

OPREBELLION

A study of where we came from and why it matters in the 21st Century

LESSON 18: Consequences, Part I

Why is the world the muck and mire that it is? Why does man seem to have an extraordinary capacity for good, for wonder, for beauty on the one hand and for evil, anguish, and destruction on the other? If Genesis 1, 2, and 3 are not true, then it's a soul-rending mystery. Because they are true, this fragmented and fractured world in which we live reassembles into a picture of crystal clarity.

As we spent two weeks looking at the Fall of Man, so too will we spend two weeks looking at the consequences of man's rebellion against God. This first week will look at God's proclamations. Week two will focus on how that flesh's out six millennia later.

Read: Genesis 3:8-24

1. In today's reading, what is the first thing man did after sewing the fig leaves? Why do they do that?
2. When confronted by God, what's man's response?
3. God speaks directly to each of the players, Satan, Eve, and Adam. Are they the only one's affected by this singular event? Who and/or what else is affected?
4. In confronting woman, God specifies two challenges she will now face. One deals with the pain of childbirth. Does this mean that childbirth didn't originally cause such great travail?
5. The other deals with her relationship with her husband. At first blush, having a "desire" for your husband doesn't seem like such a bad thing. Read Genesis 4:1-7 focusing especially on verse 7. Does that change your understanding of the curse?
6. Eve's curse affects the family. Notice the sentence God gives to Adam in vv. 17-18. Does it affect Adam directly or indirectly? How do these compare with the commands that God originally gave to man in Genesis 1 and 2?
7. What happened to "you shall surely die?"
8. Explain why Genesis 3:8-24 oozes with the lavishness of God's grace and mercy.
9. In vv. 22-24, God bars the way for man to get to the Tree of Life. Why is this so very important?