

Reality of Salvation (Part 1)

Genesis 3:20-24

November 20, 2016

Introduction

In celebrating the holidays, Thanksgiving and Christmas, we are reminded of the need to be thankful of what God has done for us. Today, we see how God has provided for us so great a salvation.

Genesis is historical, and it shows us the reason why the world is in such a bad shape. Genesis is God's record of what had happened at the beginning. In Genesis, we also see grace, mercy, faith, salvation, and hope. We see the reality of salvation in Genesis that applies to all people from Adam until the last person.

Genesis 3:20-21 *Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living. 21 The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.*

I. Faith (20)

- Adam named his wife Eve
 - Seems that it does not fit the story
 - Eve = life
 - First time woman is given a name
 - Mother of the living
 - At this time, Eve is not yet a mother
 - Only Adam and Eve
 - Why did Adam call his wife Eve?
 - When he knew that they would die

Genesis 3:19 *By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.*

- When they had no children
- It seems at this point that they have no idea if they would die immediately
- Act of faith
 - Faith = believing in whatever God says

Genesis 15:6 *Abram believed the LORD, and He credited it to him as righteousness.*

- By naming his wife Eve, Adam is acting on faith
- How?
 - If faith is believing what God says, what did He say?

Genesis 3:15 *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; He will crush your head, and you will strike His heel.*

- Children
 - Her offspring—that means that she was going to have children
 - That was all Adam had from God
 - He trusted God—he became a believer

- Salvation
 - Adam also believed that God will save them
 - When Eve gave birth to Cain

Genesis 4:1 *Adam lay with his wife Eve, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said, "With the help of the LORD I have brought forth a man."*

- Better way to translate: I have brought forth the Deliverer (will discuss more later)
 - She believed that Cain would be the Redeemer
- By faith, Adam and Eve became believers
 - They went from being an enemy of God to an enemy of Satan
 - They believed that God will fulfill His promise

II. Atonement (21)

- Lord God made
 - Lord God = YHWH Elohim

Genesis 3:8 *Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.*

- Lord of grace and mercy

Exodus 34:6-7b *And He passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin."*

- God made the clothes for Adam and Eve
 - Act of mercy and grace
 - He provided clothing for them to replace what they had made for themselves
- Garments of skin
 - Animal skins
 - First time death had occurred in history

Romans 6:23a *For the wages of sin is death*

- God kills an animal (or 2) to cover Adam and Eve
- Picture of salvation
 - Covering
 - Adam and Eve were wearing leaves for covering
 - They were trying to cover their sin and shame
 - Impossible to satisfy God with their own efforts
 - Substitutionary sacrifice
 - This is the first sacrifice
 - God killed an innocent victim (an animal) so the sinner could be covered

Hebrews 9:22b *without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.*

- From this point on, God required the sacrifice

Genesis 4:4 *But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering,*

Genesis 8:20 *Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and, taking some of all the clean animals and clean birds, he sacrificed burnt offerings on it.*

- No animal could take away sins or appease His justice
- Substitutionary atonement
 - Covering = atonement
 - Picture of what Christ Jesus would do
 - Jesus was the Lamb, to be sacrificed for sins

John 1:29 *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"*

- God killed Jesus and took His righteousness to cover sinners

2 Corinthians 5:21 *God made Him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God.*

- Imputed righteousness
- God's justice and wrath was satisfied in Christ Jesus
- God did it—He provided the atonement for sinners
 - Just to simply believe is not enough because God had to remove their clothing and replace it with His own clothing
 - Man cannot do anything to satisfy God's justice

III. Redemptive History of Atonement

- Progressive picture of Substitutionary atonement
- For individuals

Genesis 3:21 *The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.*

- For family

Exodus 12:3, 6-7, 13 *Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. 6 Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight. 7 Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. 13 The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt.*

- For nation

Leviticus 16:7-10, 15-17, 20-21 Then he is to take the two goats and present them before the LORD at the entrance to the Tent of Meeting. **8** He is to cast lots for the two goats—one lot for the LORD and the other for the scapegoat. **9** Aaron shall bring the goat whose lot falls to the LORD and sacrifice it for a sin offering. **10** But the goat chosen by lot as the scapegoat shall be presented alive before the LORD to be used for making atonement by sending it into the desert as a scapegoat. **15** He shall then slaughter the goat for the sin offering for the people and take its blood behind the curtain and do with it as he did with the bull's blood: He shall sprinkle it on the atonement cover and in front of it. **16** In this way he will make atonement for the Most Holy Place because of the uncleanness and rebellion of the Israelites, whatever their sins have been. He is to do the same for the Tent of Meeting, which is among them in the midst of their uncleanness. **17** No one is to be in the Tent of Meeting from the time Aaron goes in to make atonement in the Most Holy Place until he comes out, having made atonement for himself, his household and the whole community of Israel. **20** When Aaron has finished making atonement for the Most Holy Place, the Tent of Meeting and the altar, he shall bring forward the live goat. **21** He is to lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites—all their sins—and put them on the goat's head. He shall send the goat away into the desert in the care of a man appointed for the task.

- For the whole world

John 1:29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"

- Jesus Christ the perfect sacrifice
 - Perfect, sinless sacrifice
 - One time for all time

Hebrews 9:26b But now he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.

- Believers in OT believed God's promises of the Savior
- Believers in NT believed God's promises of fulfilled deliverance from the Savior