

The Fall of Man

Genesis 3 – September 14, 2022

In the beginning the world was breathtakingly beautiful. Before the temptation stirred within the first couple's heart "to be as gods," there was no curse, no death, and no suffering. Everything "was very good." In that day there was a sweet unhindered fellowship between God and man. God and His creation were at peace.

It is not known how long Adam and Eve were in the garden before they fell. We do know that **it was long enough** for them to be familiar with God's pattern of walking in the garden in order to fellowship with them (*Genesis 3:8*). **It was long enough** for them to discover their garden was positioned in the eastern part of Eden. **It was long enough** to realize the river that went out of garden parted into four heads. **Because of the size of Eden**, it must have taken time for them to grasp that the river Pison encompassed the land of Havilah; the river Gihon encompassed the whole land of Ethiopia; the river Hiddekel went toward the east of Assyria, and to learn where the fourth river Euphrates went. **Finally, their stay was long enough** to learn how to dress and keep the garden. Otherwise they would not have known the difference between the blessed garden and the cursed earth. **Certainly, it was long enough for Satan to realize** the unique way God made man and the authority given to man to rule over the earth. **It was long enough** for Satan to plan and organize a rebellion that has spread through the ages.

The Fall of Man

Joseph Goebbels was Germany's *Minister of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda*. He understood the power of a story. In his case, it was the power of spinning a false story.

He said,

"If you tell a lie big enough and keep repeating it, people will eventually come to believe it. The lie can be maintained only for such time as the State can shield the people from the political, economic and/or military consequences of the lie. It thus becomes vitally important for the State to use all of its powers to repress dissent, for the truth is the mortal enemy of the lie, and thus by extension, the truth is the greatest enemy of the State."

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Holocaust/goebbelslie.html> Joseph Goebbels: On the "Big Lie"

True or False

- 1. The United States was founded as a democracy.
- 2. Palestine was always an Arab state.
- 3. The three wise men's names were Gaspar, Balthasar, and Melchior.
- 4. Adam and Eve ate of an apple.
- 5. The wise men saw Jesus in the manger.
- 6. Since God took a rib from Adam's side men have one rib less than women.
- 7. Carrots are good for the eyes.

All the seven statements listed above are false. We can hear a false statement enough that we begining to believe that it is true. Storytelling is a powerful tool. Thus, it is important for us to recount the true events recorded in the Bible. In a world where truth is often reworded, reworked, revised, and reedited. It is vital that we constantly retell the true biblical stories in order to dispel the misinformation dispensed by a lost world.

We see this in the political realm today. We hear the propaganda machine spinning truth and remaking truth so that we no longer know what is true. If we are careless with our facts, we become careless in our thinking. Therefore, it is important to go back to our original sources to accurately retell the true story of the redemption of man.

As for carrots, it turns out that although they are a valuable source of vitamin A, they don't really do much more for your eyes than milk, cheese, egg yolks or liver.

The carrot rumor began during WWII when the British began using a form of radar that allowed them to detect German air raids and carry out appropriate counter measures. In an attempt to hide the new technology from the Germans, the British instead spread the rumor that carrots were good for the eyes, and that they reasoned the British could detect the attacks was simply because their citizens ate lots of carrots and so had better eyesight.

Even 77 years later, many people unquestioningly accept that carrots are good for the eyes. That's a lie.

THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL.

For Adam, *the tree represented the choice between him submitting to God or pursuing his own personal moral autonomy*. Ultimately, true wisdom is found in the recognition that life flows from the fear of the Lord, rather than from self-dependent knowledge.

Proverbs 1:7: “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction”

Learning obedience results in greater wisdom, maturity, and freedom

In our prior context, man is made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26; 2:7, 15).

Gen. 1:26 – “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.”

Gen. 2:7 – “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.”

Gen. 2:15 – “And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.”

He is innocent, without sin, placed in a perfect environment. However, under perfect conditions Adam sins. This reality is contrary to much of today's teaching which states, if we create a perfect environment, mankind will be able to realize their ideals and purify their heredity. Yet here we find Adam and Eve created innocent, without any inherent evil, in a perfect environment and they sinned.

