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THE FALL, THE CURSE AND THE ANSWER.

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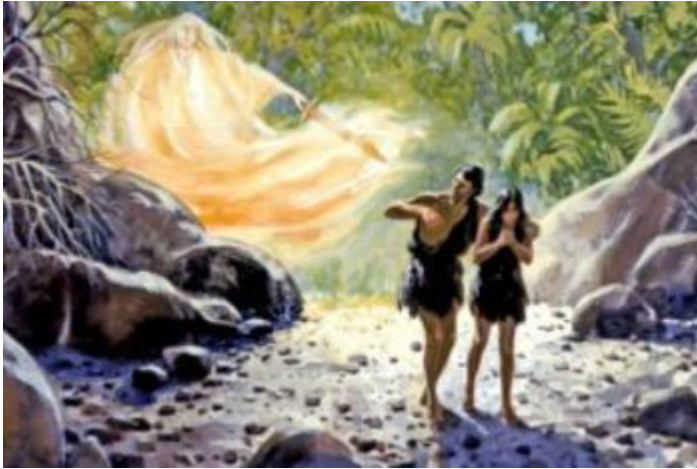


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The Fall, the Curse and the Answer

Genesis 1:26-30 (KJV)

And God said, Let **us** make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

29 And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.

30 And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

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The Fall

God created the world, and the world was without evil. When Satan came into the world, evil and self-centeredness came into the world.

Genesis 1:31 (KJV)

And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

At the end of God's six days of creating and making all things, He placed it all under man's dominion and then pronounced it all to be "very good" (**Genesis 1:26,28,31**).

There was, therefore, nothing bad in that created world, no hunger, no struggle for existence, no suffering, and certainly no death of animal or human life anywhere in God's perfect creation. (plants were created as food for men and animals). There was no carnivorous activity at that time, for God had said: "And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat, and it was so"

Genesis 1:30 (KJV)

And to every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to every thing that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for meat: and it was so.

Adam was created without sin, but God had given him free will which gave Adam the potential to sin. At first, Adam exercised his will toward God and had fellowship with Him.

God told Adam before Eve was created that he was not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 2:17 (KJV)

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

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Later God created Eve and even Though Adam was in the garden with Eve, the serpent ignored him completely. Instead, Eve ended up being tempted by Satan, in the form of a serpent.

Genesis 3:1 (KJV)

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?

Satan begins the temptation with a question, "Hath God said Ye shall no eat of every tree of the garden?" This is the way of Satan to bring into question what God has plainly stated. It is actually bringing God Himself into question. To question God is to suggest that God could be wrong or have some sinister reason for what He says.

Eve's response was to correct Satan's question, by stating that she and Adam could eat of all the trees of the garden except the one tree called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. It should be noted that she further stated they could not eat or "touch" it lest they die. God had said in **Genesis 2:17**, that they should not eat it. God did not say anything about touching it. This addition to what God had said seems to indicate that Eve resented the fact of God prohibition not to eat of that particular tree. On the other hand, it could mean that she was indicating her understanding that God did not want them to have anything to do with this tree. God said not to eat the fruit, she concluded she shouldn't even touch it. Maybe Adam, knowing eve and being more careful, told eve "don't even touch it". The fact remains eve apparently was under the impression that God had also said not to touch it.

Satan who is the father of lies, then blatantly lies, and tells Eve that she would not die!

Satan tells Eve, that God has withheld the truth from them and that if she eats the fruit of the tree, she would see the truth and they would become like gods. So now Eve deceived by Satan and desiring to be wise, eats of the fruit and Adam eats of the fruit also.

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The Curse

Genesis 3:8-12 (KJV) And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

9 And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

We do not really know if Eve ate the fruit and later gave Adam to eat from it, or they both ate it at the same time, but Adam listened to his wife and allowed her to convince him to be disobedient to God.

The original sin was **disobedience to God.**

It was the death of their innocence. The beginning of sin in their lives. Now they know evil.

