

CONFESSION OR CONCEALMENT OF SIN? *Our Choice!*

(NKJV) Ge 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

- I. **(NKJV) Ge 3:1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?”**
- II. **Ge 3:2 And the woman said to the serpent, “We may (“Freely”? Left out) eat the fruit of the (“every”? Left out) trees of the garden;**
- III. **3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst (*she does not name it – We refrain from calling things as God calls them – Abortion not Murder! Sex not sin! Homosexuality not abomination*) of the garden, God (Not “Lord God” belittling God and her unique relationship to him) has said, ‘You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest (*Not surly*) you die.’ ”**
 - A. Satan’s shrewdly and craftily asks his question in a way that cannot be answered with one word. The more words she uses as a response, the more she can be trapped.
 - B. She begins a dialogue with satan. It is always bad to talk things over with the devil.
 - 1. Satan will always mislead you!
 - 2. He causes her to consider another interpretation of God’s word
 - C. Where did she get not touch it? Did Adam tell her? Did she make it up?
Gen 2 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”
 - 1. We must not a take away anything from what God says!
 - 2. Rabbi’s say she accidentally touched it and did not die and therefore thought the rest of the word was not true.

WE MUST NOT ADD OR TAKE AWAY ANYTHING FROM WHAT GOD SAYS!

- IV. **4 Then the serpent said to the woman,(NO! Heb) “You will not surely die. (*But that was a lie*)**
- V. **5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it (1) *your eyes will be opened,* and (2) *you will be like God,* (3) *knowing good and evil.*”**
- VI. **6 So when the woman saw (*within her mind*) that the tree was good for food, (*Body focused*) that it was pleasant to the eyes, (*Soul focused*) and a tree desirable to make one wise, (*Wisdom of the world*) she took of its**

fruit (meaning she touched... Then, seeing she did not die) and ate. She also gave to her husband with her (and seeing she did not die), and he ate

- VII. 7 Then the **eyes** (speaking of the consciousness of man being awakened) of both of them were opened, and they **knew** (proof of eyes = consciousness. It was not they saw they were naked) that they were naked;
- A. Adam and Eve now have a choice to make!
1. Just like we do when we sin! **Beware Of The Choices You Make!**

CONFESSION OR CONCEALMENT OF SIN? Our Choice!

(NKJV) Jas 1:12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.

15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown,brings forth death.

(NKJV) 1 Jn 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, (*Confession*)

He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we have not sinned, (*Concealment*)

we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

WHAT CHOICE DID ADAM AND EVE MAKE?

VIII. and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

- A. Suddenly their eyes are open. They realize they have done wrong and now they are ashamed.
- B. ***They gain wisdom and get death for it!***

TO GAIN WISDOM IN THE WORLD, ADAM AND EVE GAVE THEIR LIVES IN EXCHANGE FOR IT!

A GOOD DEAL?

1. We also run after the wisdom of the world exchanging our very souls for it!
2. The distractions of the world keep the word from being productive in our hearts

3. David asked
(NKJV) Ps 119:18 Open my eyes, that I may see Wondrous things from Your law.

C. They should have been willing to acknowledge they had done wrong. But no! They try to hide what they have done by covering it up.

(NKJV) 1 Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

D. They now have what they wanted. They have the knowledge of evil and the knowledge of good. They know they have done wrong!

1. This is the reason terrible things happen to good people.
 - a. That's how we know evil. If bad things only happen to bad people, we would call that justice.
 - b. But when bad things happen to good people, we call that injustice. That is evil.

E. By making their own clothes, they are saying they don't need God to protect them.

1. We do the same. instead of looking to God we do things our way!

F. They covered themselves but they cover only the outside. These coverings have nothing to do with the pain and the agony that is now on the inside.

G. Now, they are exposed. The concept of naked means subject to all nature can throw at them. They have no more guard. The armor of God is no longer available to them.

