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Genesis 3

The third chapter of Genesis is a very important chapter in the book of Genesis and the Bible, in that it provides for us some of the most valuable information regarding Satan, sin, sin nature, temptation, consequences of sin and redemption.

Many universal questions are answered, such as:

- Where did sin come from?
- Who sinned first?
- What is sin?
- Why is sin wrong?
- How is sin atoned for.
- How would the future Redeemer come to be?

Philosophy, psychology and anthropology all study the purpose of man and the problems of man without a belief in God and the Scriptures as the inerrant and infallible revelation of God to man.

Therefore all their observations are accurate, in their study of man but their conclusions are wrong because they exclude God and the revelation of His word as the absolute authority over all truth.

Their proposed wisdom are merely theories that treat symptoms of man's sin-nature rather than the

cause of sin nature, the deceitful and desperate wicked heart of man. Gen. 6:5, Jer. 17:19

Genesis three gives a very rational, logical and Scriptural reason for the evil in the world and the only way sinful man can have hope in God and his ability to live above sin-nature.

3:1-5 The solicitation of Sin by Satan.

- 3:1** The craftiness of the serpent.
- 1) The Serpent became the instrument of Satan's solicitation. Vs. 1a
 - a) They were both naked "arom", the man and his wife, and were not ashamed." Gen. 2:25
 - b) The serpent was more cunning "arum" crafty deceitful than the other animals. Gen. 3:1
 - * There is a direct connection between the two events.
 - c) The shrewdness of the serpent and theirs would bring about ruin to their perfect fellowship with God and themselves.
 - d) The great Dragon the old serpent, called Devil and Satan who deceives the whole world. Rev. 12:9
 - e) He was second to God before his rebellion. Ezk. 28:12-15

- f) His threats to God are recorded in Isaiah. Is. 14:12-19
- g) The result was two wills in the universe.
- 2) Satan's first attack was to bring doubt to God's word, hath God said. . . Vs. 1b-d
 - a) There must be a transforming of our minds. Rom. 12:1-2
 - b) There must be a casting down of every imaginations against God. 2Cor. 10.4-5
 - c) Paul expressed his real concern to the Corinthians, "But I fear, lest by any means..." 2Cor. 11:3
- 3) Some Christians become the instruments of Satan, thinking they are doing God service.
 - a) By doing something that would appear to be good and commendable when in fact it opposes God's plans or purposes.
 - b) Peter is a perfect example as he attempted to stop Jesus from going to Jerusalem to be crucified. Matt. 16:21-23
 - c) By murmuring and complaining about ministry, discouraging people as Israel in the wilderness.
 - d) By opposing the leadership of church as Korah. Num. 16

- e) Not willing to stand behind the decisions that have risk, yet directed by God, discouraging the people of God, as took place with Caleb and spies. Num. 13

- 3:2-3** The careful deviation of the woman.
- 1) Woman gave place and attention to Satan rather than talking to God or her husband, she took the bait. Vs. 2a
 - 2) Eve misquoted omitting the word "every". Vs. 2b, Gen. 2:16-17
 - * Submit yourselves therefore to God, resist the Devil and he will flee from you . . . Ja. 4:7-8
 - 3) Eve added to God's word, "nor shall you touch it". God. Vs. 3
 - a) She is speaking from her own authority.
 - b) She has move away from God to the serpent's mindset by not referring the covenant God Yahweh but only God "Elohim" as Satan.
- 3:4** The clever suggestion on the dishonesty of God.
- 1) Satan's second attack was to bring a charge against the integrity of God, "You will not surely die."
 - 2) God can not be trusted.

3:5 The clear accusation of the selfishness of God.

- 1) Satan's third attack was on the goodness and righteousness of God.
 - a) God knows your eyes will be open
 - b) You shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.
- 2) Satan was saying that the motive of God had an ulterior motive.
 - a) He is a liar and father of it. Jn. 8:44
 - b) As a roaring lion.... 1Pet. 5:8
 - c) That wicked one "poneros". 1Jn. 5:18
 - d) Satan and his angels can transform themselves in angels of light. 1Cor. 11:14-15
 - e) We are to stand against wiles "stratagems" of the devil. Eph. 6:11

3:6-8 The succumbing to sin by Eve and Adam.

3:6 The subtle deception of sin.

- 1) The step of enticement to sin.
 - a) She saw the tree was good, the lust of the flesh.
 - b) She saw the tree was pleasant to the eye, the lust of the eye.
 - c) She saw the tree desirable to make one wise, the pride of life.
 - * 1Jn. 2:16
- 2) What Is sin?

