

"The Consequences of Sin"

Part 1

Genesis 3:12-15

Introduction: For quite some time we have been looking at the entrance of sin into the world which is recorded in Genesis 3. Last week in our study we look at the actual sin and how Adam deliberately disobeyed God and how Eve was deceived.

This one act of disobedience by Adam was so serious because in that one act the path of Jesus Christ was finalized. Because of that one act of sin Jesus was destined for the cross.

In the shadow of the cross shortly after Adam and Eve sinned Jesus came into the garden with one intention. Not to punish Adam for his sin but to seek him out and offer to him the forgiveness which only Jesus could provide. You see we find in verses 8-11 the very first Missionary mentioned in the Bible and it was Jesus Himself. Jesus asked several questions in those verses but it was not because He did not know the answers but because He wanted Adam and Eve to confess their sin and repent.

I would like to touch briefly upon something here that I believe we need to keep in mind. God was able to stop Adam and Eve from committing this sin and God was able to keep sin from ever entering the world. Really He knew the nature of Satan before Satan was ever created so He could have chose not to create him. So why did God allow all of this to happen?

If it were not for sins entrance into the world we would not understand 2 main points:

1. **God's Love** - You see it is through the darkness and the consequences of sin that we can see the love of God. It was sin that sent Jesus to the cross which is the greatest demonstration of love ever shown.
2. **Our need of God** - It is because of sin in this world that we see the need of God in our lives for without Him we are doomed.

Today we are going to continue on and look at the consequences of sin.

Now I want you to understand something very important: there is forgiveness available for all of our sins but forgiveness does not erase the consequences.

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When David sinned against God by committing adultery and murder he was forgiven but the consequences were very costly.

2 Samuel 12:11-13

⁷ *And Nathan said to David, Thou art the man. Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, I anointed thee king over Israel, and I delivered thee out of the hand of Saul;*

⁸ *And I gave thee thy master's house, and thy master's wives into thy bosom, and gave thee the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, **I would moreover have given unto thee such and such things.***

⁹ *Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.*

¹⁰ *Now **therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house;** because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.*

¹¹ *Thus saith the LORD, Behold, **I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.***

¹² *For thou didst it secretly: but I will do this thing before all Israel, and before the sun.*

¹³ *And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, **The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die.***

David was forgiven but the consequences would not go away.

You may fall into sin or you may commit sin deliberately and in both cases you can be forgiven but there will be consequences.

I. Unity Began to Dissolve

Notice Genesis 3:12

Here in verse 12 when Adam was confronted with his sin the very first thing he did was blame his wife. He refers to her as "the woman whom God had given to him".

Remember how he referred to her right after she was created?

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Notice Genesis 2:23

²³ And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

Now after the entrance of sin she has ceased to be bone of his bone and is now "the woman". I can't say for sure but I can guess that for all the years of Adam's life, 930 years, that statement he made was quite often used as ammunition when he and Eve had a disagreement.

From this I want you to see that the unity which had just existed was now beginning to deteriorate.

Notice Genesis 3:13

When Eve was questioned and confronted with her sin she blamed the serpent.

Application:

Before we move on from this I want to focus your attention upon the fact that both Adam and Eve played the blame game. Neither one wanted to take responsibility for their actions.

This is the very thing we see with people today. When they are caught in their sin they always want to blame someone else for their choice. It is a rare situation when someone takes responsibility for the choices they have made.

Let me just say something that needs to be said here. You may twist the situation you are in any way you desire but the bottom line is that when Judgment Day comes your excuses for your actions will not be accepted by God.

There is never a situation that you will face in which your sin is justified. Let me show to you a verse to support that very Truth.

Revelation 2:8-11

⁸ And unto the angel of the church in Smyrna write; These things saith the first and the last, which was dead, and is alive;

⁹ I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan.

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¹⁰ Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: **be thou faithful unto death**, and I will give thee a crown of life.

¹¹ He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death.