H. They acquire knowledge they were naked!

1. They see it as wrong whereas before it was not.

I. Sin always exposes itself. Something inside lets us know we are wrong.

(NKJV) Nu 32:23 But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the LORD; and be sure your sin will find you out.

SIN WILL ALWAYS BE EXPOSED SOONER OR LATER

1. They try to hide the awareness of their nakedness - **they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.**

a. We try to hide our sin from God

b. we can't do that!

J. Now, although they have just sinned, God does not immediately bring them into judgment. Why?

K. If we continue we harden our hearts and continue to sin, we will face severe consequences including complete destruction.

(NKJV) Le 26:13 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, that you should not be their slaves; I have broken the bands of your yoke and made you walk upright.

14 'But if you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments, 15 and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul abhors My judgments, so that you do not perform all My commandments, but break My covenant, 16 I also will do this to you:

I will even appoint terror over you, wasting disease and fever which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it.

17 I will set My face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies. Those who hate you shall reign over you, and you shall flee when no one pursues you. 18 'And after all this, if you do not obey Me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.

19 I will break the pride of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze.

20 And your strength shall be spent in vain; for your land shall not yield its produce, nor shall the trees of the land yield their fruit.

21 'Then, if you walk contrary to Me, and are not willing to obey Me, I will bring on you seven times more plagues, according to your sins. 22 I will also send wild beasts among you, which shall rob you of your children, destroy your livestock, and make you few in number; and your highways shall be desolate.

23 'And if by these things you are not reformed by Me, but walk contrary to Me, 24 then I also will walk contrary to you, and I will punish you yet seven times for your sins.

25 And I will bring a sword against you that will execute the vengeance of the covenant; when you are gathered together within your cities I will send pestilence among you; and you shall be delivered into the hand of the enemy.

26 When I have cut off your supply of bread, ten women shall bake your bread in one oven, and they shall bring back your bread by weight, and you shall eat and not be satisfied.

27 'And after all this, if you do not obey Me, but walk contrary to Me, 28 then I also will walk contrary to you in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins.

29 You shall eat the flesh of your sons, and you shall eat the flesh of your daughters. 30 I will destroy your high places, cut down your incense altars, and cast your carcasses on the lifeless forms of your idols; and My soul shall abhor you. 31 I will lay your cities waste and bring your sanctuaries to desolation, and I will not smell the fragrance of your Sweet aromas.

THE JUDGEMENT

- 1. They were Judged By The Word of God.**
- 2. The Words he spoke to them**
 - a. Where are You?**
 - b. Who have you been listening to?**
 - c. What are your works?**

BEWARE THERE WILL BE A JUDGEMENT

8 And they heard the sound (*voice*) of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool (*Heb wind =Holy Spirit*) of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence (*at this time, God's presence was among men, but after this he removed his presence from man to heaven until Christ came and once again the Spirit of God dwelled among men*) of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

L. They heard the word of God (the sound)

1. God was walking among them. This is his will.

(NKJV) Le 26:12 I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people.

M. God will judge us by his word!

NKJV) Jn 12:47 And if anyone hears My words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. 48 He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him—the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day.

1. Therefore,

(NKJV) 2 Ti 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

N. Cool of the day – “the breeze of the evening” representing the Holy Spirit. The wind of God

(NKJV) Ge 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

(NKJV) Ge 1:2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

(NKJV) Ps 18:10 And He rode upon a cherub, and flew; He flew upon the wings of the wind.

(NKJV) Job 38:1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said:

