



**“A happier scene could hardly be imagined. The first couple is perfectly at ease with one another, for they are ‘naked and not ashamed’ (2:25). There is no division, no emotional pain, no contention between them. Presumably they will fulfill the Lord’s command to multiply on the earth (1:28), which indicates that sexuality has an important role in human relationships. No problem exists in this realm either. The Creator God has completed the creative task. Earth, human beings and plant and animal life are all ‘good,’ all appropriate for their function. Humans exercise their ‘imaging’ of God by relating to their Creator and by ruling the animals and the earth according to the Lord’s command. Flawless in its design, perfect in its purpose, the creation reflects the Creator’s genius and self-unity. Time and human history have begun from the uncaused decision of God to speak them into existence.”**

**— Paul House**

**“Sin establishes the plotline of the Bible...sin constitutes the problem God resolves: the conflict carries us from the third chapter of Genesis to the closing chapter of Revelation. In short, if we do not comprehend the massive role that sin plays in the Bible and therefore in biblically faithful Christianity, we shall misread the Bible.”**

**— Don Carson**

**“Here is the lie that has allured the human race from the beginning: there is no punishment for disobedience. But the Bible again and again makes it clear that no one can get away with sin.” — Allen Ross**

**“It was the first time she had ever heard anyone doubt God. She did not know that it was a live option. Never had it occurred to the woman that God’s word is subject to human assessment. The effect on her is seen in the wavering answer she gave to the serpent.”**

**— Richard Phillips**

**“Rather than driving them back to God, their guilt leads them into a self-atoning, self-protecting procedure: they must cover themselves...the man and woman are successful in hiding their nakedness from each other, but that does not exonerate them from their sin of disobedience.” — Victor Hamilton**

**“The message to Israel, and to all God’s people, should now be clear: A thorough knowledge of the Word of God and an unwavering trust in the goodness of God are absolutely essential for spiritual victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil. The appeal by the Tempter to humankind’s desire to know, under the guise of spiritual development, is thereby set aside. In practical terms, this lesson would mean for Israel that the subtle claims of the pagans to achieve divinity and superior knowledge through their corrupt practices were false. The people of God were to avoid the satanic appeal to an elevated life and superior knowledge if that appeal also required transgressing God’s barriers. It is no surprise, then, that the Old Testament is filled with instructions for the people of God to know the Word of God, to memorize it, and to use it to discern truth from error (e.g., Deu. 6:5-9, 13-25; Ps. 119:9-16). God’s people must therefore have a**

**wholehearted trust in the goodness of God, a precise knowledge of the Word of God, and an obedient fear of God himself. They must remember they are human and not divine and therefore must obey him.” — Allen Ross**

**“God will taste poverty and death before ‘take and eat’ become verbs of salvation.” — Derek Kidner**