# Genesis 3

# Part 2: Who told you that you were naked?

When the woman was created, "The man said, 'This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called "woman," for she was taken out of man.' For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh. **The man** and **his wife** were both naked, and they felt no shame" (Genesis 2:23-25).



#### JW.org

#### THEY FELT NO SHAME

A very special, intimate relationship was formed by God when He created the woman from out of the man and they were married. While they were two separate beings, their intimacy was one, their spiritual connection was one and their desires at every level were one. The man finally had a suitable helpmeet who was of him and bound with him. They became spiritually one flesh.

Because they were sinless, they did not need a covering. They were naked with no need to feel shame. Their bodies were likely covered in a layer of God's glory, just as Moses' face shone after spending time with God. The man and the woman were being taught by the Creator God and visibly taking on His glorious likeness both on the outside and within. They felt no shame, more likely, they felt great joy to reflect the glory of God.

#### **GOD: KING AND LORD**

When God created mankind: male and female, He unveiled another aspect of Himself. He holds a double office: King and Lord. These offices were given to His two creations: one in heaven and the other on earth. He intrinsically engineered these offices into the creation of mankind to teach them about spiritual matters. He made them male and female: kings and lords, national leaders to uphold His laws and theologians to teach His knowledge, to build understanding and to apply wisdom. God, the Father like His Son, Jesus Christ, is both King and Priest [Lord]. These roles will be married when God creates a new heaven and new earth. It is a great mystery!

# THE GREAT MYSTERY

The Apostle Paul said, "This mystery is profound, but I am speaking about Christ and the church" (Ephesians 5:32). The Apostle Paul was

REFLECTIONS in the Mirror

church" (Ephesians 5:32). The Apostle Paul was addressing the marriage of a man and a woman. "For this reason, a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh" (Ephesians 5:31). Christ is the only qualifier to marry the church mirrored as the woman. The relationship and roles of Christ and the Church is the spiritual revelation God, the Father built into the creation of mankind made: male and female. Law (male) and theology (female) will be bound as one to ensure righteous leadership for all eternity. Jesus Christ holds both roles: King over all kings and Lord over all lords. His wife will specialize in Lordship—a royal priesthood ruling with Christ over a holy kingdom.



Gender on earth is a mirror of the spiritual picture. In eternity, there will be no delineation of being male or female, but there will be kings and lords. The mirroring will be removed when the spiritual is the reality for creation on earth.

#### THEY WILL BECOME ONE FLESH

The spiritual oneness of this marriage is described by the Apostle Paul as "Christ in you." If the church does not learn and act on the instructions of Jesus Christ, the Son of God—the Word, then they do not have life. They will continue to die spiritually.

"So Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of Man, you have no life in you'" (John 6:53).

"But if **Christ is in you,** though the body is dead because of sin, **the spirit is life because of righteousness**" (Romans 8:10). Even being betrothed to Christ, his spiritual leadership imaged in his rib within us when we repent, opens the door to God's Holy Spirit and access to the Father. It also, excites a comradery with all members of the God-family.

As Believers mature spiritually, they completely allow the selfish and carnal ways to die and humbly submit to God, keeping His law and living His way through Christ in them.

"I am crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live in faith, the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself up for me" (Galatians 2:20).

God watched the house of Judah follow the steps of the northern house of Israel, falling deep into wickedness and He said, "The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?" (Jeremiah 17:9)

# THE PRIESTHOOD, A MIRROR OF MOTHERHOOD

The Apostle Paul understood the role given to the woman whose punishment from listening and acting on the serpent's words was travail in childbirth.

Paul loved like a mother; he suffered for the congregation he loved dearly. He was prepared to labour until their behaviour was a mirror of Christ's perfection. "My children, with whom I travail again in birth until Christ is formed in you" (Galatians 4:19).