(NKJV) Ac 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

- O. Cool of the day
1. It was in the cool of the day. Obviously, a calm voice. So, they would not be afraid.
 2. God was not angry.
(NKJV) 1 Ch 16:33 Then the trees of the woods shall rejoice before the LORD, For He is coming to judge the earth. 34 Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever.
- P. Even though He came calmly to them, they no longer wanted to be in the presence of the Lord and hid themselves!
- Q. Adam and Eve turned away from God. They did not want to face him or face the fact of their sin. They did not want to give an account for their behavior.
- R. So often, so many of us run away from the presence of God! Even though God wants us to be in his presence.
1. People stop coming to church
 2. they refuse to sit under a preacher preaching God's word
 3. Failure to read the bible
 4. they don't want to talk about God anymore. In fact, they seek to ban the name of Jesus from everything.
 5. They deny the existence of God and try to ignore him and that he exists.
 6. We tried to keep government from talking about God.
 7. We develop nice words for the things that God says our sins
 - a. significant other rather than spouse
 - b. fetus rather than baby
 - c. choice rather than murder
 - d. sexual preference rather than abomination
 - e. lover rather than adulterer

- 8. Avoiding the truth of God's word
 - a. we deny that there is sin
 - 9. Getting caught up in the things of the world
 - 10. No longer having the pleasure, they once had in the Lord. They lose their first love.
 - a. They see others at fault. Not themselves!
 - 11. Adam and Eve knew their fault! And were ashamed that they failed!
- S. How can we run from the presence of God?

(NKJV) Ps 139:7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? 8 If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall on me," Even the night shall be light about me; 12 Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, But the night shines as the day; The darkness and the light are both alike to You.

(NKJV) Je 23:24 Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD.

(NKJV) 2 Co 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

(NKJV) Re 20:12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.

- T. We did not want to be in his presence, so he would remove himself and submit to our will.

(NKJV) Ho 5:15 I will return again to My place Till they acknowledge their offense. Then they will seek My face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me."

IX. 9 Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?"

- A. God had to look for the man because so many times before Adam was there along with Eve sitting and talking with God.
 - 1. this was not the first time God had come into the presence.

2. God created man for fellowship with him. God wants us to have fellowship with one another also.
 3. It is nothing unusual for God to want to be with us. Jesus appeared many different kinds in the Bible talking with men.
 - a. If he would do this in a fallen world, how much more so he would do it in the perfect world of the garden!
- B. God came seeking the man. God is always in search of man.

**GOD IS STILL SEEKING AFTER MAN TO BE FAITHFUL TO HIM
WHERE ARE YOU?**

- C. It is as if God, with hurt in his heart, is looking for the man and is crying with tears in his eyes “Where are you?”
1. Imagine God’s hurt. After all the wonderful things he has given the man. The man turns on Him and rejects him.
 2. Jesus said
(NKJV) Re 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. 21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.

GOD IS ALWAYS LOOKING FOR A MAN TO SERVE HIM

3. God has and will always be, until the end, looking for man.
(NKJV) 2 Ch 16:9 For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. In this you have done foolishly; therefore from now on you shall have wars.”
- D. He is looking for you today. Are you hiding too?
1. It was not Adam who sought God, but God that sought Adam.
 2. It was God who sought out and called Abraham while yet an idolater worshiping other Gods
 3. It was God who sought Jacob at Bethel when he was fleeing from the consequences of his wrong doing with his father and brother.
 4. It was God who sought out Moses while a fugitive in Midian.
 5. It was Christ who sought out the apostles while they were engaged in fishing, so that He could say, “Ye have not chosen Me, but I have chosen you.”
 6. It was Christ who came to seek and to save that which was lost.
 7. It is the Shepherd who seeks the sheep, and not the sheep that seek the Shepherd.
 8. How true it is that “We love Him because He first loved us.”.
- E. God knew where Adam was but he lets us sin and will not force us to return to him.**Where are you?**
1. Adam had to respond to the call to God
 2. We can sin all we want and go astray. God will wait until we recognize we can’t make it without him!

(NKJV) 2 Ch 7:14 if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

3. Sin causes us to separate ourselves from God. We become ashamed of ourselves at first and then later we become hardened.
4. It was not man looking for God. It was God looking for man. So it is still today. We do not normally look for God.

(NKJV) Ro 3:11 There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God.

- F. God is calling out today to all of us, "Where are you?"
1. I want to be in your presence
 2. Are you hiding from me?
 3. God is looking for everyone of us today! Where are you? My brother? My sister?