

Hard Lessons From the Garden of Eden



In the Beginning...

Genesis 1:26-31 KJV

[26] 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. [31] And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Personality, Morality, and Spirituality

Three words to describe what God meant when he created us in his image

The consciousness God placed in us is what we are responsible for in his eyes. It is up to us to seek God and to learn about him. God has made it known to us what is right and what is wrong through his word, therefore when we sin, we sin against an open book. This means we chose to sin because we knew right from wrong, we have no more excuse.

The lessons learned...

1. God is a God of love, and creativity.
2. God intends for us to be productive in our works.
3. God is protective.
4. God will provide all of our needs.
5. Listening to satan is always costly.
6. satan is a deceitful and cunning liar.
7. God keeps his word (...in the day you eat you shall surely die)
8. Disobedience always carries with it pain and disappointment.
9. There are often surprising consequences to our sin.
10. The penalty for our sin cannot be avoided by blaming others.
11. Blaming others for our sin does not release us from the penalty.
12. The desire to please others can be eternally costly.
13. Some sins have lifetime consequences, others eternal consequences.
14. Regret does not erase the penalty of our sin.
15. You cannot hide from God.
16. Sin is costly.



the Consequences...

Genesis 3:17-24 KJV

[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; [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 for ever: [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.



When they sinned from God...

1. **IT PUT THEM AT ODDS WITH NATURE** - what was once easy for Adam and Eve now became work and travail. They would have to work to eat, struggle to survive. Nature became their adversary, something they had to overcome instead of a mutual benefit.
2. **IT PUT THEM AT ODDS WITH EACH OTHER** - because of the temptation, they were pitted against one another. Their love changed towards one another. The bitterness of consequences became strife between them.
3. **IT PUT ADAM AND EVE AT ODDS WITH GOD** - sin immediately separated them from God. What was once holy and loving communion with God became rebellion and death. All of mankind became separated from God and would need to seek forgiveness and repentance in order to get back to God. Man would be lost if left on his own, he was doomed automatically unless he sought forgiveness. We can be saved, but it doesn't mean we won't suffer the consequences caused from our sins.

Genesis 6:6-7 KJV

[6] And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. [7] And the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.

4. **IT PUT THEIR CHILDREN AT ODDS WITH EACH OTHER** - Cain and Abel strove with one another until jealousy raged between them and Cain slew Abel. Cain brought an offering from the field even though blood was a requirement for sacrifice. Abel brought a blood offering which is why God loved Abel. Once sin enters the family, it is passed down forever, it can never go back to perfection.
5. **IT PUT ALL MANKIND AT ODDS WITH GOD** - the perfect union between God and man, was forever altered and could never go back to the way it was. We have all become aware of the knowledge of good and evil and from that point on, would need to make a choice between the two. Sin became an open book by which we are guilty because we now have the understanding of right and wrong.
6. **PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL DEATH BECAME A REALITY** - as a result of sin, we can no longer be in the presence of God. His holiness is now permanently out of our hands and we are left to our own understanding. We can never get back to God on our own, he must forgive our sins in order to allow us back into his presence if we don't, we are separated forever. We die twice.

Genesis 6:5 KJV

And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.