

Jason Dirks==Genesis 3:7—24=== 9/10/23==

4th week in the *Book of Genesis*... Looking at *Foundational Pillars* in our Faith....

We started in *Gen. 1* Looking at God the *Creator/Owner/Sustainer* of the Universe...
The One who brought everything into existence and who right now... this very moment...
Actively *holds all things together!*

We saw that God created us to be *IMAGE BEARERS*... set apart from everything else in
Creation we are *to subdue* and *have dominion* over the earth and to have a *relationship
with the ETERNAL GOD*... *Knowing, enjoying and displaying HIS GLORY!!!*

We saw in *Genesis 2* that God created us *in His image*... *Male* and *Female* for the purpose
of MARRIAGE... --- to *display* the *beauty of God's covenant relationship* between
JESUS and HIS BRIDE THE CHURCH!!!

Together... the Man.. .and His Wife are to *Be Fruitful and multiply and fill the earth with
image bearers.* This of course applies to *Raising up children* to know and love God but
even more.. in *Making disciples* who will be *joined to Jesus in FAITH* and who are being
transformed into JESUS image through the power of the Holy Spirit.

God puts *Adam and Eve in the Garden of EDEN*... and *LAVISHLY* GIVES THEM
EVERYTHING!!!! It's all THEIRS!!!! *Except* for the *Tree of the knowledge of Good and
Evil* and God commands the man not to eat of that tree... ***or he will die.***

All of that is... *So... So... Incredibly GOOD!!!* God said it is GOOD!!!

Then Last week....

Eve is confronted by the SERPENT... the *Enemy of God*... the *DECEIVER*... the *LIAR* and
father of LIES... the *Accuser of the Brethren*...

The serpent convinces Eve that *God can't be trusted*... that He *doesn't really love them*...
That God is *holding back Life* from them...

Eve believes the LIE and takes of the Tree that God commanded that they not eat ... Gives
some to her husband... they both eat... ***and everything CRASHES!!!***

SIN is a LIE!!!

That's what is **at the Root** of **every SIN... a LIE..** about **God...** or about **LIFE.**

Revenge... is a LIE!! Taking your own vengeance will not lead to LIFE!

Pornography is a LIE!!!! --- Those aren't real women!!! Satan is offering a LURE... a Cheap imitation of the real thing that has a hook in it to drag you to your death!

Pride... Is a LIE!!!

Selfishness is believing the LIE that demanding to be first leads to LIFE!!

Satan Traffics in LIES.

Now... where we left last week was The DEVIL had told them that if they took of the Fruit that God had commanded them not to eat..... **"YOU won't DIE"..(vs.4)**...

I.e. there are **no consequences for Sin**..... You can Find life while disobeying God.

NOT TRUE!!!! I beg you to Believe what the scriptures say about Sin.... **(Gal. 6:8)**

"corruption"--- decay... rot..

Or **LIFE!!!**

WELL... the **Rest of Chapter 3** describes the **Cataclysmic Pain and destruction** that flooded into the world through Sin.

1st.... Adam and Eve become Naked and Afraid... (vs.7-10)....

Now.. if you just take this literally... you are going to miss the point. ---- The Point is not that Adam and Eve lived in some kind of dream world innocence and after they sinned they realized they had no clothes on!!!

Illus--- I had a friend named Todd.. who in Jr. High... we had to change into our gym uniform each day... was a little distracted one day and walked out into the gym without his shorts on... my buddies and I just chatted him up... trying to keep him from realizing it... until some girls came out of their locker room and screamed pointing and laughing..... and he had... what I'm sure is still a scarring realization that he was naked and afraid!!!

No...there is more happening here.

For the First time... Adam and Eve experienced... Shame and Guilt...

You see before this... Adam and Eve had nothing to HIDE...

They were completely honest, completely vulnerability... --NOTHING in their lives to cause rejection or suspicion or Shame...

They were righteous... Accepted... glorious...

They could stand before God or each other with no Fear of rejection or suspicion...

But... Now.. they had acted independently from God..
They had lashed out at God in UNBELIEF... they had Disobeyed God..
In their hearts they had despised God (that is what we do when we sin!!!!)
ex. David. 2 Sam. 12:10 ...

And Shame/Guilt causes us to scramble to cover ourselves and hide who we are!

This is SO DEEP IN US..
Ex... Someone dropping by your house unannounced
Ex... Someone dropping by early before you have got yourself ready..
→FB/Instagram... provide this means of presenting ourselves and our lives in ways that hide things about our lives --- Cover up the things we don't want people to see.... and present only what we want people to see.