Then God said to Adam, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat from it'; Cursed is the ground because of you; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life. "Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field;

Genesis 3:16-18 (KJV) Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee. 17 And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

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18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

22 And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever:

23 Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

24 So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life.

Just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so sin spread through all men” (**Romans 5:12**). The effects of the fall are numerous and far reaching. Sin has affected every aspect of our being. It has affected our lives on earth and our eternal destiny.

Romans 5:12 (KJV) Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

One of the immediate effects of the Fall was that mankind was separated from God. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve had perfect communion and fellowship with God. When they rebelled against Him, that fellowship was broken. They became aware of their sin and were ashamed before Him. They hid from Him (**Genesis 3:8-10**), and man has been hiding from God ever since.

Because of the Fall, death became a reality, and all creation was subject to it. Now, all men die, all animals die, all plant life dies. Death is an inescapable reality, and no one is immune. “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (**Romans 6:23**).

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Another effect of the Fall is that humans have lost sight of the purpose for which we were created. Man's chief end and highest purpose in life is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

Romans 11:36 (KJV)

36 For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen.

1 Corinthians 6:20 (KJV)

20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore, glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 10:31 (KJV) Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

Psalms 86:9 (KJV)

All nations whom thou hast made shall come and worship before thee, O Lord; and shall glorify thy name.

Hence, love to God is the core of all morality and goodness.

The opposite is the choice of self as supreme. Selfishness is the essence of the Fall, and what follows are all other crimes against God.

In all ways sin is a turning in upon oneself, which is confirmed in how we live our lives. We call attention to ourselves and to our good qualities and accomplishments. We minimize our shortcomings. We seek special favors and opportunities in life, wanting an extra edge that no one else has. We display vigilance to our own wants and needs, while we ignore those of others. In short, we place ourselves upon the throne of our lives, usurping God's role.

When Adam chose to rebel against his Creator, Adam lost his innocence, incurred the penalty of physical and spiritual death, and his mind was darkened by sin, as are the minds of his successors.

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The Fall produced in humans a state of depravity. Paul spoke of those “whose consciences are seared” (**1 Timothy 4:2**) and those whose minds are spiritually darkened as a result of rejecting the truth.

1 Timothy 4:2 (KJV)

2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

Romans 1:21 (KJV) Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

In this state, man is utterly incapable of doing or choosing that which is acceptable to God, apart from divine grace. “The sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so” (**Romans 8:7**).

Romans 8:7 (KJV) Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

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The Answer

Due to the curse that Adam and Eve left to this world because of their sin, we start our lives separated from God. With an emptiness within that nothing seems to ever fill. Our souls and spirit continuously searching in secret for something that has long been taken away from us. Like a long-forgotten memory, our spirit yearns to fill this emptiness.

Due to our ignorance and worldly attachments, most search material things like riches and power to fill this emptiness.

Others understand it is spiritual but end up on the wrong path. Some will go from one relationship to another and often using alcohol or drugs or even doing worst things just to try and fill that void.

Sadly, at the end of the day, we come to the realization that this is only a temporary fix and choose to ignore it as long as that emptiness is temporarily suppressed.

In reality, this emptiness that we so much search to fill, is not material or just a feeling like being accepted or loved by a friend, or partner or even our parents. It is spiritual emptiness and this void can only be filled by God. By a purposed driven live. A life with hope and true love that only God can

provide. True fulfillment and true love can only be accomplished and filled by our Heavenly Father through Jesus Christ. All other gods will and can only provide a temporary relief from that emptiness and will NOT give you eternal life.

The only way to completely eradicate this feeling is to repair that separation from God. I mentioned earlier that we search worldly things due to our ignorance and it is the ignorance from the word of God. Ignorance of the love that He has for us and of the great things and promises He has made for us. Our Heavenly Father does not have to prove Himself to us, He is only asking for a chance to show us that He is the creator of all things and our Loving Father and always wants the best for us. As God, He could easily make us love Him, but He chooses to allow us to love Him out of our own free will.

