

# *What Sin Has Wrought*

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Genesis 3:15-21 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return. And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living. Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

- I. To any thinking, sane person who ever lived on this earth it is an obvious fact that things in this world are not as they should be; something is dreadfully and tragically wrong.
  - A. Common sense and our own conscience both testify to the fact that man does not live according to what he was designed for.
  - B. The world's modern wise men, who are blind and as void of the knowledge of God as the rock they say they came from try to promote the philosophy that we are evolving, or getting better and better.
    1. But all the evidence is to the contrary.
    2. Man is descending into savagery and depravity right before our eyes.
  - C. Man did not start at the bottom of moral depravity and work his way up – he started at the top and has been falling downward ever since.
  - D. While there have been seasons of plenty and seasons of dearth concerning the fleshly comforts and indulgences of life throughout man's history, his toil and sorrow has been constant through all generations.
  - E. Whether a man is rich or poor in the things of this world, he finds life to be hard, full of sorrow, pain, disappointment, and grief.
  - F. The problem of the history and the present condition of man can only be solved by understanding what happened in the Garden and how it has affected the entire race.
  - G. Man was formed a perfect model and has fallen from his high estate.
  - H. This is a foundational matter and a person cannot understand what Christ is about without understanding and believing this.
    1. People who view the world and life through evolution do not believe the foundational truths of God, humanity, and sin, and therefore cannot possibly have a grasp on what salvation, redemption, and regeneration are about.
    2. We cannot understand why the world is such a mess and men hate and kill and destroy one another without the knowledge of God and how it all began.
- II. The sentence of God upon sin is and always has been DEATH.
  - A. Death is not being deprived of existence, but of life.
  - B. Life is about living.
    1. The clearest example I can point to is a small child.
    2. Everything is wonderful, exciting, new, and there just isn't enough time or energy to experience it all.

3. Children find pleasure in whatever is at hand.
  4. They use whatever they can see and touch to experience life.
  5. It doesn't take much to make a child happy.
  6. They do not carry burdens and they do not perplex themselves over problems.
- C. Life includes all that we are capable of knowing and experiencing with the senses and consciousness God has created us with.
1. So life is more than mere existence.

John 5:40 And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

John 10:10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

John 20:31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

- D. Death is being deprived of living, while the yearning and desire for life and living retains all its force in the spiritual part of our nature.

III. The curse of sin added sorrow to every aspect of life.

- A. The curse of sin brought sweat and toil to life, and while that makes things difficult, and may cause physical pain and suffering, it reaches deeper than just the physical suffering.

...cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; (v. 17)

- B. The curse of sin brought increased conception and pain to the birth of a child, but more than that, it brought sorrow to the matter of having children.

Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children;... (v. 16)

- C. We suffer strong emotions because of the difficulty of life
- D. Our heart grieves because of the difficulty of life.
1. For ourselves, for our children, and for others.
- E. This is the sorrow that was pronounced when the sentence was given in the Garden.
- F. This is that "evil conscience" spoken of in the Hebrews 10:22 that is cured by the blood of Christ.
- G. Life is different for a woman than it is for a man, no matter how far Satan goes in trying to erase the differences.
- H. There are two separate sentences given here as God's judgment of the sin – one for her and one for him.
- I. Both contain the sentence of sorrow.
- J. But the sorrow of the woman is distinguished from that of the man in the area of children, and her role as her husband's helpmeet.
- K. The things that were intended to make her life pleasant and rewarding are now blighted with sorrow, which is the part of the consequences of sin.
- L. God greatly multiplied her conception; she is going to have many children.
- M. Childbearing would be a painful and burdensome thing for her, but that is not the worst thing about having children.
1. The sorrow that it can bring is much more painful than the physical pain.
  2. The sorrow it brings her husband to watch her go through the pain and suffering is also part of it.
  3. The children that grow up and break their mother's heart. (Cain)
  4. The children that perish while she is still alive. (Abel, stillbirths, the children that die while still in their childhood; all these are the sorrow that sin has wrought.

- N. Her husband would rule over her. (Listen close and understand this properly)
1. This is the result of her sin and selfishness.
  2. When selfishness is the rule of life the weaker ends up serving the stronger.
  3. Under the reign of sin women in general have been treated as slaves, or worse.
  4. This is part of the curse of sin; this is what sin produces.
  5. This is not pleasant for the woman and she is deprived of life when sin is the rule of life in her or her husband.
  6. If you want to know what sorrow is look at the women in savage, degenerate cultures, and what their lives are like.

IV. And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return. (v. 17-19)

- A. The woman's sentence was short, (one verse) but Adam's sentence was long. (three verses)
- B. Because of Adam's sin the ground was cursed.
- C. In sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life.
1. This gives Adam to understand that his life now only contains a certain number of days.
  2. The fruit of the trees was no longer his meat, but he would eat of the herb of the field, which he would have cultivate and battle the elements for.
  3. His food, his sustenance, which had been his without sorrow and toil, now would require his sweat, and strength, and life to obtain.
  4. He would have to battle the thorns and thistles to get from the ground what he needed to survive and sustain his life and the life of his wife and family.
- D. Till thou return unto the ground ...
1. He was pronounced to be dust.
  2. This sentence included his wife, since she was bone of his bones and flesh of his flesh.
  3. Physical death is the culmination of the effects of sin
  4. It is the separation of the soul from the body, but not the end of existence.

V. In all of this dark tragedy there is hope given and faith is exercised for the first time.

**Genesis 3:20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.**

- A. Now she has a name. Up until this point, she is the "the woman."
- B. This was not after she had children, but after what God had said - this shows Adam's faith in what God had said.
1. There would be children.
  2. There would be a Savior. (v. 15)
  3. There would be a way for his descendents to be reconciled to God.
  4. Although he had done a terrible thing all was not without hope.

**Genesis 3:21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make coats of skins, and clothed them.**

- C. Up until this point they are standing there naked and ashamed, but now God covers them.
1. All the elements of salvation are present here.
  2. Adam and Eve both confessed their sin to God.

3. They both acknowledged that what they had done was wrong and they were ashamed.
4. Even acknowledged that the Serpent had lied to her, so she was obviously no longer under any delusion about God and his truth.
5. There was enmity between them and the Serpent now.
6. An innocent life has been sacrificed to provide a way to cover their sins.
7. Now God gives evidence of forgiveness and covers their nakedness.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

John 10:10 I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

John 20:31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.