

Genesis 3

I don't know about you but sometimes the wickedness and injustice in this world are almost unbearable to think about at times.

There is just pure evil in this world.

I find myself many nights just asking the Lord, where is the Justice, how can these things go on.

Jess a while ago was telling me of how Communist China treats their children.

If a woman becomes pregnant after having one child, they will imprison that woman until she gives birth, or has an abortion. If she has a live baby, they murder it.

There is no reverence for human life, you are not seen a person with body, mind, and spirit in communism.

You are just another number to control and manipulate.

And China treats their orphans like they are parasites on society.

They leave the babies in rooms to starve to death.

They are wicked, wicked people, and I sometimes can't understand how God can allow this to happen?

I have posted articles in times past with very graphic videos of Christians being beheaded with a knife, while they are alive.

It was gruesome, and merciless, and satanically inspired.

And it is hard for me to reconcile how God can allow men who love Him to go through this kind of torture and pain and often times in front of their families.

The atrocities in this world are endless, and it seems as though evil is winning, and I don't know about you but I often marvel at why this is allowed.

And I wonder why today in our culture are so many youth falling to the trappings of sin?

Why is there so much evil?

Well, when I begin to address these thoughts....

It is then this portion of scripture that is brought to my remembrance by the Holy Spirit, and in this tragic portion of scripture we will get a glimpse at how good, and gracious our God really is.

Even in our failures He will give a hope, a hope of Salvation, that will come by His mighty hand.

So let's begin this tragic story... After everything being created good, we see...

The Temptation and Fall of Man(Rom 5:12-21)

3:1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

So we have an interesting thing happening here.

We know nothing of the pre-curse animal kingdom, except that they were good.

Is it possible that humans and animals communicated pre-curse?

And after the fall, God caused our communication with them to be that of confusion, and now even the domesticated type of animal it is hard work to train and control.

There is an interesting story in [Num. 22:22-33](#)

22 Then God's anger was aroused because he went, and the Angel of the Lord took His stand in the way as an adversary against him. And he was riding on his donkey, and his two servants were with him. 23 Now the donkey saw the Angel of the Lord standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand, and the donkey turned aside out of the way and went into the field. So Balaam struck the donkey to turn her back onto the road. 24 Then the Angel of the Lord stood in a narrow path between the vineyards, with a wall on this side and a wall on that side. 25 And when the donkey saw

the Angel of the Lord, she pushed herself against the wall and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall; so he struck her again. 26 Then the Angel of the Lord went further, and stood in a narrow place where there was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left. 27 And when the donkey saw the Angel of the Lord, she lay down under Balaam; so Balaam's anger was aroused, and he struck the donkey with his staff.

28 Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and she said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?"

29 And Balaam said to the donkey, "Because you have abused me. I wish there were a sword in my hand, for now I would kill you!"

30 So the donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not your donkey on which you have ridden, ever since I became yours, to this day? Was I ever disposed to do this to you?"

And he said, "No."

31 Then the Lord opened Balaam's eyes, and he saw the Angel of the Lord standing in the way with His drawn sword in His hand; and he bowed his head and fell flat on his face. 32 And the Angel of the Lord said to him, "Why have you struck your donkey these three times? Behold, I have come out to stand against you,

because your way is perverse before Me. 33 The donkey saw Me and turned aside from Me these three times. If she had not turned aside from Me, surely I would also have killed you by now, and let her live."

So there very well could be a way for animals to speak, and God after the curse took their way of speaking from them.

Maybe in the case of Balaam God allowed this communication to take place for this certain time.

Maybe He reversed the cursed voice box of this mule for a moment, and we see a glimpse of what was.

It is not certain...

Sometimes I look at my dog Jaxon and I think he really wants to tell me something, but he can only make annoying noises and barks.

I made a huge mistake yesterday my Daughter Sofia is turning 4 in 11 days, and she asked for a puppy.

Now let's see.... we just have gone through so much in the last year, we moved, changed jobs, we had a brand new baby, why not throw a puppy in the midst of our crazy life.