1. From this text we learn that the main problem with humanity is the heart, not the environment one is raised. It is not that God made a mistake, or that Adam and Eve simply couldn't help themselves. No! The truth of the matter is, they desired to be autonomous from God or “to be as gods.” Simply put, they chose to disobey. Therefore, our environment is not the cause of our problems. Our home life is not the cause of our problems, nor is our government the cause of our problems. The cause of our problems is with our wayward heart.

THE COMMAND:

Only a single restriction is placed upon Adam and Eve's liberty. Yet, we find Adam and Eve could not obey.

"And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, 'Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: ¹⁷ But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die'" Genesis 2:16-17.

Here we learn that man is a responsible being. He is responsible to serve, obey and glorify his Maker. Since God created man, he is indebted to Him and subject to His government. But Adam and Eve, even in their perfect environment became self-seeking, self-centered, self-willed, and as a result they disobeyed God, sinned, and fell.

LESSONS FROM THE TEMPTATION

"Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? ² **And the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden . . . ⁶ And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat" Genesis 3:1-2, 6.

Eve's wrong response to Satan is found in Genesis 3:2-3, cf. Proverbs 30:6.

(1) First, she adds to the command of God by saying,

"God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, ***neither shall ye touch it***" – Genesis 3:3.

Compare this with Proverbs 30:6

"Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar" and see the seriousness of Eve digression.

(2) Then she alters God's word watering it down. The original command said,

"Thou shalt surely die."

However, Eve weakened the sharp point of the Spirit's sword by saying "**lest ye die.**"

Is this not what we see happening today. Men are adding to His word or dulling His word or even denying His holy word. Eve altered her only source of light on the subject and was now looked on the fruit with desire.

THE MEANING OF "YE SHALL BE AS GODS." (Genesis 3:4-5).

"And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: ⁵ For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and **ye shall be as gods**, knowing good and evil."

The objective of the tempter appears to have been this: to persuade our first parents that they should, by eating of this fruit, become wise and powerful as God, (for knowledge is power), and be able to exist for ever, independently of him – personal autonomy.

SATAN'S APPEAL: TO EVE:

Genesis 3:6

"⁶ And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat."

2 Corinthians 11:3

"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."

Eve **saw** the tree was good for food – appealing to her bodily sense. She saw it was **pleasant** to the eyes - appealing to her desires, her emotions which is the seat of her soul. She saw it was appealing to her **intellect**, because the tree would make her wise, which is centered in her spirit.

THE APPEAL TO ADAM

Scripture says Eve was deceived and Adam was not. (1 Timothy 2:13-14).

"For Adam was first formed, then Eve. ¹⁴ And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression."

Why did Adam take of the tree of knowledge?

In eating the fruit of the forbidden tree, Adam sought to be "as gods" in the sense that he could aspire to be independent from God and set his own standards of right and wrong, good, and evil. This has been the problem with sinful man all along.

Adam and Eve listened to Satan's lie, and Adam made a judgment, a conscious decision, based on Satan's lie. Adam did not believe God's warning or promise. He believed Satan's message instead – "ye shall not surely die."

Adam fell when he took sides with Satan against God. He sought to set his own standard of good and evil. In essence we could say that Adam sought to set his own standard of continuing in life. Satan spoke peace to Adam and Eve in opposition to God's testimony.

Three things occurred the will of God was resisted, the word of God was rejected, and the way of God was deserted.

THE EXTENT OF MAN'S FALL

Why is it that sin is universal? Why is there no empire, nation, or family tree free from this awful problem? The fall Adam is the only possible explanation for the present condition of the human race. This alone accounts for the present evil in a world made by a perfect Creator. This alone explains the universality of sin.

Reject the Divine explanation and we find no satisfactory explanation. Accept it, and we see that sin is universal and all share a common ancestry with Adam - "In Adam all die"

Romans 5:12 - "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned"

THE EFFECT OF SIN ON CREATION.

What can we learn about Satan's and his methods?

We meet Satan for the first time in Genesis 3. He is introduced without any history. Later in history we learn about him in Isaiah 14:12-15 and Ezekiel 28:12-19.

His name means (his brightness).

“O Lucifer, son of the morning!” (Isaiah 14:

He was created.

