

Lighthouse Baptist Church

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The Garden of Eden – Study Four – Part C

Genesis 3:6 opens with these words: “And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.”

Notice the phrase, “... she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave unto her husband; and he did eat.” That’s where all of humanities trouble began. And the root word for all our troubles is depravity.

Up until verse 6 nothing but innocence was flowing through Adam and Eve. There was uninterrupted communion with their Creator. The implication of the text is that there was blessing and delightful communion as they walked with their God – their Creator.

The joy of God’s presence for Adam and Eve was unguarded and friendly. There was no hiding from God, no rebellion toward God, no selfishness in Adam or Eve, and no embarrassment before their God – it was uninterrupted fellowship.

But after verse 6, all of those things that were good and healthy for Adam and Eve, are no longer! The moment that Adam and Eve yielded to temptation, all of those good things and positive things were gone.

Something beyond their imagination has gone terribly wrong, and their innocence has been swallowed up by a contamination running through their bloodstream – the contamination of depravity. One writer said,

“Depravity intercepted innocence and ruined it, leaving mankind alienated from God. Instead of the mind being clear and full of the knowledge of God, it became clouded. And instead of possessing that once-strong love for God, man became resentful of God, an emotional wreck ... fragile and weak.

And the will, once obedient, became rebellious. The disease continues! Instead of adoring God, we fight with Him. Instead of believing what He says, we reject His truth. Instead of wanting to do what He would have us do, we delight in doing what we want to do.

And to make matters worse, instead of facing it, we cover it up.”

The writer is correct. Instead of coming clean with God we are very good in covering it up – at least that is what we think. That is what Adam and Eve did when their eyes were opened.

Genesis 3:7 says, “And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.”

Prior to verse 6, Adam and Eve didn’t even realize they were naked. In fact, in their innocence they didn’t understand nakedness! They didn’t know that they were in each other’s presence without clothing. It is hard for us to imagine, but they lived in unassuming innocence.

But after eating from the fruit they became, for the first time, self-consciousness, and they knew they were naked. Realizing their nakedness, they did the most natural, human thing one can do – they covered themselves with fig leaves.

But their covering and hiding is not over, it is just beginning. And beginning in verse 8, “... they heard the voice 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 amongst the trees of the garden.

And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou? And he [Adam] said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself” (3:8-10).

I have been amazed by some people thinking that God really didn’t know where Adam and Eve were. He knew exactly where they were. He is God! His question implies, why are you where you are? What are you doing in trying to hide from Me?

Adam had never been afraid before of God, but now fear grips his very being in the presence of his God. Furthermore, Adam and Eve had never been embarrassed before in the presence of their God, but now he is embarrassed as no man has ever been embarrassed.

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