II. Spiritual Warfare Began.

Notice Genesis 3:15

¹⁵ 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.

This verse is loaded with spiritual gold. Within this verse we find the very first promise of Jesus Christ.

This verse was a pronouncement of the judgment which would come upon Satan.

The first thing I want to draw your attention to is the word "**enmity**". It means "**hatred**". So between the woman and Satan there would be great hatred. That hatred would extend to the "**seed**" of both Satan and Eve.

The "**seed**" of the woman would "**bruise**" the head of Satan and Satan would "**bruise**" the heel of the woman's "**seed**".

This is the promise of Christ. The word "**bruise**" here means to "**crush**" so Satan would "**crush**" the heel of Christ at the cross when Jesus died for the sins of the world. But eventually there will come a day when Satan will forever be cast into the lake of fire and that will be the final blow to "**crush**" his head. When this happens Satan will be forever conquered.

Revelation 20:10

¹⁰ And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night **for ever and ever**.

This is the finality of Satan.

But before this day happens he is alive and fighting.

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Notice Genesis 3:15 again,

¹⁵ 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.

I want to draw your attention to the verse again. We see here that Jesus Christ is not mentioned by name here all the verse tells us is that the seed of the woman would be a man. The verse says, "**and thou shall bruise HIS heel**". Satan did not know when the Seed would come nor did he know from whom it would come but he knew the Seed that would destroy him would be a man that came from the offspring of Eve.

Now the "seed" of Satan would be all of those who would follow him in rebellion against God. So from this point forward Satan would launch a full scale attack in an attempt to destroy the Seed of the woman. In other words Satan would do all he could to stop the promise of this future Redeemer who would destroy him. This battle can be seen the entire way through the Old Testament.

Notice Genesis 4:8

⁸ And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

Here is the first evidence of the severity of the spiritual war as well as the severity of sin's consequences. Cain was the seed of Satan and Abel was the line through which Jesus Christ would be born. Satan was so determined to stop God's promise that he went so far as to get Cain to murder his own brother.

Let me just say that this is all a result of the sin committed in the garden.

God's promise of the Redeemer would not be stopped however.

Notice Genesis 4:25

²⁵ And Adam knew his wife again; and she bare a son, and called his name Seth: For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.

God would keep His promise but the pain would continue in the heart of Eve.

Now there is even more to this which will contain an application for us.

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The woman in Genesis 3:15 no doubt referred to Eve. But it also referred to the nation of Israel.

Revelation 12:13

¹³ And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child.

The woman here is the nation of Israel because it was from the nation of Israel that Jesus came.

So back in Genesis the original attacks were directed to the offspring of Eve but then as time went on Satan began to focus upon Israel because he knew from that nation Jesus Christ would be born. Let me show you just one of those attacks in which it is obvious Satan was trying to stop God's promise.

Exodus 1:13-16

¹³ And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour:

¹⁴ And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.

¹⁵ And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one was Shiphrah, and the name of the other Puah:

¹⁶ And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.

Why the order to kill the baby boys? It was an attempt to kill the future Redeemer.

Application:

Satan could not succeed in stopping God's promise. Jesus was born and He paid the price for our sins. But Satan is still doing all he can to collect an army of people who will join Him in rebellion against God.

Revelation 19:11-19

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¹¹ And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

¹² His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

¹³ And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.

¹⁴ And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

¹⁵ And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

¹⁶ And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

¹⁷ And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God;

¹⁸ That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

¹⁹ And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army.

So if you are saved you carry with you every day the message which will set people free from the power of sin and the power of Satan. The message is that Jesus loves them, died for them, and will freely give them eternal life if they repent and place their faith in His work upon the cross.

On the other side you have Satan attempting to gather people for his army. This is where the spiritual battle rages. It is over the souls of people.

Conclusion:

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Don't think that you sin only affects you! It affects everyone around you and will cause great heartache if you do not resist and flee from temptation. The sin of Adam and Eve affected the entire world. Sin will affect your entire world.