

DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR: We Are: Fallen and Condemned - JANUARY 15, 2023

PRIMARY PASSAGES:

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 it's fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Genesis 3:1-6

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned— 13 for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. 14 Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.

Romans 5:12-14

And have mercy on those who doubt; 23 save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh
Jude 22, 23

MESSAGE HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Origin of sin
 - In the universe (Isaiah 14; Ezekiel 28)
 - In our world (Genesis 3)
 - Defined: defiance, arrogance, pride. Whenever we put ourselves in God's place as the reference point, we are sinning. When your own interests are the end to which everything else is the means, you are sinning.
 - Ego-centricity
2. Inherited directly from Adam
 - Spiritual DNA
3. Results of sin (Romans 6:23a)
 - Separation from self, others, God
 - Hell

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Joe said, "We don't become a sinner when we commit our first act of sin; we commit our first act of sin because we are a sinner." What did he mean by that? Agree?



2. Satan's tactics with men and women are the same today as they were in the garden. Describe the process of the temptation, step by step. How do you see that same process at work in your own life today?
3. Next Sunday, Nate will be taking us back to Romans 5, giving the "rest of the story" in talking about a second man, Jesus Christ. But for our purposes today, describe how the actions of Adam have impacted our world and our own personhood today.
4. Jonathan Edwards preached his fiery sermon, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God," in the mid-1700s. Why do you suppose such preaching has fallen out of vogue, for the most part, in our churches today? And is that a good thing or a bad thing?
5. Have you ever found yourself afraid as you stood before God? If so, what was the situation?
6. In your own words, describe what you consider to be a biblical understanding of hell.
 - Who goes there?
 - How long is it for?
 - What are the conditions to be found there?
 - Why do you think the Bible talks about hell over twice as much as it talks about heaven?
7. What is one transformation in your thoughts, attitudes or actions that has grown out of this message?