I picked him up in Phelan yesterday, and the ride home we had a little chat about how crazy life is, and how I

expect him to potty train quick, to protect my family as he grows, I even obeyed Jesus in

Mark 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

I preached the gospel to this little guy, and told him our house was a Christian home, as for me and my house we serve the Lord.

And after all of my lectures throughout the evening, this little guy as soon as we go to bed, my wife and I hear a little tinkle on our carpet, I get out of bed, and step in something wet!

I spent an hour teaching him how to use our dog door, and explaining this is where he goes through to use his huge bathroom in the back yard.

And in that moment I had the thought, this is Adam and Eve's fault.

This dog can't understand a word I am saying.

And our peril is this on earth, communication between man and beast has been cursed!

Well anyhow sorry about that journey into my weird thought life.

This serpent at this time can communicate, and it seems the make-up of the serpent was different pre-curse than after the curse.

We will see that he will be doomed to crawl on the ground, and will eat the dust of the earth.

It seems, before the curse, he was attributed to the cattle of the field, and not the creepy things of the ground.

It could very well be standing upright.... Here is an excerpt from Answers in Genesis...

The more logical answer is that the serpent originally had some form of legs or appendages, and these were either lost or reduced (consider how many reptiles crawl on their bellies and yet have legs, e.g., crocodiles). This seems to correlate with the plainest reading of the passage and the comparison of a curse ("on your belly you shall go") as compared with cattle and other beasts of the field, which do have legs.

Thorns and thistles were brought forth due to the curse (physical changes to vegetation); there were physical changes to the man and woman (increased sorrow in childbearing and increased pain in work that has been passed along). There is no reason to assume the serpent didn't undergo physical changes as well—he was a prime culprit.

Snakes do have legs today. They are inside of them. They are vestigial structures....

a mark, trace, or visible evidence of something that is no longer present or in existence

So this cunning creation, crafty and sly was compromised somehow, to be possessed by Satan.

And we know through the scriptural record, Satan fell, because he looked at God and was envious of His position, and Lucifer (the morning star) was removed

from his leading position, as a mighty Cherub, and cast down.

We can conclude that Satan was a created being, the Godhead being the only eternal being.

Satan must have seen this new creation, mankind, and became jealous of the relationship that man and God had.

Satan wanted the worship of man, and he possesses this cunning serpent, as a way to deceive.

We see in Revelation that Satan is referred to as...

Rev 12:9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

And in the garden we see that serpent of old uses the same tactic as he uses today.

He questions the validity of God's Word.

And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

Is that what God said?

Gen 2:15-17 Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the

tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Lucifer begins to plant doubt in the woman's heart and mind.

And this will be his greatest strategy he uses today...

When a young man leaves the protected confines of his parent's faith.

When he begins to start his own life, that serpent of old will whisper in his ear, did God really say..., did God really say you should not drink, did God really say homosexuality is a sin, did God really say Jesus is the only way, did God really say?

And his faith will be shaken, and some of these young adults will run into the way of the wide path.

You know today very few of our young stay on the Narrow path of truth which leads to life.

Did God really say? Beware of this doctrine of justifying sin; it is the way that leads to death!

Let's read on and see the fate of our first parents...

2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; 3 but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said,

'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'

You see Eve did not know God's Word well enough, she added a little to it.

God did not say they could not touch it.

And you can begin to see Satan's darkness starting to take root in Eve's heart.

She is allowing bitterness in, and she in her emotional response to Satan, adds more to the story, exaggerates a little. And we see sin creeping in, in her words.

And here we see lays another danger, as Satan tries to manipulate God's Word, we see adding to its doctrine is just as evil.

When we read Jesus is the Only Way, the Only Truth, The Only Life, and add that Muhammad and Buddha are just other names for the same God, well our addition just became heresy.

When we read Jesus was God, and add He was not the God, but one of many, we have just been guilty of the same deceptive power as we see at work in Eve.

Now look as that envious serpent's plan begins to unfold...

4 Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. 5 For God knows that in the day you eat of it

your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

Satan uses the very thought and motives that got him removed from his place in heaven.