Adam and Eve sew FIG LEAVES together to make "coverings" ... They try to cover themselves..
Cover their nakedness!
Cover their sin
Cover their unacceptableness.. their flaws... their brokenness..

There is a lot of "Fig leaves" being sown together today... Right!!!

"Religion"... --(not Faith in Christ).... People use Religion to cover themselves by pointing the finger at others..... man made rules and comparisons... meant to cover our shame and point the finger at others.
--Posers... Pretenders... Hypocrites... Hiders... People who won't get close to anyone.. they won't bear their hearts to anyone.. because they are terrified that if people really knew them...
-----that NO ONE WOULD LOVE THEM.... NO one would accept them...

I actually think a lot of people embrace Atheism in this desperate "fig leaf" attempt to say.... No one can see me... There is no being that can see my heart.. that knows my brokenness..

2.... Adam and Eve hide from God. (vs.8)...

Up to this point Adam and Eve had enjoyed this intimate fellowship with God.

God came walking in the cool of the day... to be with them...
It says that they hid from His presence, meaning that they normally had access to into the presence of God!!

What is that LIKE??? **Psalm 16:11... "Fullness of Joy and Pleasures forevermore!"**
Psalm 36:8... "They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights."

Jeremiah 2:13... “the fountain of Living Waters”...

All of those describe this abundance of LIFE.... This River.. this ever-flowing Fountain of Glory and Goodness and JOY and Blessing... and Happiness!!!

And they had ACCESS to GOD EVERY DAY....

But now... they don't want Him...

Now... they hide from His presence.... They are BROKEN on the INSIDE...

Their Eyes have been opened to see the World apart from God...
To see the World according to their Flesh... their internal brokenness...

Gal. 5:17... the desires of the flesh are against the desires of the Spirit....

Sin is CRUEL in that it gives you the very brokenness that you Want..
They wanted to be independent from God...
They wanted Life apart from God...

And Now... they are painfully separated from Him...

3.... Sin will bring Pain and frustration into the very Core of our Lives... (vs.16-19)

Work is not a result of the Fall.... If you remember in **2:15**.... The Lord put Adam in the Garden to work it and keep it.

We are made to exercise Dominion... We are made to be creative like God... to cultivate and organize, and grow and build and make things beautiful and Productive!

And initially it was perfectly satisfying and fruitful and abundant!!!

(vs.17)—But now.. the Ground is Cursed.... The earth is broken and fallen into Sin.

Romans 8:19-23 ...

The Earth produces thorns and thistles...

There is Pain and Futility and burdensome, back breaking effort demanded to produce a little or maybe not at all.. .

Because of Sin... it's hard to live.

And Ultimately... your labor will be for nothing because you will die and return to the dust
(vs.19)...

(vs.16)--- For Eve... it will now be difficult to bear children...

It will be painful and dangerous...

And even once they are born.... They will be sinners... Bent the wrong way...

And it will be hard.

So Pain and Futility and Frustration are introduced into the very core of our lives.

4.... Relational Brokenness... (vs.11-13..16b) ..

Remember last week... Adam created first... Adam given the Commands... Eve was made to be a helper to Adam in the mission..... In the rest of the Bible the Adam is responsible...

We talked about in our Man-up program we challenge men to

Reject passivity

Accept Responsibility

Lead courageously...

A lot of folks really struggle to articulate exactly what that means to lead your family..

To be a servant Leader like Christ..

To initiate...

BUT HERE IS A GREAT EXAMPLE of WHAT IT IS NOT!!!!

The Serpent goes to Eve... **Adam does nothing**

Eve is convinced that God can't be trusted and there is Life in rebelling against God's command... **and Adam does nothing.**

Eve takes of the fruit and gives to her husband... who is "with her" ... **and Adam does nothing**...

Then their eyes are opened to sin.. they are filled with Shame and hide from the Lord...

And LISTEN... *(vs.9)*.. The Lord God called to the MAN!!! "Where are You?"

(vs.11)... who told youyou were naked, have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded YOU not to eat???

Adam's response is the exact opposite of a leader.... *(vs.12)*... It's the Woman!

It's her fault! She did it... Punish her... Send her to hell... She is the Sinner... take her not me..

Adam's still trying to cover his sin with lame excuses and pointing his finger at the woman he is supposed to be leading and protecting!

