

Sunday August 11, 2013 Recorded 4-21-15 Aired 5-3-15
Genesis #17

"The Cover Up"

Genesis 3:6-13

Introduction: In our study of the Book of Genesis we have been looking at the entrance of sin into the world found in chapter 3. The past 3 messages have really focused upon the "Ways of Satan". While the fall happened about 6 thousand years ago the ways of Satan have not changed at all. He is still a liar and a divider.

He chose the weaker of the 2 out of Adam and Eve. When he was able to get her alone he cast doubt in her mind in 2 ways:

1. He cast doubt upon the Word of God.
2. He cast doubt on her husband's truthfulness.

Notice Genesis 3:1

Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

We see in this verse the doubt he tried to cast upon God's Word. Then when we stop and understand that the command was given to Adam and then he passed it on to her we can see the attempt to divide the family. Sure the command was God's command but her husband was the one who delivered it to her so there was an insinuation that maybe Adam did not tell her the exact Truth.

We also looked briefly last week at the mistakes which Eve made in that she did not resist nor did she flee the temptation which faced her but instead she entertained the temptation.

Application:

Last week we talked briefly about how to handle temptation. I want to take a few moments to show you these points again and share one more important point in overcoming temptation.

Now, one thing is for sure and that is every one of us faces temptation. Temptation is not sin and we know this because Jesus Himself faced temptation. So to gain victory over temptation there are 3 important practices we must apply:

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1. Resist

James 4:7

⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

The word "submit" means "to yield to". The idea is that when we are tempted by the Devil we are faced with 2 choices.

a. Walk in obedience to God.

OR

b. Give in to the temptation.

When we choose to yield to obedience and we resist the Devil the promise is that he will flee from us.

I don't want you to miss the fact that the opposite is also true. If we do not resist and we entertain the temptation then he will not flee but he will lead us deeper and deeper into sin. He will continue to take you back to that sin until finally it costs far more than you ever desired to pay.

2. Flee the situation.

1 Corinthians 10:13-14

¹³ There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; **but will with the temptation also make a way to escape**, that ye may be able to bear it.

¹⁴ Wherefore, my dearly beloved, **flee** from idolatry.

I have heard people say they just wish they could shake a besetting sin in their lives which continues to plague them. Here in 1 Corinthians we find one of the keys and that is to flee from the temptation.

I told you last week that the Devil can never back us into a corner. Our God is faithful to always provide a way to escape the temptation we are faced with. The reason we fall to the temptation is when we are tempted we do as Eve did and we entertain the temptation.

James 1:13-15

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¹³ *Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:*

¹⁴ *But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.*

¹⁵ *Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.*

I want to walk you through the sin process so that you can understand what James is saying here.

- a. No temptation comes from God!
- b. Temptation comes when something forbidden begins to draw us down a path that appeals to our sinful hearts.
- c. There is a point on that path where in our minds we are guilty of living the sin that is the conception which James speaks of here.
- d. The outward act of sin is a manifestation of a sin already committed in the mind.
Let me show this to you in another verse.

Matthew 5:27-28

²⁷ *Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:*

²⁸ *But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.*

Our sin is not so much about what we do or don't do; it is what we think or don't think. It begins in the heart. What I want you to understand is that as you feel yourself being pulled down the path of temptation you must flee before you get to the place where lust conceives because once that line is crossed you will carry out the act.

I. The Cover Up.

Notice Genesis 3:6

Eve had been drawn down the path of temptation beyond the point of return and she then ate of the forbidden fruit. She then turned around and gave the fruit to her husband and he then ate the fruit also.

Now there are several thoughts I want to share with you from this:

1. Eve was deceived by the Devil but Adam just disobeyed a direct command from God. Both were guilty however but Adam sin was greater in the sense that he was more accountable because of having the direct command.

Application:

I need to slow down and remind you just in case you are not saved. Because you attend this church and you are exposed to the Truth of God's Word every service in which you attend you are held to a higher level of accountability than the person walking the streets who never goes to church. That means if you die without Jesus Christ your degree of punishment in the Lake of Fire will be far greater than the person walking the street.