“the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created” (Ezekiel 28:13b).

He was in the Garden of Eden.

“Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God” (Ezekiel 28:13b).

He was beautiful.

“Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty” (Ezekiel 28:12).

He was the anointed cherub serving before God.

“Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire” (Ezekiel 28:14).

He was created perfect.

“Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee” (Ezekiel 28:15).

He was corrupted through pride.

“Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness” (Ezekiel 28:17).

His plan is revealed.

“For thou hast said in thine heart — **I will** ascend into heaven, **I will** exalt my throne above the stars of God: **I will** sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: **I will** ascend above the heights of the clouds, **I will** be like the most High” (Isaiah 14:12-15).

He will be judged.

“How art thou fallen from heaven” (Isaiah 14:12a)

His destruction is predicted.

“How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!” (Isaiah 14:12b).

“I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. ¹⁸ Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. ¹⁹ All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more” (Ezekiel 28:17b-19).

SATAN'S TACTICS:

He tempts our senses: (Genesis 3:6)

They come in a form of temptations. His chief aim is to come in-between our soul and God, to estrange our hearts from God and to inspire confidence in him instead. He seeks to usurp the place of the Most High and to make His children his own.

He casts doubt:

Yea hath God said? – (**Genesis 3:1**) He begins by **throwing doubt** on God's word. He questions its veracity. He suggests that God did not mean what He had said.

He twists God's Word (Genesis 3:3).

His works consist of substituting his own lies in the place of divine truth.

He lies (Genesis 3:3).

“Ye shall *not* surely die” - He substitutes his words for God's. Is this not what is happening in Matthew 13 when the sowing of the seed takes place.

He questions God's goodness (Genesis 3:5).

He dares to cast reflection upon God's goodness, and to call into question His perfect character. In other words, he is suggesting that God is despotically withholding from man something, which would be advantageous to him.

He offers prosperity with a hitch (Genesis 3:5b).

He suggested that if Eve would believe his lie rather than God's Word, she would be the gainer, and the obtainer of knowledge and wisdom previously denied her.

Satan works from without to within, which is the very reverse of how God works.

God begins His work in our hearts, which leads to outward transformation. Satan works with the external: through bodily senses, to emotions of the soul to our spirit. Satan does not normally have direct access to our spirit like God does. This is the root of the false doctrine of salvation by works? Dress up the outside and the inside will change.

THE EFFECTS OF THE FALL

What part does our conscience play in the fall? – Genesis 3:7

“And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they *were naked*” - Genesis 3:7

Through sin man obtained that which he did not have before (at least in operation), namely, **a conscience - a knowledge of both good and evil**. Though we were created complete, in our innocent state the conscience was not in operation. We were innocent and ignorant of evil. But as soon as Adam and Eve sinned, their eyes were opened to see their wrong (evil) and their fallen condition. **The conscience is a witness to our fallen state and our depravity**. It testifies to the fact that we are not our own master, but responsible to a moral law.

They try to cover up (Genesis 3:7b). Now conscious of their shame they tried to hide by making fig leaves. Instead of seeking God and openly confessing guilt, they attempted to conceal it from God and themselves. When we are conscious of wrong, we seek to find shelter behind our own self-righteousness. These leaf aprons did not remove their shame, for when they heard God walking in the garden they hid

Additional Insight: Our conscience does not necessarily bring us to God; that is the work of the Holy Spirit. Their consciousness of shame drove them away from God.

GUILTY BEFORE GOD

It was God who sought out Adam and brought him face to face with his guilt (Gen 3:8-9, 12). God could have consigned them to everlasting chains under darkness as He did the angels when they sinned. God could have instantly consumed them. Was it not due them? Would that not be justice? Did they not deserve that?

Note who was seeking whom in this passage (Genesis 3:9; Romans 3:10-12).

God is the One seeking Adam; cf. the same is true today, it is God who seeks us, it is He who draws us, convicts us and illuminates us, and calls us. The issue is whether we will respond.

The First Message of Good News

The promise of good news is given in Genesis 3:15 (**cf. Hebrews 2:14; 1 John 3:8**). It is considered the first gospel message. Notice to whom the pronouns refer.