Jesus Christ is key to the transformation of Believers. A marvel and spectacular event will bring ecstatic joy to them when he returns. He will transform the dying bodies of the saints into a glorious radiance of righteousness. With deep gratitude and humility, they will give him glory and honour.

"When **He comes to be glorified in His saints** and to be marveled at **in all those who have believed**." (II Thessalonians 1:10).

# **NAKEDNESS THAT REQUIRES A COVERING**

Sinners need a covering because they are unholy; they have no shining glory, so, figuratively they are naked. Without God's glorious radiance and His Holy Spirit flowing within and shining through, the body is dull and decaying.

# **LUCIFER, LIGHT BRINGING**

When God created Lucifer, he was a beautiful, shining cherub. He was anointed a guardian angel in the third heaven. God said, "You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty... on the day you were created" (Ezekiel 28:12b). The name, Lucifer, means "light bringing" and "morning star."

When iniquity was found in Lucifer, he lost his shining body and was from that moment on identified for what he had become, Satan, God's adversary. He was cast out of the third heaven where God's throne is located and His law courts operate.

Tumbling down, down, down Satan resembled a great dragon, a devil. He set up his domain in the "high seas" in the second heaven call Tyre. Often, locations on earth have a counter-part in heaven. For example, Lebanon in heaven is the location of God's law courts. The once-great members of God's law court all turned against Him and this grand place has fallen. God lamented the fall of these once-highly revered sons of God. And to this day, He battles against rebels in heaven who have held the most esteemed offices in all creation.

## A RELEVANT SIDE NOTE

It was a terrible event in heaven that caused God intense pain to see His sons from creation in heaven, His once-highly-revered members of His law courts turn against Him. Again, God uses trees to image leaders. Eden is the God-family name. Recorded in Ezekiel 31 is the great fall that brought shock waves in heaven. "Then all the trees of Eden, the CHOICEST and BEST OF LEBANON, all the trees that were well-watered, were CONSOLED IN THE EARTH BELOW" (Ezekiel 31:16).

These leaders [trees] were filled with God's Holy Spirit [well-watered]. They were considered the best of Lebanon [the most skilled and trained in God's law courts in heaven]. And yet, they all fell. They rebelled, opposing Almighty God and working with Satan to overthrown Him.

God Almighty fought back, capturing them and imprisoning them in inner earth. "See, the Lord, the LORD Almighty, will lop off the boughs with great power. The lofty trees will be felled; the tall ones will be brought low. He will cut down the forest thickets with an ax; LEBANON WILL FALL BEFORE THE MIGHTY ONE" (Isaiah 10:33-34). God will fire the leaders holding the highest positions who alter His laws to cover their lawlessness. He will demote the leaders who have neglected to apply His law to ensure justice for all. Lebanon will fall because Almighty God, Himself, will take it down completely, judging every rebel and cleansing the structure entirely.

Alas, God has a new plan. He is rebuilding His heavenly court, Lebanon. On earth, Lebanon is famous for its tall, majestic cedars.

Remaining in Lebanon today is the remnant of what is referred to as the cedars of God. Paul Saad states, "The Cedars of God (Arz ar-Rabb "Cedars of the Lord") is one of the last vestiges of the extensive forests of the Lebanon Cedar, Cedrus libani, that once thrived across Mount Lebanon in ancient times... The mountains of Lebanon were once shaded by thick cedar forests and the tree is the symbol of the country." He adds and interesting point, "Hebrew priests were ordered by Moses to use the bark of the Lebanon cedar in the treatment of leprosy." <a href="https://www.flickr.com/photos/kartaba/26554503035">https://www.flickr.com/photos/kartaba/26554503035</a>



In heaven, Lebanon is infamous for its highly skilled and knowledgeable sons of God fluent in His laws. Unfortunately, these once-revered experts have rebelled and God's Lebanon waits to be rebuilt.

Soon, a new Lebanon will rise in heaven. God is assembling a new government of faithful and loyal children. Believers who are humble, God-fearing and God-serving men and women from the second creation on earth.

