

## **The Beginning of Mercy**

Genesis 3:8-24

*Beginning*

Pastor Greg Long

October 13, 2013

When we mess up and face the terrible consequences of our sin, God's mercy finds us and rescues us in Christ.

### **I. Sin brings terrible consequences.**

- A. Sin causes shame (v. 7-8).
- B. Sin causes estrangement from and fear of God (v. 8-10).
- C. Sin causes blameshifting (v. 11-13).
- D. Sin brings judgment (v. 14-19).
  - 1. The serpent was judged (v. 14-15).
  - 2. Creation was judged (v. 17-18; Rom. 8:20-22).
  - 3. Humanity was judged (v. 16-19).
- E. Sin brings death (v. 19; Rom. 5:12).
- F. Sin brings separation from God (v. 22-24; Rev. 21:27).

### **II. God's mercy finds us.**

- A. God's mercy is his tenderhearted, loving compassion for miserable, needy people (Ex. 34:6; Num. 14:18-19; 2 Sam. 24:14; 1 Chr. 16:34; Ps. 36:5; 103:8, 11, 17; 2 Cor. 1:3; Eph. 2:4; Titus 3:5; James 5:11).
- B. God seeks us out (v. 8; Rom. 3:10-11).
- C. God convicts us of our sin (v. 9-13).
- D. God promises deliverance from Satan (v. 15)
- E. God provides a covering for sin (v. 21; Heb. 9:22; 10:4)
- F. God saves us from eternal death (v. 22-24)

### **III. God's mercy rescues us in Jesus Christ.**

- A. Jesus seeks lost sinners (Luke 19:10).
- B. Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to convict us of sin (John 16:8).
- C. Jesus defeats Satan (Eph. 1:20-21; Col. 2:15; 1 John 3:8; Rev. 20:10; Rom. 16:20).
- D. Jesus is the all-sufficient sacrifice (John 1:29; Heb. 9:12; 9:25-10:10).
- E. Jesus is the Way to the Tree of Life (Rev. 22:1-5, 14; 7:13-14).

### **IV. Conclusion**

- A. Adam responded to God's promises by faith (v. 20).
- B. What about you? How will you respond?  
"God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" (Luke 18:13).