2. Why did Adam disobey the direct command of God? I believe he ate the fruit because he loved his wife so much he did not desire for her to suffer alone. In this I believe we see a picture of Christ. He loved us so much that He chose to become sin for us so that he could save us from the penalty of sin and provide for us eternal life.

2 Corinthians 5:21

²¹ For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

Notice Genesis 3:7

Satan led Eve down the path toward sin and once she crossed the line and then committed the sin he was gone and here they both stand in their shame.

The very first thing they did after they had committed the sin was to attempt to cover themselves with fig leaves.

Application:

This is one of the results of sin which will drive you crazy after you have committed the act. It is the desire to cover it up so that no one will know what you have done. You will do you best to act normal but you will always feel as though someone is going to find out so you attempt to do all you can to cover it up.

Now what often happens is that the cover up will take you deeper in to sin and you will sink lower and lower. I want to show how deep you can sink.

Notice 2 Samuel 11:1-17

And it came to pass, after the year was expired, at the time when kings go forth to battle, that David sent Joab, and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the children of Ammon, and besieged Rabbah. But David tarried still at Jerusalem.

² *And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon.*

³ *And David sent and enquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?*

⁴ *And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house.*

⁵ *And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child.*

⁶ *And David sent to Joab, saying, Send me Uriah the Hittite. And Joab sent Uriah to David.*

⁷ *And when Uriah was come unto him, David demanded of him how Joab did, and how the people did, and how the war prospered.*

⁸ *And David said to Uriah, Go down to thy house, and wash thy feet. And Uriah departed out of the king's house, and there followed him a mess of meat from the king.*

⁹ *But Uriah slept at the door of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and went not down to his house.*

¹⁰ *And when they had told David, saying, Uriah went not down unto his house, David said unto Uriah, Camest thou not from thy journey? why then didst thou not go down unto thine house?*

¹¹ *And Uriah said unto David, The ark, and Israel, and Judah, abide in tents; and my lord Joab, and the servants of my lord, are encamped in the open fields; shall I then go into mine house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? as thou livest, and as thy soul liveth, I will not do this thing.*

¹² *And David said to Uriah, Tarry here to day also, and to morrow I will let thee depart. So Uriah abode in Jerusalem that day, and the morrow.*

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13 And when David had called him, he did eat and drink before him; and he made him drunk: and at even he went out to lie on his bed with the servants of his lord, but went not down to his house.

14 And it came to pass in the morning, that David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah.

15 And he wrote in the letter, saying, Set ye Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retire ye from him, that he may be smitten, and die.

16 And it came to pass, when Joab observed the city, that he assigned Uriah unto a place where he knew that valiant men were.

17 And the men of the city went out, and fought with Joab: and there fell some of the people of the servants of David; and Uriah the Hittite died also.

David went from adultery to getting Uriah drunk and then to murder. I can assure you that the desire to cover the sin drove him crazy and when the murder was complete he had the guilt of the entire thing upon him.

That is exactly what sin will do to you.

By the way, God hates the attempt to cover sin. He desires for you to confess your sin. I know this because when Jesus walked the earth there was only one thing which He cursed and it was a fig tree the very thing used to cover the first sin.

II. The Compassion

Notice Genesis 3:8-13

There is much to be considered in these verses but we only have the time to consider one thought today. God asked these questions not because He did not have the answers, He is God and He knows all things. He sought them out and asked the questions because He desired for them to confess their sins and ask for forgiveness.

Application:

I don't know your heart but I do know that if you are not saved God is seeking you and He has brought you here today to hear this message.

2 Peter 3:9

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⁹ The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Just as He sought Adam and Eve to offer to them the forgiveness of sin, so He is doing the same for you. He loves you and He is seeking you with the desire that you will repent and come to Jesus for the forgiveness of sin.

Please don't believe the lie of Satan which says, "God does not know about your sin." God does know about your sin and it will eventually be brought before you and you will be accountable for it.

Numbers 32:23

²³ But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.

Today God offers to you forgiveness of sin but that offer will not always be there. The window will close sometime and you will die in your sins.