"In a very short time, will not Lebanon be turned into a fertile field and the fertile field seem like a forest?" (Isaiah 29:17)

"The righteous man will flourish like the palm tree; he will grow like a cedar in Lebanon. PLANTED IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD, they will flourish in the COURTS OF OUR GOD. They will still yield fruit in old age; They shall be full of sap and very green" (Psalm 92:12-15).

"I [God] will be like the dew to Israel; he will blossom like the lily, and he will take root like the cedars of Lebanon. His shoots will sprout, and his beauty will be like the olive tree and his fragrance like the cedars of Lebanon" (Hosea 14:5-6).

God's new government is sprouting and it will grow into a thick forest in Lebanon full of faithful and loyal leaders with many beautiful gifts and wonderful qualities.

# LUCIFER TO SATAN, A DRAGON A DEVIL—KING OF TYRE TO A FRAGILE DECREPIT MAN

A lament concerning the king of Tyre, God said, "How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! [This a future event.] You have been cast down to earth, you who once laid low the nations! You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars [sons] of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.' But you are brought down to the grave to the depths of the pit. Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate: 'Is this the man who shook the earth and made kingdoms tremble, the man who made the world a desert, who overthrew its cities and would not let his captives go home?'" (Isaiah 14:12-17)

From a perfect eternal beauty to a decaying mortal, Satan's body deteriorates eventually into ashes during his last brief moment of thought. God Almighty ends his life. "I made fire come out from you, and it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the



sight of all who were watching. All the nations who knew you are appalled at you; you have come to a horrible end and will be no more'" (Ezekiel 28:18b-19).

All rebel angels will lose their eternal life. Their form changes as they revel deeper and deeper into wickedness. There is no saving covering for the rebel sons of God. They have all sinned knowingly.

## **COVERING OF NAKEDNESS**

For the most part, mankind is deceived. The mother of all living, Eve was deceived.

God asked "Who said that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?" (Genesis 3:11)

God knew that they had listened to the crafty serpent and acted on his word. Their eyes were opened seeing for the first time different pathways resulting from different choices. They had made a mistake and they were afraid. God's glorious radiance faded from their bodies and they knew they were losing the image and likeness of the Great Creator with His glory brighter than the sun, so they covered themselves with fig leaves.

God uses imagery to unveil His deep revelations. His people, the twelve tribes of Israel, are often referred to as a fig tree. In one account, Jesus cursed a barren fig tree.

## **LEARN FROM THE FIG TREE**

"Seeing a fig tree by the road, He went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. 'May you never bear fruit again!' He said. And immediately the tree withered" (Matthew 21:19).

This micro-story reveals Jesus' authority to curse and condemn any of God's people who refuse to repent and change their behaviour.

First fruit in Spring



Second fruit in Summer



"The axe lies ready at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire" (Matthew 3:10).

The early fruit on a fig tree was the imagery God specifically used to describe Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and their descendants. "When I found Israel, it was like finding grapes in the desert and when I saw your fathers, it was like seeing the early fruit on the fig tree" (Hosea 9:10). "Of all the families of the earth, only Israel have I chosen" (Amos 3:2).

Jesus used the same imagery. The disciples asked Jesus for the signs of his return and the end of this evil age. The last of his warnings was his admonition to learn from the fig tree. "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. Even so, when you see all these things, you know that it [the return of Christ] is near, right at the door" (Matthew 24:32).

The fig tree remains the image of the people of Israel today—all twelve tribes who are now twelve nations into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Fig trees produce twice in a year. The first fruits appear in Spring and are produced from the old branches—the Breba crop. The second growth of fruit appears in Summer and is produced from the new growth—the Higos crop.

In Matthew 24, Jesus is describing the crop from the new growth—the tender twigs. The Higos crop. This crop is identifying the repentance and spiritual growth of people not from the old branches but the new, those to repent after hearing the testimony of Jesus Christ.

