

- I. **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**
- II. **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?

- III. **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 26:13-31 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

CONFESSION OR CONCEALMENT OF SIN? *Our Choice!*

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!

CONFESSION OR CONCEALMENT OF SIN?

Our Choice!

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.”

IV. 9 Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, “Where are you?”

- A. He did not call to the woman because she was not the one who was personally commanded not to eat of the tree.
1. He was holding Adam accountable!
- B. God knew where Adam was and what he had done, but rather that accuse him immediately begins a dialogue with him.
1. He wants the man to know he is compassionate and merciful.
 2. He does not rush to judgement.
- C. This is the same thing we should do.
1. Before we condemn another person, we should confront them personally to ascertain whether they have an explanation.
 2. God did not punish Adam and Eve, even though he knew they had sinned against him, until he gave them an opportunity to reveal any excuse they might have had.
- D. God had to look for the man because so many times before Adam was there waiting along with Eve for God to sit and talk with him.
1. This was not the first-time God had come into the presence of man.
 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 times 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!
- E. 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?

- F. 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.”
- G. 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.”.
- H. 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.
- I. 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?

- V. **10 So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was** (*“was” Not in the original, meaning regardless to what the man had done to clothe himself, he was still feeling naked*) **naked; and I hid myself.”**
- A. Prior to this God had delt personally face-to-face with man. But now he only speaks to him. Later after the sacrifice of the animals, he has his last encounter with man. Vs 21
 - B. Notice Adam did not answer God's question! Why? He knew God knew where he was! So he answers why he is hiding.
 - C. He knew the voice of God and hid himself from it.

SIN MAKES US FEARFUL OF GOD

- D. Because we hide ourselves from God, one day he will hide himself from us and will not be found by us.
 - E. Sin gives us reason to be afraid! Something within us makes us fearful. Our system knows we are against God!
 - 1. Then, we will try to gather others around us to make us feel comfortable.
 - a. She gave some to her husband.
 - F. Because we have Christ, we do not have to be afraid.
 - G. Many run from the voice of the Word of God today.
 - 1. Rather have good music
 - 2. Concerts of the Choir
 - 3. Soothing messages of a Pastor, but not the sound of voice of God.
- VI. **11 And He said, “Who told YOU that you were naked? Have YOU eaten from the tree of which I commanded YOU that you should not eat?”**
- A. Who have you been listening to?

BEWARE OF THE SERPENT IN THE GARDEN

- B. **(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’?”**
 - 1. He spoke to the weaker vessel. The one that did not hear the word directly but had a consciousness of the truth of the word.
 - 2. The serpent is in places where God’s will is being done
 - a. Families
 - b. Churches
 - c. Relationships
 - d. Always there to speak a negative word!
 - 3. He speaks to weak people who will dialog with him and causes
 - a. **SATAN’S TACTICS** (*A Downward Spiral*)
 - (1) **DISTRACTION**
 - (a) (from God’s Word)
 - (2) **DECEPTION**
 - (a) (of what God says)

- (3) **DOUBT**
(a) (in what God says)
- (4) **DISCONTENT**
(a) (in what God is doing or has done)
- (5) **DENIAL**
(a) (of God's Word)
- (6) **DISHONOR**
(a) (of a Holy God in Word)
- (7) **DISOBEDIENCE**
(a) (by actions against God's Word)
- (8) **DISMISSIAL by God**

- 4. To get you out of the place where God wants you. Many of you have heard him and many have listened.
- 5. Therefore,

BEWARE OF THE SERPENT IN THE GARDEN

And

BE CAREFUL WHO YOU LISTEN TO! THEY CAN CONTROL YOUR LIFE

Jesus said:

(NKJV) Lk 8:18 Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him."

- 6. Make sure you're getting godly wisdom from whomever you listen to.

- 7. The media will lie to you! Stay in church!

(NKJV) Eph 2:1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good

works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

- C. God gives him a chance to answer truthfully. **"Have you eaten from the tree?"**.
- D. This is also how God will call us into account.
 - 1. What did we focus on while we were in the world?
 - a. His Word or the World?
 - b. Have we done what he wants? Or what we want like Adam and Eve?
 - 2. Who are you listening to today?
 - a. A best Friend
 - b. A political party
 - c. Your family
 - d. Your emotions, thoughts, your body?
- E. What did Abraham have to do to hear from God?

VII. 12 Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."

- A. He refuses to accept any responsibility for his actions.

LOOK AT YOURSELF FIRST BEFORE PLACING ANY BLAME ON OTHERS

- 1. He blames God first, for giving him the woman!
- 2. He passes the buck. Why do we always want to point out another's faults and ignore ours?
 - a. *"If you hadn't given me this woman I would have done something different!"*
 - b. *"You are the one at fault!"*
 - c. *"She knew when she gave it to me it was bad, I was still innocent!!"*
 - d. *"I did not eat from the tree I ate from what the woman gave me!"*
- 3. If we are going to follow God we have to first deny ourselves!
(NKJV) Mt 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

THE WAY YOU JUDGE OTHERS IS THE WAY GOD WILL JUDGE YOU

- B. Perhaps here's the line of reasoning Adam was taking.
(NKJV) Ge 2:18 And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."
 - 1. The one you gave me as a helper I assumed I could trust. Therefore since you gave her to me I decided to do what she said.

VIII. 13 And the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this YOU have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

- A. God gives Eve the opportunity to come clean.
 - 1. She starts off talking about the serpent!

2. In other words
 - a. *“if I deceived Adam, the serpent deceived me!”*
- B. Notice he did not ask her if she ate of the tree! What is this you have done? Why?
 1. That was not the only sin she committed!
 2. What was the other one? She caused her husband to sin!
(NKJV) Mt 18:6 “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

(NKJV) Ro 14:13 Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother’s way.

 3. For some reason, women have an easier ability to cause a man to sin. Therefore the bible says to women:
(NKJV) 1 Ti 2:9 in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, 10 but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.
- C. She passes the buck to the serpent but admits she was deceived!
 1. Did she have any reason to be deceived?
- D. She refuses to accept responsibility for her actions. If he had not deceived me, but what did he deceive her about? She knew what God said!
- E. Now comes the sentencing for the disobedience to God!

THE SENTENCING –

to all involved.

The part nobody wants to know about.
 You could’ve sentenced them all to hell,
 just like he did the Angels
 but his love was so great!