- a) Sin is unbelief In God's revealed word. Jn. 16:9
- b) Sin is missing the mark by virtue of weakness. Rom. 3:23
- c) Sin is doing something apart from faith. Rom.14:23
- d) And no one is exempt from it!
- e) Eve sinned being deceived and Adam transgressed knowing what he was doing, sinning against the light and love of God. 1Tim. 2:14
- f) The mistake of trusting in oneself to know better than God.
- g) Satan is the god of this world and we are not to be ignorant of his strategies! 2Cor. 4:4, Eph. 6:11

3:7-8 The results of sin.

3:7 The fellowship of Adam and Eve was ruined.

- 1) Eyes were open and knew they were naked knowledge of good and evil
- 2) They attempted to cover their nakedness with fig leaves, knowing they had lost what God had given them, being guilty and ashamed.
 - a) They were no longer in the nakedness of innocence but sinful judgment. Gen. 2:25

- b) Barnhouse said, perhaps it could have been a splendor of glory in light.
- c) It meant spiritual death regarding fellowship, with God. Eph. 2:1
- d) They came to know good and evil by experience rather than obedience.
 - 1)) They lost abundant life. Jn. 10:10
 - 2)) No one can hid from God. Ps. 139:7-12

3:8 The fellowship with God was severed.

- 1) And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, yet all was not well in the Garden. Vs. 8a
 - a) Their guilt and shame kept them from coming before God as they always had, the oneness was broken.
 - b) Walking is symbolic of fellowship and oneness.
- 2) And Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. Vs. 8b
 - a) They both hide from God out of fear, knowing they had chosen to act as their own god.
 - b) The warning and promise of spiritual death had occurred and physical death was now in affect and would follow. Gen. 2:17; Ch. 5

- c) Their nature was affected intellectually, morally and spiritually by knowing good and evil resulting in a sinful nature.
 - 1)) Now Adam was not able to not sin!
 - 2)) Augustine said, “posse non peccare” able not to sin, prior to the fall, but after the fall man became “non posse non peccare” not able not to sin.

3:9-13 The confrontation of Sin by God.

- 3:9** The cross-examination of Adam by God.
 - 1) The voice was one of a loving Father, not of a tyrannical authoritarian.
 - 2) God wanted Adam to examine his relationship to God having sinned.
 - a) Where art thou? Spiritually speaking he was dead to the fellowship with God.
 - b) Take note that God sought out Adam

- 3:10** The self justification of Adam.
 - 1) Adam deals with the symptom of sin, shame and guilt, rather than the cause, sin.
 - 2) The symptoms of sin were the consequence of disobeying God.

- 3) Adam should have said, “I sinned and repent!” Jn. 1:9

3:11 The self-incrimination of Adam.

- 1) God seeks clarification, “Who told you that you were naked?”
- 2) God was attempting one more time to bring conviction and hear confession.

3:12 The selfish accusation of Adam.

- 1) Adam gives a justification and blames Eve directly.
- 2) Adam then blames God indirectly.
 - a) Let no man say, I am tempted of God.... Ja. 1:13
 - b) God will always give to us the way of escape. 1Cor. 10:13

3:13 The cross-examination of Eve.

- 1) The woman is confronted next and though she relates truth of how it happened, she did not confess either.
- 2) She follows her husbands example and blames the serpent of deception.
- 3) She justifies her eating to the deception.
 - a) Though she was beguiled by the serpent yet she exercised her free-will to disobey what she knew of truth sinning against the love and light of God. 2Cor. 11:3
 - b) The fall is attributed to Adam was not deceived, but the woman being

deceived was in the transgression.
1Tim. 2:14

4) Sin by experience tends to:

- a) Destroys my fellowship with God.
- b) Blinds me regarding the immediate and long term consequences because I have me in mind.
- c) Violates the word and holiness of God, resulting in fear, shame and guilt.

3:14-19 The judgment of sin by God.

3:14 The verdict of the serpent.

- 1) God first deals with the serpent who was the instrument and curses more than the other animals.
 - a) Defamed the character of God.
 - b) Deceived the woman and man.
- 2) The one being addressed is Satan, Lucifer, the one who dwelt in heaven second to God, a cherub who had rebelled and took one-third of the angels with him. Is. 14; Ezk. 28; Rev. 12
 - * The serpent is the symbol of evil in Scripture.
- 3) The reference to “On your belly you shall go”, is the curse, indicating abasement or humbling of the individual.
 - * The implication could indicate that the serpent walked up right before the fall, even though some object to it.

- 4) The reference to “And you shall eat dust all the days of your life”, speaking of defeat, degradation and submission. Ps. 72:9; Mic. 7:17

* The interesting thing is that in the millennium the dust shall be the serpent’s meat, being the only one not to be restored to its original creation. Is. 65:25

3:15 The spiritual power struggle and promised Redeemer.