“And I (*God*) will put enmity between **thee** (*the Serpent*) and the woman, and between **thy** (*the Serpent’s*) seed and **her** (*the woman’s*) seed; **it** (*the woman’s seed – the Redeemer*) shall bruise **thy** (*the Serpent’s*) head, and **thou** (*the Serpent*) shalt bruise **his** (*The woman’s seed – the Redeemer*) heel.

Before sending them out of the garden God gives them and mankind a promise to hang on to. In process of time God will restore all those things that was lost in the fall. He will send to us a Savior. From this passage springs the hope of a Messiah. God’s Anointed One.

Throughout history mankind has looked for this Savior. He would come from a woman

The term, “enmity” means hostility or abrasion. This type of attitude is not one that reptiles possess. It is an attitude that is only recorded between men or intelligent moral agents. God said He would put this hostility between Satan and Eve. No doubt that Eve felt this way after realizing what Satan had

done. God promised that this hostility will continue throughout all generations.

Who is the Seed of Woman and the seed of Satan? – Genesis 3:15b

It is easy to understand whom the woman's seed is. That is the offspring of Eve, and God promised the first family that one day the Deliverer would come from a woman (this will be further discussed below). Yet it gets muddled a little when we consider who or what is the serpent's seed.

Satan's seed seems to be those who followed Satan in the rebellion – fallen angels and men subject to Satan's kingdom. Of men in John 8:44 Jesus called the Pharisees father the devil. In Ephesians 2:3 – Paul says the unredeemed are called children of wrath who are part of the kingdom of darkness under the authority of the Prince of the power of the air.

Therefore, the children or seed of Satan are unbelieving men and fallen angels, while the seed of the woman must be men and women who have called on the name of the Lord.

What will the Seed of the Woman do?

Secondly, part of the promise is that from Eve shall come a man who will crush the Serpent's head (delivering a fatal blow). Whereas the Serpent shall bruise His heel (Genesis 3:15). **The Pronouns are singular.** "He" and "You." Thus, God is referring to an individual who will one day strike at Satan.

For Adam and Eve to consider this promise without the light of the future, it must have been difficult to understand. Certainly, Eve must have been hostile towards Satan as was Adam. She must have understood that Her children would be hostile toward Satan because now they all would suffer death. But the idea that a man of hers will crush Satan's head. This is something she looked forward too.

In summary, two seeds are mentioned. The seed of the woman - who is ultimately Christ and the seed of Satan – those against Christ or ultimately the AntiChrist. Christ was bruised at the cross while bearing our sin "that through death he might **destroy** him that had the power of death, that is, the devil" (Heb. 2:14) and again the Scriptures say, "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the **devil**" (1 John 3:8).

Understanding Key Phrases or Passages:

1. “I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children” (Genesis 3:16a).

Sorrow could equal pain, but the Hebrew term **עֲבֹדָתְךָ עַ** *its tsabown*, points to the lament of Eve. With each child birthed into this fallen world, she will lament the fact that because their disobedience their children will live in a sin cursed world and one day face death. Apart from God, they will not know the joy of a perfect world and the close fellowship she and Adam once enjoyed in the garden.

2. “Thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee” (Genesis 3:16b).

The desire to rule over her husband. Note that God continues by saying, “Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife” (Genesis 3:17; cf. 1 Corinthians 11:3; 1 Timothy 2:12-15). Adam listened to his wife’s voice and knowingly disobeyed God’s command.

1Cor. 11:3 – “But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman *is* the man; and the head of Christ *is* God.”

1Tim. 2:12 – “But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.¹³ For Adam was first formed, then Eve. ¹⁴ And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. ¹⁵ Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.”

RENAMING THE FIRST WOMAN FROM **ISHA TO **EVE** -(Genesis 3:20)**

Adam renamed his wife Eve after the fall. He said, “Eve was the mother of all living things”. Immediately after God’s pronouncement of judgment upon the first couple, Adam renames his wife “Eve.”

The term comes from the Hebrew **חַיָּה** (**Chayah**) meaning “breathe” or from **chayah**, “to live, or to give life”. From this we get the traditional meaning for Eve’s name, “living”.

