genesis 3:7

- Adam and Eve suddenly become aware of their nakedness.
- What had previously been associated with innocence and intimacy now produces shame.

Notice the progression: Sin → Shame → Hiding

- They don't run toward God.
- They run away from God.

Sin makes us want to hide from the very God we most need.

5. SIN DISTORTS OUR VIEW OF GOD

Read Genesis 3:8–10

- Adam says: "I was afraid..." Think about that. The God they were created to walk with is now the God from whom they are hiding.
- Sin doesn't change God's character. **Sin changes our perception of God.**

Instead of seeing Him as good and trustworthy, fallen humanity begins to see God as someone to avoid.

➤ **Psalm 32:3–5**

Sin doesn't merely break God's rules; it breaks our relationship with God.

6. SIN PRODUCES BLAME

Read Genesis 3:11–13

- Adam blames Eve. Eve blames the serpent. Neither initially takes responsibility.
- **Notice:** Sin creates separation:
 - **From God**
 - **From ourselves**
 - **From one another**

When we don't want to face our own sin, we often look for someone else to blame.

➤ **Proverbs 28:13**

7. THE FALL AFFECTS EVERY AREA OF LIFE

- Genesis 3 doesn't merely introduce individual wrongdoing. It introduces **cosmic brokenness**.
 - **Relationship with God** = They hide.
 - **Relationship between husband and wife** = Blame and conflict enter.
 - **Human sexuality** = Shame enters.
 - **Work** = Toil and frustration enter.
 - **Creation** = The ground is cursed.
 - **Human existence** = Death enters.

The Fall did not make one part of life broken. It introduced brokenness into every dimension of human existence.

This explains why we see brokenness in:

- individuals
- marriages
- families
- work
- society
- governments
- relationships
- creation itself

8. GOD'S JUDGMENT IS REAL

Read Genesis 3:14–19

God judges:

- the serpent

- the woman
- the man
- the ground

God is not indifferent toward sin. **The same God who is good is also holy and just.** God's judgment isn't evidence that God stopped being good. His judgment demonstrates that He takes evil seriously.

- **Romans 6:23**
- **Galatians 6:7**

9. BUT JUDGMENT IS NOT THE END OF THE STORY

Read Genesis 3:15

- This is often called the **protoevangelium**, meaning "first gospel."
- God tells the serpent that the offspring of the woman will ultimately crush the serpent's head.
- The Bible's story of redemption begins appearing immediately after humanity's fall.

God announces the answer to sin in the same chapter where sin enters the world. The Fall happens in Genesis 3. But so does the first promise of redemption.

10. GOD PROMISES A SAVIOR

Genesis 3:15 points forward to the ultimate victory of Christ over Satan, sin, and death.

- **Galatians 4:4–5**
- **1 John 3:8**
- **Hebrews 2:14**

The Bible is not a collection of disconnected stories. It is one unfolding story of God's redemptive plan. The promise begins in Genesis. The fulfillment comes through Jesus.

11. ADAM BROUGHT SIN AND DEATH; CHRIST BRINGS LIFE

Read Romans 5:12–21

- Paul compares **Adam** and **Christ**. Adam represents humanity in its fallen condition. Christ becomes the representative head of a redeemed humanity.
- **Romans 5 emphasizes:**
 - **Adam → sin → condemnation → death**

- **Christ → grace → righteousness → life**

What Adam's disobedience brought into humanity, Christ's obedience overcomes.

12. GRACE IS GREATER THAN THE FALL

Read Romans 5:15–17

- Paul repeatedly contrasts:
 - **The trespass** with **The gift**.
 - And: **Death** with **Life**.

The Fall is devastating, but God's grace is greater. We should never minimize the seriousness of sin. But neither should we minimize the power of God's grace.

➤ **Romans 5:20**

13. JESUS IS THE "SECOND ADAM"

Read Romans 5:18–19; 1 Corinthians 15:45–49

- Adam represents humanity's fall.
- Jesus represents redeemed humanity.
 - **Adam:** Disobedience
→ condemnation
→ death
 - **Jesus:** Obedience
→ justification
→ life

Jesus came to undo what Adam's sin had done. He doesn't simply make bad people better. He creates a **new humanity**.

➤ **2 Corinthians 5:17**

14. GOD CLOTHES ADAM AND EVE

Read Genesis 3:20–21

- Adam and Eve attempt to cover themselves.
- God provides clothing for them.
- This is a beautiful picture of something that runs throughout Scripture:
Humanity cannot ultimately cover its own sin. God must provide the covering.

- **Isaiah 61:10**
- **Zechariah 3:3–5**
- **2 Corinthians 5:21**

The Gospel is not that we successfully cover our sin. The Gospel is that God provides the covering we cannot provide for ourselves.

15. SIN BRINGS EXILE FROM EDEN

Read Genesis 3:22–24

- Adam and Eve are removed from the garden. They are separated from the tree of life. This is judgment—but there is also mercy. God prevents humanity from living forever in its fallen condition.

God's judgment in Genesis 3 is not the abandonment of humanity. It becomes part of the story that leads toward redemption.

16. THE HOPE OF THE BIBLE

The Bible begins with humanity in a garden.

The Bible ends with humanity in God's presence.

- **Genesis 3** = Humanity loses access to the tree of life.
- **Revelation 22** = The tree of life appears again.
- **Genesis 3** = Sin brings the curse.
- **Revelation 22:3** = "There shall be no more curse."
- **Genesis 3** = Humanity is separated from God's presence.
- **Revelation 21:3** = God dwells with His people.
- **The story: Creation → Fall → Redemption → Restoration**

Sin entered the world through humanity's rebellion, but God's grace entered the story immediately with a promise of redemption. The Fall explains why the world is broken. The cross explains what God has done about it.

THE GOSPEL IN ONE SENTENCE

Adam's sin brought sin and death into God's good creation; Jesus came as the second Adam to bring grace, righteousness, and life to those who trust in Him.