- * Here God deals with the power or source of the deception, Satan.
- 1) There would be enmity between Satan and the woman refer to just God’s people and the unbelievers.
 - 2) There would be enmity between Satan’s seed and her seed.
 - a) The promise of the virgin birth is for a woman to bear a child without a man, she has no seed, but an egg. Is. 7:14
 - b) In fullness of time God sent.... Gal. 4:4
 - c) The woman brought forth a man child, Christ. Rev. 12:5
 - 3) The seed (Messiah) shall bruise Satan’s head, speaking of authority
 - a) Christ was manifested to destroy the works of **the** Devil. 1Jn. 3:8

- b) Christ destroyed him who had the power of death, that is, the devil. Heb. 2:14
 - c) Christ made an open display of his triumph over Satan and his angels. Col. 2:15
- 4) Satan shall bruise Christ’s heel, a temporary wound.
- a) He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities. Is. 53:5
 - b) God made Him to be sin.... 2Cor. 5:21

* Notice where there should have been judgment, there was first blessing, in the promise of

3:16 The verdict of the woman.

- 1) Third, God deals with the woman
- 2) Sorrow and pain in child birth
- 3) He desire would be to her husband and he would rule over her.
 - a) Some say it refers to the woman’s submission and sexual desire for her husband.
 - b) But that was the original design, this is the curse, so it must refer to the opposite
 - c) The word “desire” appears only three times in the Old Testament.
 - 1) The next is in reference to sin's desire to master Cain. Gen. 4:7

2)) Son. of Sol. refers to sexual desire.
Son. Sol. 7:10

- d) So what I believe is referred here is the natural desire of the woman to usurp the man's authority and the natural desire of the man to rule over the woman resulting from the fall. (The battle of the sexes)

3:17-19 The verdict of the man.

3:17a-b The sin of Adam.

- 1) Fourth is Adam who is dealt with
- 2) ground is cursed, in sorrow he would eat, perhaps remembering the perfect creation.

3:17c-18 The curse on the earth.

- 1) Thorns and thistles would appear.
 - a) Rom. 8:22 creation groans in travail and pain
 - b) Matt. 27:29 Christ was crowned with a crown of thorns, the curse.

3:19 The continuous toil and death in man's temporal existence.

- 1) The difficult life outside the Garden.
- 2) Man would have to labor for his food .
- 3) Man would die physically and return to the dust.

3:20-24 **The propitiation for sin for reconciliation.**

3:20-21 The reconciliation of Adam and Eve to God.

3:20 The act of faith by Adam in the promise of redemption.

- 1) Adam names His wife Eve.
- 2) He names her after her part in creation in marriage, the mother of all living.

3:21 The cleansing of Adam and Eve's sin.

- 1) God made atonement for Adam and Eve's sin, because sin has to be atoned.
 - 2) An innocent, spotless animal paid for their sin blood provided the atonement.
- * The became the principle of atonement.

Lev. 17:11, 14

- a) All Old Testament sacrifices prefigured Christ. Jn. 1:29
 - b) Is. 64:6 all our righteousness are as filthy rags.
- 3) God provided a manner for man to approach God without fear, shame or guilt.

3:22 The plan of the Trinity to protect Adam from the tree of life in the Garden of Eden.

- 1) God protects man from himself lest he enter the garden and eat of the tree of life and live in the fallen nature eternally.
- 2) God having provided and prophesied of the Messiah, He insures it.

3:23 The expelling of Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden.

- 1) Man is expelled from Eden to till the ground,
- 2) Man was created from the earth.

3:24 The provision by God to secure the tree of life in the Garden of Eden.

- 1) God drove man out.
- 2) God placed Cherubim at the east of the garden.
 - a) Perhaps the place of meeting with God.
 - b) The angelic beings are all around God's throne. Rev. 5:6
 - a) Two cherubim stood on either side of the mercy-seat of the ark where God would meet and commune with the High Priest. Ex. 25:18
 - b) They were embroidered in the curtains and veil of the tabernacle. Ex. 26:1, 31
 - c) Ezekiel describes them with four faces of a man, lion, ox and eagle with four wings. Ezk. 1:4, 10, 12

- 2) God put a flaming sword that turned every way, in order to keep the tree of life available to man in the person of Christ.

* 1Pet. 2:24; Rev. 2:7; 22:2, 14

#2165 The Heart

- * The heart is a hard-working marvel. It can keep on beating automatically even if all other nerves were severed. And what a beat!
- * It beats an average of 75 times a minute, forty million times a year, or two and a half billion times in a life of 70 years. At each beat, the average adult heart discharges about four ounces of blood. This amounts to three thousand gallons a day or 650,000 gallons a year
- * Enough to fill more than 81 tank cars of 8,000 gallons each.
- * The heart does enough work in one hour to lift a 150-pound man to the top of a three-story building, enough energy in twelve hours to lift a 65-ton tank car one foot off the ground, or enough power in seventy years to lift the largest battleship afloat completely out of the water.