Adam is not LOVING... NOT Protecting... Not leading... ---- Just accusing, blaming, pointing the finger at her to make himself look better.

Then look at the end of **vs.16** ...

What does this mean??? "desire" like... Romantic? Sexual? --- All the husbands wish that is what that meant...

Look at **Chapter 4:7** ...

Same Hebrew words... Same sentence structure...

There is seems clear... there is a power struggle Sin wants to Control you... Cain must rule over these desires.

So pull that back over into **Chapter 3**...

A Wife will seek to overpower...to manipulate... to rule over her husband... but.... He will rule over her...

Sin will create passive husbands, absent husbands, harsh and selfish husbands who do not lead their family well..

Sin will create wives who cannot submit, who seek to control their husbands and manipulate their husbands...

And there will be strife and anger ...

---Then... in (**vs.21**)... the Lord covers them... with skins.. the first Blood sacrifice...

All Pointing toward... **The Good news**... **Genesis 3:15**...(Proto euangelion). The First Gospel....

The Serpent first attacked the Woman... Deceived the Woman.... But from the Woman will come ONE who will CRUSH the SERPENT'S HEAD....

This is the Story of the BIBLE!!!

An Adversary arose against God.. .and tempted mankind into UNBELIEF.. into Sinning against God and the whole world plunged into Sin and darkness....

But God is going to send a Champion... God is going to send ONE who Crush the serpent's head... who will defeat Sin and Death and the Grave....

Then centuries later... In *Genesis 12:3*... we read that this ONE... this Champion. Will come from Abraham's family and will Bless all the families of the earth...

Then centuries later.... In *Deuteronomy 18:15* --- Moses said that the Lord would Raise up a Prophet like him... A deliverer to bring us out of slavery and lead us to the Promised land... to Him we should listen..

Then centuries later..... In *2 Samuel 7:13,16*... the Bible says a KING will come from David's family for whom God would establish the Throne of His Kingdom forever...

Then centuries later In *Isaiah 53:4*... the Bible says A Suffering Servant will arise who will bear our griefs and carry our sorrows, who will be stricken and afflicted, who will be pierced for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities...

And then 700 years later.... On a quiet night outside of Bethlehem the sky is Filled with ANGELIC BEINGS announcing to Shepherds.... .that the King has arrived....

In a BARN.... Wrapped in swaddling clothes... laid in a feeding trough... Is the King, the Prophet, the Champion, the Messiah who would Crush the serpent's head.

And JESUS would grow up and Live the Perfect life... a life of Righteousness... He would be tempted by the Devil in every way.... YET WITHOUT SIN....

Jesus would display His AUTHORITY over Disease, Demons, and Death... He would demonstrate His ability to forgive Sins...

Jesus would go to the Cross... to be butchered and tortured and HUNG up before the World in humiliation to die a criminal's death.... And be laid in a borrowed tomb...

But 3 days later.... The perfect Sacrifice of God having been accepted..... JESUS WOULD RISE FROM THE GRAVE!!! Having been given all POWER and AUTHORITY in heaven and EARTH...

Jesus Calls to YOU.... To REPENT---

Stop making excuses....Stop blaming everyone else... --- REPENT!!!

Repent says----I'm the ONE... I'm the Sinner... there is NO EXCUSE.... I'm GUILTY... And I don't want to live in Sin... I don't want to be UNBELIEVING....

I turn away from sin and unbelief.... And I turn in FAITH TO JESUS...

I BELIEVE that HE IS LIFE!!! He is Salvation!!! He is my Future!!! He is MY HOPE!!!

And the Bible says..... Jesus will COVER YOU----- Not with the LEAVES of Hypocrisy, or Religion, or Social Media posts, He will clothe you with garments of salvation. *Isaiah 61:10* ..
Romans 13:14--- Put on the Lord Jesus Christ...

And When we are clothed with Christ... Jesus gives us GOOD WORK to do...
Ephesians 2:10....

Work that is NOT FUTILE... Work that is ETERNAL!!! *1 Corinthians 15:58*

And God will so POUR HIS LOVE into our HEARTS... that He will enable us to LOVE like He LOVES...

And We can live out God's design for our Families.... *Ephesians 5:22—30* ...
He will enable you to love your bride as Christ loves the church.

And instead of Hiding from God... we will Seek Him... We will Seek His Presence.. *Psalms 27:4* ...
Sin and Satan has dealt us a terrible blow....

But God is making all things NEW... *Revelation 21:5* ...