

In The Beginning God . . .

*An In-Depth Study of the
First Three Chapters of Genesis*

All Truth Begins Here



Truth & Consequences

INTRO: The sin of Adam (and Eve) had both immediate and long term consequences. Additionally, those consequences came in the form of both damaged relationships as well as judgment by God.

I. Damaged Relationships

- A. Self-awareness, self-image, and psychological/emotional damage
 - 1. a sense of guilt—real guilt—the conscience is affected and also marred. Guilt generated an immediate reliance on defense mechanisms: rationalization, hiding, blame, projection, dissociation within oneself, to name a few.
 - 2. a sense of shame resulting in a desire to hide from God and from each other
- B. Fractures in the marriage and future horizontal relationships
 - 1. Adam and Eve also covered themselves from each other—there is no human relationship today that is totally transparent (*but then we shall know even as we are known*, I Cor 13:12)
 - 2. Adam and Eve began the blame game immediately and interpersonal harmony turned quickly to interpersonal rivalry:
 - a. your desire shall be for your husband (to control him)
 - b. he will rule over you (dominate and master)
- C. Separation from God and estrangement from His presence
 - 1. they covered themselves with leaves and hid from God among the leaves (but vegetation is not a suitable covering for sin)
 - 2. they were afraid of God and dreaded the judgment they knew they deserved

II. The Judgment of God Upon Sin & The Curse Upon Satan and the Earth

- A. The judgment of God upon the serpent and the hint of hope and victory
 - 1. consigned to a lowly position (consider Lucifer's original state and his fall)
 - 2. the beginning of a constant and protracted battle with the sons of Adam
 - 3. eventual defeat even though some heal bruising will occur
- B. The judgment upon the woman is greatly multiplied pain in childbirth as a reminder and pre-cursor of the pain that would follow the whole human race
- C. The judgment upon Adam: life will become toilsome and it will require great effort just to provide food and shelter
- D. The curse upon the earth: cursed is the ground because of you!
 - 1. there is a judgment upon the planet
 - 2. death comes to conscious life
 - 3. the harmony of nature is disrupted
- E. Banished from the Garden and the Tree of Life—no longer have access to immortality but Adam and Eve will return to the dust from which they were made, as will all of their offspring

CONC: These effects are with us even now and have become increasingly pronounced in humanity. Disease, death, psychological and emotional problems, strife, jealousy, hatred, selfishness, gossip, murder, wars, a world of hostile elements, a planet at unrest—these are the consequences of disobedience to God.