In the fall came death. It brought with it the dismal prospect of hardship, suffering and pain, and eventually the end of life. **However, within the curse was a sliver of hope, the promise of a Deliverer.** This was good news to Adam's ears, and he must have understood it as so. For from the woman would come children (life) and one day the Deliverer who would strike down the enemy and restore all things. Thus, came the name change from Woman (Isha) to Eve. From her comes life, and the prospect of new life, and the restoration of all things.

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS TO MEDIATE ON

1. What is significant about Genesis 3:21?

Gen. 3:21 – “Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.”

Rev. 3:18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.”

Is. 61:10 – “I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth *herself* with her jewels.

2. In Genesis 3:24 is the first appearance of Cherabims? Who are they? What is their role?

“Therefore, the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.²⁴ So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.”

3. In what ways have men corrupted God's design? Romans 1:23, 25, 28 and 8:18-25.

Rom. 1:23 – “And **changed** the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.”

Rom. 1:25 – “**Who changed** the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

Rom. 1:28 – “And even as **they did not like to retain** God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient.”

The earth and nature corrupted.

Rom. 8:18-25 – “For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are not worthy to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.¹⁹ For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.²⁰ For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected *the same* in hope,²¹ Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.²² For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.²³ And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body.²⁴ For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?²⁵ But if we hope for that we see not, *then do we with patience wait for it.*”

4. How does Colossians 3:10; Ephesians 4:24 correlate with Genesis 1-3?ⁱ

Col. 3:10 – “And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.”

Eph. 4:24 – “And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.”

5. Meditate on the pre-fall era with the following passages in mind (1 Corinthians 15:22, 45, 47).

1Cor. 15:22 – “For as in **Adam** all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.”

1Cor. 15:45 – “And so it is written, The first man **Adam** was made a living soul; the last **Adam** was made a quickening spirit.”

1Cor. 15:47 – “The first **man** is of the earth, earthly: the **second man** is the Lord from heaven.”

ⁱ Man is made in God's image in the following ways. Having the "image" or "likeness" of God means, in the simplest terms, that we were made to resemble God. Adam did not resemble God in the sense of God having flesh and blood. Scripture says that "God is spirit" (John 4:24) and therefore exists without a body. However, Adam's body did mirror the life of God insofar as it was created in perfect health and was not subject to death.

The image of God (Latin: *imago dei*) refers to the immaterial part of humanity. It sets human beings apart from the animal world, fits them for the dominion God intended them to have over the earth (Genesis 1:28), and enables them to commune with their Maker. It is a likeness mentally, morally, and socially.

Mentally, humanity was created as a rational, volitional agent. In other words, human beings can reason and choose. This is a reflection of God's intellect and freedom. Anytime someone invents a machine, writes a book, paints a landscape, enjoys a symphony, calculates a sum, or names a pet, he or she is proclaiming the fact that we are made in God's image.

Morally, humanity was created in righteousness and perfect innocence, a reflection of God's holiness. God saw all He had made (humanity included) and called it "very good" (Genesis 1:31). Our conscience or "moral compass" is a vestige of that original state. Whenever someone writes a law, recoils from evil, praises good behavior, or feels guilty, he or she is confirming the fact that we are made in God's own image.

Socially, humanity was created for fellowship. This reflects God's triune nature and His love. In Eden, humanity's primary relationship was with God (Genesis 3:8 implies fellowship with God), and God made the first woman because "it is not good for the man to be alone" (Genesis 2:18). Every time someone marries, makes a friend, hugs a child, or attends church, he or she is demonstrating the fact that we are made in the likeness of God.

Part of being made in God's image is that Adam had the capacity to make free choices. Although they were given a righteous nature, Adam and Eve made an evil choice to rebel against their Creator. In so doing, they marred the image of God within themselves, and passed that damaged likeness on to all of their descendants (Romans 5:12). Today, we still bear the image of God (James 3:9), but we also bear the scars of sin. Mentally, morally, socially, and physically, we show the effects of sin.

The good news is that when God redeems an individual, He begins to restore the original image of God, creating a "new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness" (Ephesians 4:24). That redemption is only available by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ as our Savior from the sin that separates us from God (Ephesians 2:8-9). Through Christ, we are made new creations in the likeness of God (2 Corinthians 5:17).