

The Fall (Part 3)
Genesis 3:7
October 2, 2016

Introduction

What happened to Adam and Eve is a historical fact. Moses wrote this event with God as the witness to the event. This is an important point because for anyone who cannot accept what is recorded in **Genesis 1-3**, then the rest of Scripture will not make sense. If **Genesis 1-3** is not trustworthy, then the rest of Scripture is not trustworthy. Jesus affirms that **Genesis 1-3** is a historical fact. Paul affirms that the events recorded in **1-3** actually happened.

What is the most important thing for us to learn in **Genesis 3**? God tells us how the world is in such bad shape, and He tells us why there are evil people. God also tells us that there is hope, and that hope is found only in Him. **Genesis 3** explains why we need a Savior.

In **Genesis 3:7**, we see the effects of the Fall immediately on Adam and Eve. They experienced for the first time what we experienced all the time.

Genesis 3:7 *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.*

I. Opened Eyes

- Satan's half-truth

Genesis 3:4-5 *"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."*

- Adam and Eve did not know good and evil
- What Satan did not tell them was in their opened eyes, they would be blind to God
- Their eyes were opened
 - They knew evil, but not from God's perspective
 - But from their own fallen perspective
 - God = loves good and hates evil
 - Fall = Loves evil and hates good (God)
 - The corruption was total and instantaneous
- What happened to them?
 - They died spiritually
 - What does this mean?
 - Paul defines spiritual death

Ephesians 4:17-19 *So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. 18 They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts. 19 Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, with a continual lust for more.*

- Separated from the life of God
 - Without God we have no life
 - Because God Himself is the Source of all life
 - Without the life of God, sin make us dead

Colossians 2:13 *When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,*

- They became spiritually blind
 - Darkened understanding
 - Cannot see God or His goodness
 - Do not believe in God or His word

2 Thessalonians 2:10b-12 *They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved. 11 For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie 12 and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.*

- Deny His existence

Psalms 14:1 *The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, their deeds are vile; there is no one who does good.*

- Their hearts hardened
 - Adam's willful disobedience = hardening of the heart
 - Hardened heart is cauterized heart (or calloused heart)
 - They have lost all sensitivity to their conscience
 - **Example:** November 27, 1983 Avianca Flight 11 plane crash
- All of the evil, sin, and misery came upon them
 - Separated from God and from each other

II. Naked Shame

- They realized they were naked
 - The first thing they notice is each other's nakedness
 - They now see things from an evil, fleshy perspective
 - Very different from the innocence they shared
 - They feel three different things at the same time
- They feel shame
 - They know they have disobeyed God and are feeling their own conscience accusing them
 - What is shame?
 - Feeling of being naked, exposed, and defenseless
 - They were feeling defenseless before each other
 - They could no longer share each other without shame
- They feel guilty
 - They were condemned by God's law (declared guilty)
 - They were condemned by their own conscience
- They feel fear

Genesis 3:10 *He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."*

- No reason to fear God
- After all they have only known God's goodness
- Why fear?
 - Because they know they are now the enemy of God, no longer His friend

- All the sin produced in them (and us) is not freedom as Satan promised
 - All sin produced is slavery
 - Sinners live their lives as God's enemy

James 4:4 *You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.*

- They boast in their shame
 - Boasting about things they ought to be ashamed of
 - They no longer feel shame in what they do
- Sinners now love self, sin, and accept others who are like themselves

III. Sinful Reactions

- Covering themselves
 - They tried to cover their nakedness
 - They used fig leaves which are barely adequate for the job
 - They were trying to do it by their own works
- Covering their shame
 - When people sin and do something wrong, they feel shame
 - It is not just the actions, it is that they know THEY are wrong
 - This awareness of shame is so strong that it leads us to despair and depression
 - We try to get away from this shame
 - We try to cover up shame by our own work and accomplishment
 - By doing more sin
 - David's adulterous affair with Bathsheba
 - Or by religious acts
 - They never work
 - Adam and Eve's covering in fig leaves were only temporary
 - They still hid from God in the trees
- Denying their guilt
 - People will deny that they are guilty before God
 - How?
 - Blame
 - Blaming others for their own sinful action
 - Adam did this, Eve did this
 - Thinking that the evil is actually good
 - Very evident in our society

Isaiah 5:20 *Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.*

- People think that the sins they do are right
- This is nothing new

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.*

Judges 21:25 *In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.*

- Why?

Romans 1:24, 26, 28 Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. **26** Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. **28** Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, He gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.

- Judgment from God
- He gave them over
- They believe that they have complete freedom in their sins when they are actually slaves to their sin
- Fleeing in fear
 - Man flees from God in fear

Romans 3:11b *there is no one who seeks God.*

- Why?
 - Sinners cannot stand in the presence of the Holy God
- God did no wrong
 - God never harmed us
 - God gave us every good imaginable
 - We should be running to Him for forgiveness and mercy
 - We don't
 - We are afraid of Him because
 - We do not like His truth
 - His words make us uncomfortable in our sins
 - So we flee
 - We cover up
 - We deny and blame

Coram Deo

What is the answer? The glorious Gospel!

Romans 8:1 *Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,*

Romans 10:11 *As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in Him will never be put to shame."*

Isaiah 61:10 *I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For He has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.*