

Where Are You? (!)
November 27, 2022

❖ The Command, The Boundaries Established

Genesis 2:15-17 (CSB) “The LORD God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die.”

❖ The Act of Defiance

Genesis 3:6 (CSB), “The woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.”

Matthew 22:37-40 (CSB), “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind:

³⁸ This is the greatest and most important command. ³⁹ The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself: ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands.”

❖ The Moment and The Hiding

Genesis 3:7,8b (CSB), “Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. ⁸ ... and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

❖ God Seeks Them (US) and Confronts Them (Us)

Genesis 3:8a, 9(CSB), “Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze,... ⁹ So the Lord God called out to the man and said to him, “Where are you?”

❖ The Excuse, Pass the Blame, or The Lie

Genesis 3:10-13 (CSB), “And he (*Adam*) said, “I heard you (*God*) in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.” ¹¹ Then he asked, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?” ¹² The man replied, “The woman you gave to be with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate.”

¹³ So the Lord God asked the woman, “What have you done?” And the woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

❖ The Consequences

Genesis 3:16-19 (CSB), “¹⁶He (*God*) said to the woman (*Eve*): I will intensify your labor pains; you will bear children with painful effort. Your desire will be for your husband, yet he will rule over you. ¹⁷ And he said to the man (*Adam*), “Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘Do not eat from it’: The ground is cursed because of you. You will eat from it by means of painful labor all the days of your life. ¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ You will eat bread by the sweat of your brow until you return to the ground, since you were taken from it. “

❖ God's Grace

Genesis 3:22-24 (CSB), “²²The Lord God said, “Since the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil, he must not reach out, take from the tree of life, eat, and live forever.” ²³ So the Lord God sent him away from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ He drove the man out and stationed the cherubim and the flaming, whirling sword east of the garden of Eden to guard the way to the tree of life.”

John 6:35, 51, 53-54 (CSB), “I am the bread of life...No one who comes to me will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in me will ever be thirsty again... ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread he will live forever. The bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh...⁵³ ... Truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life in yourselves. ⁵⁴ The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

Revelations 2:7 (CSB), “Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who conquers, I will give the right to eat from the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.”