God has provided to us a way to repair that gap. Showing the greatest love of all, by sending His only begotten son to suffer and die on the cross for us, to die for our sins, so that through Jesus Christ our sins can be forgiven and be reborn into His family.

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God has been knocking on our door since we were children. He will continue to do so for all that have not answered that call and for those that have not opened that door and accepted Him in their lives.

Have you answered that call, or have you been looking the other way?

Now, you know the truth and the question at hand is; what is stopping you from a better life? What is stopping you from receiving God's love and what He has in store for you? Is it friends or family, or is it yourself? Wouldn't you want this type of love also for your friends and family?

What is stopping you from giving yourself the greatest opportunity to a better quality and fulfilling life?

Do not wait for anyone to make a decision for you, you are right here, right now and you have a chance to make that big change in your live. A difference that will make a great change in your live for the better and forever.

Maybe you feel scared to take that first step? God does not bring fear into our hearts, so you should know that fear comes from something else that does not want you to reconcile with God.

Thoughts might come of fear of losing everything. What is everything for you at this moment? Friendships, material things, or the sinful life that is at hand? The Lord may take away the little that we have, but He does give it all to us! He will provide all that you need in your live to grow and become the children of God you are meant to be.

There is no real excuse is there?

Jesus Christ wants you to be part of His family and to have eternal life.

1 John 3:1 KJV)

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

“Coming to Christ will bring peace to our hearts, embracing the Gospel makes life more difficult in some ways, because Jesus demands allegiance that takes priority over the natural ties of life”

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Matthew 10:34-39 (KJV)

Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. 35 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother-in-law. 36 And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. 37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. 39 He that findeth his life shall lose it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it.

In our journey with the Lord Jesus, we will learn to understand that the Lord provides opportunities to get to know Him. He has daily words of wisdom He wants to impart to our spirit. The challenge most of us face is that we get so easily distracted by selfish desires that we lose focus on what the Lord desires to do for us and through us.

Since birth He has had us go through door after door and as we walk through each door, there have been blessings given, wisdom imparted and growth manifesting in our life! As He leads us to each door, He stands and waits for us right there, waiting for us to pay attention to Him and waiting for us to ask Him to lead and guide us!

The problem is half the time we don't even see him or see what He is trying to do for us or establish in us! It is very important as God's children to always have our hearts open to Him and to His still soft voice, one bad move can make us lose major blessings and victories to manifest in our life. We must understand that the Lord has an open-door policy to all of his children; He wants us to rely on Him and rely on His direction! Humility and meekness are the keys to seeing major blessings unfold in our life! It is what brings us closer to our Heavenly Father! It's through these acts of humility that we are able to walk right into the doors of our Heavenly Father and receive and be all that the Lord has called for us to be and receive!

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (KJV)

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

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Romans 8:22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. Because of sin, the whole creation groans, waiting for the time when Christ will return to liberate it from the effects of death.

The apostle Paul said of pagans, **Romans 1:28** Since they do not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, He gave them over to a depraved mind.

He told the Corinthians **2 Corinthians 4:4** In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Jesus said, “**John 12:46** I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness. Paul reminded the Ephesians, **Ephesians 5:8** For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light.

The purpose of salvation is **Acts 26:18** To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in Jesus Christ.

Only through Christ can that fellowship be restored, because in Him we are made as righteous and sinless in God’s eyes as Adam and Eve were before they sinned. **2 Corinthians 5:21** 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.

Bottom line, without the supernatural regeneration by the Holy Spirit, all men would remain in their fallen state. But because of God's grace, mercy and loving-kindness, God sent His only begotten Son as the ultimate sacrifice to die on the cross and take the penalty of our sins, reconciling us back to Him and making eternal life with Him possible. Simply put “**what was lost at the fall is reclaimed at the Cross**”.

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