Your God lies, he says, for your God knows you will be a god like Him when you eat of it.

And the Dragon knows if she begins to entertain this thought, that the creation will soon try to exalt herself above the Creator and His Word.

Satan knows if she believes his sly statements, that perhaps this means she will be worshipping him, and this cunning creature will stop at nothing to take God's worship from him.

6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.

So we see the moment Satan takes rule and dominion over this world, the moment man believed Satan's word over God's Word.

This is the defining moment when wickedness took control and rule over the air and earth.

And this moment is why lying, killing, and every form of wickedness prevails on earth.

God's prized creation, most loved creation chose to follow the schemes of the serpent... **1 John 2:16-17**

16 For all that is in the world — the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life — is not of the Father but is of the world.

It is the same format Lucifer used on Jesus when He was led into the wilderness to be tempted, but Satan lost to the One who is God

And Jesus' weapon of choice was the Word of God.

You see Satan will use this pattern for us as well.

He will put a beautiful woman on the computer screen in front of you, he will make her pleasant to your eyes, your flesh will desire to see more, and when God's Word comes back and says don't, you exalt yourself in pride above God's Word and say yes!

This is the misfortune of our race, we will forever be tainted with this cursed body of corruption.

Because what God created as good, and perfect, and that God loved so dearly, turned against God, and chose not to love in return.

Oh the tragedy, the heart break, the devastation.

And as we will see the effects of sin are limitless and passed from one generation to the next.

We will see from this point on Adam and Eve's offspring will now be inherently wicked, and born into Satan's dominion.

This is the serpent's world now, and we are all subject to his plan.

Unless, even after being rejected God can be merciful, unless God, the Creator can somehow save us from our choice of rejecting Him.

We can only anticipate in this tragedy that we can find hope somewhere.

Let's read on...

7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

Something new instantly comes to them, shame, and guilt, they in their humiliation cover the very parts of their body that will produce these sin tainted offspring.

Indeed Satan will have a multitude of worshippers now.

Every child that is produced from this creation will be subject to his authority and his evil plot of being praised.

Unless there can be hope somewhere in this passage, we have not seen it yet.

Man is hopeless up to this point.

So now the Creator will come for His beloved masterpiece, it looks as though He had this special time with Adam and Eve daily, as He comes looking for them.

And it says in...

8 And they heard the sound 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 among the trees of the garden.

9 Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?"

10 So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."

Now we see something new comes with sin, fear.

Fear of consequences.

And every one of you know, when you are in the midst of sin, there is that voice telling you there will be consequences. Don't do it!

Adam knew his rebellion against a God who loved him would come with costs.

God gave warning to this.

And today God still warns us, there is consequences for sin.

Now at this point in the record, we are still looking for hope for man in this encounter.

Maybe if Adam confesses his transgression against God's Word he will find mercy, and the story can move from tragedy to redemption.

Maybe Adam can just come clean...

Let's see...

11 And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?"

12 Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."

And we see again the blunder of the ages.

Perhaps if Adam only confessed the truth the curse would have been milder.

Perhaps if Adam didn't make excuses for his sin, we would not be in the predicament we are in today!

But Adam, like us his children, blame God, and others.

Let's see if Eve does any better as the blame and focus turns to her...

13 And the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

And this has been the unfortunate pattern of mankind since the garden!

Instead of coming before our God humbly, and confessing our sins, crying out for His mercy and Grace, to pardon our sins, we fault others, and we justify our ways.

Can you imagine the healing that would take place in just in our community, if we stopped being like our first Mother and Father, and we confess?

God is all knowing, HE wasn't shocked by their sin, it was their freewill to do so, but the restoration could have been different if in their folly they confessed.

Where is the hope for us now?

We instead of confessing our sin of alcoholism, we say it's not my fault I have a disease.

Instead of confessing our sin of homosexuality, we say I was born this way.

Instead of confessing our sins of adultery, we justify looking at porn, because at least I am not having sex.

And we are a people and a land of excuse and blame shifting.

And we truly are the offspring of this first man and woman who brought this world under the dominion of Satan.

