

Biblical Theology and Christian Worldview
Selected Scriptures
February 15, 2015

Introduction 2

Last week, we looked at the importance of having solid knowledge of Biblical theology in order to have a Christian worldview. We looked at **Genesis 1:1** and I made a comment that if we cannot accept Genesis 1:1, then we cannot accept the Bible as truthful. **Genesis 1:1** (or the Creation) gives us the foundation of having a correct worldview that God intends. We see from **chapters 1 and 2** that we tell people that life starts at conception because man and woman are made in the image of God. There is distinction in gender between man and woman because God made them that way, and men and women each have different roles, namely that men are the leaders and women are the helper. We also see the beginning of marriage and there is only one type that God approves: marriage between man and woman.

Today we are looking at sin and its consequences. It is important to understand how sin came into the world. It is important to understand the universal problem in order that we can understand the cure. We cannot understand why man is the way he is unless we understand **Genesis chapter 3**. It explains the universal condition of man. It explains why there must be a Savior and why the universe must ultimately be destroyed and a new universe brought into existence in its place.

Understanding **Genesis 3**, as well as **Genesis 1 and 2**, is the only foundation for an accurate world view. If you do not accept or understand **Genesis 1, 2 and 3**, you cannot come up with a correct world view. You must understand that God created the entire universe in six 24-hour days. You must understand God's purpose in creating man in His own image, giving a helper to him. You must understand that marriage is a creation act, not some societal or cultural norms. You must understand **Genesis chapter 3**, the Fall of man. If you do not understand those and not believe those, then you have a faulty world view.

When God created everything, He saw that it was very good, perfect. However, when Man fell, sin took over and corrupted the world. Sin explains all the troubles in the world. All the decay, all the disease, all the dysfunction, everything evil, everything wrong, everything imperfect and death all comes from an event that occurred in **Genesis 3**. **Genesis 3** is actual history, and it is not myth or legend. It is the truth and an accurate record from God about how sin came into the world, and it was sin that caused all the problems that exist in our universe. This is something that Christians need to understand. The Bible gives us the origins of evil and sin of men; therefore, we need to understand what sin is and why there needs to be a cure.

II. Sin and Its Consequences

***Genesis 3:1-7** Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" **2** The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, **3** but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" **4** "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. **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** When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. **7** Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.*

- The Fall
 - Deception
 - Satan gets to Adam through Eve
 - Satan lies—lies about God
 - The lies
 - God is not good
 - God is holding something back that is good
 - You cannot trust God's Word
 - Seduction
 - The whole fruit looked great
 - It starts with the lust that rises in the heart
 - Eve (and Adam) wanted that feeling of being like God
 - Destruction
 - They became embarrassed about their nakedness
 - They feel guilt and shame
 - They have unleashed an avalanche that buries all of us in sin

Romans 5:12 *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned--*

- Sin continues so powerfully that there is no stopping it from man
- The depravity of Man

Genesis 3:8-13 *And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?" 10 So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself." 11 And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?" 12 Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate." 13 And the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."*

- What is depravity?
 - Man's inability to stop sinning and inability to repent of his sins
- Hiding from God
 - God visited them at the cool of the day (evening)
 - Probably visited them every day
 - Adam and Eve's reaction = hiding from God
 - Completely opposite reaction (when God came to them, they would run to Him in joy)
 - Now they are hiding from God—in God's own garden!
 - God comes to seek them
 - He asks "where are you?"
 - God knows where they are—He is omniscient
 - He is giving them a chance to repent
 - He is asking Adam what happened that got you in this condition?
 - Understand God could have killed Adam and Eve right then—He had every right
- Unwillingness to repent
 - Adam never admitted his sins

- Adam is telling God that he is ashamed of his limited clothing (not his nakedness)
- Adam cannot tell God the condition he is in
 - He refuses to tell God that he is a sinner
 - Adam is not repulsed by sin
 - He is afraid of God—God as the judge (eat the fruit and you will die)
 - God is the bad guy—sinners see Him as a bad guy
- Blame game
 - So God confronts Adam with eating the fruit

Note: God is still asking man to repent here. God's grace knows no bounds. As Paul states in Romans, when sin increased, God's grace increased all the more. Sinners will never be comfortable in the presence of God. Sinners will never be comfortable in a church where God is preached and glorified.

- Adam blames God and Eve for the state he is in
- Eve blames Satan for the state she is in
- Why?
- Effects of the Fall
 - Haters of God
 - Sin destroys most important relationship—God and man
 - Short while ago they were lovers of God, then all of a sudden they hate God
 - It escalates in Genesis and throughout the whole world

Genesis 6:5 *The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.*

Genesis 11:4 *Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves and not be scattered over the face of the whole earth."*

- Murder
 - Sin seeks to destroy the pinnacle of God's creation—man
 - Cain kills his brother
 - Then one of his descendents boasted about murdering two people

Genesis 4:8 *Now Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." [4] And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.*

Genesis 4:23 *Lamech said to his wives, "Adah and Zillah, listen to me; wives of Lamech, hear my words. I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for injuring me."*

- Destruction of marriage
 - Sin seeks to destroy the foundation and fabric of society—marriage
 - Look how rapidly marriage is undermined from **Genesis** alone
 - Polygamy

Genesis 4:19 *Lamech married two women, one named Adah and the other Zillah.*

- Adultery

Genesis 16:3-4 *So after Abram had been living in Canaan ten years, Sarai his wife took her Egyptian maidservant Hagar and gave her to her husband to be his wife. 4 He slept with Hagar, and she conceived.*

- Homosexuality

Genesis 19:4-5 *Before they had gone to bed, all the men from every part of the city of Sodom—both young and old—surrounded the house. 5 They called to Lot, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us so that we can have sex with them."*

- Rape

Genesis 34:1-2 *Now Dinah, the daughter Leah had borne to Jacob, went out to visit the women of the land. 2 When Shechem son of Hamor the Hivite, the ruler of that area, saw her, he took her and violated her.*

- Prostitution

Genesis 38:15-16 *When Judah saw her, he thought she was a prostitute, for she had covered her face. 16 Not realizing that she was his daughter-in-law, he went over to her by the roadside and said, "Come now, let me sleep with you." "And what will you give me to sleep with you?" she asked.*

- Incest

Genesis 38:18 *He said, "What pledge should I give you?" "Your seal and its cord, and the staff in your hand," she answered. So he gave them to her and slept with her, and she became pregnant by him.*

- Seduction

Genesis 39:7 *and after a while his master's wife took notice of Joseph and said, "Come to bed with me!"*

Coram Deo

What does this mean today? We should not be surprised by what is going on today. Sin has not changed. Man has not been able to inhibit his own sins, nor does he want to. Man wants to take everything that is good from God and twist it against God and make it his own. The only way for man to go back to God is that God has to take the step in restoring the fellowship. It is only by His sovereign grace that man has hope! That hope is found in the glory of our Savior.