The Higos crop images the people from the twelve nations of 21st century Israel who will repent. They will acknowledge the God of Israel, desire to obey His commandments and strive to live His way. This turn to obey God and live is way is the picture of the flower of the fig tree. The flower is the fruit inside. This is the beauty of repentant people. Their inner being blossoms into beautiful character.

It is not by coincidence that Adam and Eve covered themselves with fig leaves. God's rich details are always expressed in imagery. Adam and Eve had a covenant with God upon their creation. They were a covenant people like the people of Israel and broke the covenant as did the people of Israel. God saw Adam and Eve's attempt to cover their mistake. It wasn't sufficient to save their spiritual lives. God then taught them about their Saviour. The blood from the life of an animal without blemish imaged the death of the Son of God. Yashuah loves creation on earth. He agreed willingly to sacrifice his life to save their lives, even when they were still sinners.

Sinners without a covering are shamefully naked. Jesus said to the church in Laodicea, "You say, I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked" (Revelation 3:17).

This group of Believers are deceived. They believe that they understand the whole word of God; they need nothing. Yet, Jesus said that they are wretched and pitiful, lack a true understanding

of God's word, blind to the pathway leading to death that they are on and naked because they do not have the covering of Christ; they are not following him wherever he goes. They still hold to pagan practices.



GoodSalt

# LINEN, COVERING OF THE RIGHTEOUS

Linen is made from flax; it is cultivated for its fine, strong fibres. Linen is an image describing the righteous covering of the saints who stand tall and faithful during times of duress holding to the commandments of God and testimony of Jesus.

"Let us rejoice and be glad and give Him the glory. For the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His bride has made herself ready. She was given clothing of fine linen, bright and pure. For the fine linen she wears is the righteous acts of the saints" (Revelation 19:7-8).

## WHO TOLD ADAM AND EVE THAT THEY WERE NAKED?

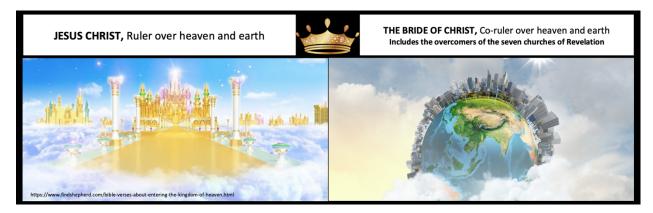
The crafty serpent was quick to shake his finger at Adam and Eve. He prowls around like a roaring lion looking for people to devour (I Peter 5:8). He is the instigator of sin and loves to report all of the mistakes of mankind to God Almighty.

"Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: 'Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Messiah. For the accuser of our brothers and sisters, who accuses them before our God, day and night, has been hurled down'" (Revelation 12:10).

Fortunately, mankind has a Saviour. "Who is there to condemn us? For Christ Jesus, who died, and more than that was raised to life, is at the right hand of God—and He is interceding for us" (Romans 8:34).

"Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus" (Romans 8:1).

Satan has lost the battle to destroy mankind. He was not briefed on God's salvation plan for creation on earth. God has been teaching the angels in heaven about new things to come. God is both King and Lord; He wrote His law and His theology. He obeys His law and lives His theology. The two will be married to form one unbreakable structure of righteous leadership for all eternity. Creation in heaven and on earth will join to become a perfect image and likeness of Almighty God, their Creator and Father.



This study discussed the meaning of God's use of the word "nakedness." God's imagery is rich in meaning. He is transparent and the use of imagery, mirroring, numbers, parallels, parables and stories are teaching techniques to bring mankind clarity and a full understanding of His word.

# Additional key topics are discussed in the follow parts:

- Part 1: The man must not reach out and take from the tree of life
- **Part 3:** God commanded that they must not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Why?
- **Part 4:** What are the spiritual revelations in the punishment of the serpent, the woman and the man?

Compiled by Janette Andrejowich

www.sharingsharpens.ca