Is there any hope for us?

Is there any salvation, who can save us from this body of corruption?

Maybe we will find it in this text, nothing yet though.

14 So the Lord God said to the serpent:

"Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life.

We see a physical change and position for the serpent.

He is more cursed than any other animal, and on his belly he shall go, every meal he eats will be on the dust of the ground, every mouse he swallows will taste like the dirt it is caught in.

And this is this beautiful creatures plight, and forever will woman and him be at odds as we will see next...

15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

Wow, what is this? A gospel? Some kind of good news?

Now highlight this verse! Finally some hope, and this is all the first man had as a hope.

Do you see the good news in this first gospel?

There at this point is another Kingdom promised to man.

Satan has taken control, and it looks like the final demise for man, forever.

Until that most powerful tool in the universe is used, God's Word.

In which He makes a declaration here, there will one day be a Seed, and know this, the seed is only in the man, the man gives the seed to the women who carries only an egg.

But here in this most wonderful declaration, a Gospel is declared!

There is promised a Seed of only a woman, and this Seed will be the rival Kingdom to this darkness that is ruling this earth.

And this first man and woman now have a choice to believe the Word of the God, and trust that one day a woman would give birth to a King, who came not through a corrupt man, but through a Holy God.

You see the seed of man has inherited evil, it could never produce any kind of salvation.

But One is promised through a virgin, and this Seed will be bruised on a cross, but He will defeat death, and sin, and crush the head of this serpent.

Now this was the only hope for many years, and every godly woman from this day would wonder if she was the one to bring this Holy Seed to earth, that would bring Salvation to a cursed world.

We know this Seed's Name today, for we have the privilege of living in a time that this promise is fulfilled.

And although Satan would like nothing but for you to stay born into his kingdom, Jesus offers a new birth, into a new kingdom.

And the choice is yours!

So now the discourse continues...

Let's look at the repercussions of Adam and Eve's choices.

16 To the woman He said:

"I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you."

Remember she was created from Adam's side; she was on an equal plane with him.

But since she was the first one to fall, she will be under her husband's rule.

If you look at most non-Christian societies, the women are diminished to nothing more than property.

In communist China the baby girls are thrown out as trash.

In Islam they have no more rights than a servant.

So the curse for women would be pain in Child birth, and they would be forever subject to man's rule.

I traveled to Russia last summer on a mission trip.

My father became ill, so I had to lead this group of women.

Now a mission trip for me usually entails tools and a group of men and we go a build something for the Lord.

This trip to Russia had none of this, it was me and one other pastor who led this trip.

And it was an eye opening experience for me.

Woman are emotional creatures, they cry often, over many things, even happy thoughts make them cry, so it leaves us men really confused on how to proceed if there are tears.

Woman communicate on a different plane then men.

You see they talk in spider webs. They don't necessarily complete thoughts or ideas, and it is not unlike them to come back after much time to complete a thought from minutes or even hours before.

We were on the bus, and one of these women did a bible study, and all the ladies were in tears, and touched, I could not understand a word of it.

I asked Pastor Max, who had been doing all the translation for us while we were there, if he could translate woman to man for us.

You know for a man we hear things like no, well it is simple for us, it means no.

These ladies wanted to get into an orphanage and minister to the kids, well the Orthodox Church said no.

Me and the other Pastor were like well that's simple, we can't go.

Not these ladies, they don't see things the way men do, it is not black and white, there are all kinds of other colors they see in.

And no didn't mean no... it meant they just needed to bring gifts and smiles, and the doors would open to them.

And you know what they were right, they got into the orphanage.

I thought about this verse a lot while in Russia, watching these ladies, man will rule over you.

This is a huge thing, because I realized in Russia, women are very brilliant, even more so much of the time than men.

But God's Word is so powerful, and woman from history past have fought this ordinance of God.

They have fought for equality, women's rights, the feminist come demanding more power.

But it seems to come up short every time. Because women by God's Ordinance will be ruled over by man.

I have never met one of these woman who are on this quest for more power who are happy.

It seems their journey leaves them quite mad and frustrated most of the time.

Now I am not a misogynist of any type. Or a women hater.

I have a great respect for woman, but I do know God's Word is very clear, maybe not popular, but very clear.

You know Christianity changed many things for women.

Our doctrine still states the man as head of the household, but only to bring order to a marriage.

Eph. 5:22-33 Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. 28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. 30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. 31 "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

We see a more complete picture here, men are to rule their families with the same love and grace Christ rules the church.

You see that is a great responsibility for man.

And unfortunately man has failed to lead their families in our culture, and many women have had to take a position they were not commanded to take.

So the woman is to be subject to her husband. But even in this curse we have a picture painted for us of the Christ who is to come for His Church.

Look at Adam's curse with me....

17 Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it':

"Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life. 18 Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you,

And you shall eat the herb of the field. 19 In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread

Till you return to the ground,

For out of it you were taken; For dust you are,

And to dust you shall return."

Adam will now be tasked to fight against the ground for his family's provision.

A far cry from this garden that freely provided for him.

For us men, we are to be the providers, this is our consequence, and at the same time our command from the Creator.

To you young men in here, your wife will not be responsible for providing for your family, your mothers are not supposed to carry you, you are to work.

And in this curse we find our fulfillment.

Even in this curse obedience is the key to this life.

Men will fight weeds, and we will sweat for our families, this is your duty.

There are too many excuse makers right now, to many fathers who have not heeded the voice of the Lord to work.

Even in this command they rebel against the Lord.

I remember having this revelation when I was 18, my dad raised me to work, and at 18 he asked me to leave his household to start my own.

Graduation gift. Rite of Passage.

and I realized that for the rest of my days I will work.

But you know what? In this curse man finds fulfillment, and the woman too.

Man on his way to work in the morning is full of dread, but once he engages in the day's tasks, he finds fulfillment, the man on the way home from work, is a completely different man than on the way to work.

At the end of the day we are satisfied, because we understand obedience to God's Word is our satisfaction in this cursed existence.

My wife all through labor was very unhappy with Eve, to say the least, the pain was miserable, and excruciating.

But at the end, she forgot it all, and through the curse, she found a blessing in our babies.

So obedience to God here in the curse, we find blessings.

Now verse...

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

21 Also for Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.

So we see the first blood sacrifice here. Skin to cover their shame.

A sacrifice of an animal, and I imagine it was difficult for Adam to see one of his friends in the garden, that he had named previously, and shared a good creation with, being slaughtered here by the Lord.

I imagine Adam felt the weight of his decision here, as he watched this precious creation be skinned and killed by its Creator, for his mistake.

And we see this is the beginning of sacrifices covering for man's sins.

A temporary covering, and this is all the sacrifices of the old testament were, a temporary covering for sin.

They were to be done in faith, until the Seed promised to a woman was to come, and spill His blood not to simply cover the sin, but to wash it out completely.

Now that this Savior has come, we can take our salvation by faith, our sins completely removed, as far as the east is from the west.

And God will see us Justified- Explain

He will see us as righteous, no more curse working against us.

So next we see the inward dialogue of God, the Trinity in perfect communication with each other in verse...

22 Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And

now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever" — 23 therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. 24 So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.

And because God is merciful, He protected man from living cursed forever.

He guarded the tree of life until the flood, where it seems He transplanted it in the New Jerusalem.

And one day, soon, we will eat of it, in a New Creation, where there will be no more sin, and death.

Rev 22:14-15 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. 15 But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

You see He provided a way, through this promised Seed of a woman, for us to eat freely of the tree of life.

But we have to choose.

He holds before every man who walks this earth death or life, and it is clear those who choose the way of Satan will forever be outside the City.

They will forever live in separation from a Holy God.

So tonight you have a choice, I pray you choose life!

Remember that serpent's tactics as you go out this week, "Did God really say?"

Now your Word, read it daily, it is life, and in it we find the One True God.

We cannot know Him apart from His Word, He is not to be known in the experience, He is not to be known through people, but He has revealed Himself in His Word.

Heb. 4:12-13 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.