

From Creation to New Creation

Genesis 3:8-24

“Paradise Lost” – February 20, 2022



Introduction

Shame is the deep sense that you are unacceptable because of something that you did or something that was done to you or associated with you. Shame makes you feel worthless, unlovable, and filthy. Shame comes into our life because of sin we commit.

Shame can also come because of sin committed against us. Being betrayed by a spouse, or verbally assaulted by a parent can make you feel worthless.

There are times when we should feel ashamed, but living in shame for years can be hurtful. The world gives us different solutions to get rid of the shame, but it's still there. We still feel depressed, angry and unclean. How do we get rid of shame for good?

Pray

Before you begin, take some time to ask God to help you understand His word, to reveal what needs to change in you, and for the grace to follow Him in response. To help, use [Psalm 119:33-40](#) as a prayer for God to open His word up to you.

Sermon Outline

1. Leave your hiding place and come to God Vs. 8 – 14
2. Lean into God's purpose for your pain. Vs. 15 – 19
3. Look to the future with hope. Vs. 20 – 24

Read & Discuss

1) Read 3:8-14

Satan is a liar. Adam and Eve took the bait, and now their life is filled with shame, regret, and remorse. Satan tempts us. Our sinful flesh tempts us. The world tempts us to give into temptation saying that it will be good for you – better for you. As soon as we take the bait, Satan turns on us and become our accuser. At the end of chapter 2, Adam and Eve were not ashamed. Now they are. They have a guilty conscience. ([Proverbs 28:1](#))

Confronted by God, Adam points the finger and blames God and Eve. Then Eve follows her husband's example and blames the servant. We do the same thing to get the spotlight off of our responsibility. Blaming is another way of hiding.

Confession means to admit your fault. It means to agree with God. No excuses – no hiding – no blaming. Confession is part of what it means to come to God. It means that we come into the light. We confess to God but the Bible also says that we confess to each another. ([James 5:16](#)) We need help to fight our sin. We need the help of our church family to overcome sin's deceit.

Where are you tempted to blame? Where and how are you defensive when what you need to do is confess? Is there another Christian to whom you can confess sin? How has that helped you overcome sin's deceit currently or in the past?

Additional Reading: Proverbs 15:29; Acts 19:18; James 5:16

2) Read 3:15-19

God is patient. His patience gives us time to repent. In these verses, He responds to the serpent, the woman (Eve) and to Adam explaining the consequence of their actions.

We're born into this world having taken the wrong side. We are spiritually dead - unresponsive to God. ([Ephesians 2:1](#)) And now, creation is groaning. Things go wrong. We get sick. Conflict increases. Bad things happen. In the end, we all die.

A curse is the opposite of blessing. To curse means to invoke harm, invoke injury on something. Here, God only curses the serpent and the ground. God never cursed Adam or Eve in Genesis 3. He curses the ground and the serpent because it is His desire is to lead them back to blessing. The path out of the pit of shame is to lean into God's purpose for our pain. God's wise purpose in His solemn words of verses 14-19 is to draw us back to His loving heart.

When things go wrong, do you wonder where God is? What is He doing? What is the purpose? Can you see how God has used pain to bring you into the light?

Additional Reading: Romans 8:18:30

3) Read 3:20-24

Adam finds hope in what God has said in verses 14-19. He gives his wife a new name - Eve - which means "living." In [3:15](#), God tells them that it is her offspring who will crush the serpent's head. This is the first announcement of the good news. Here, God is giving the gospel! Life would still have pain, but trusting God, Adam could look to the future with hope. So can we!

In the New Testament, the woman's offspring would be identified at Jesus. ([John 1:29](#)) When Jesus died on the cross in our place, He took our shame and our sin and paid the penalty for our guilt as a substitute. Now, we can have sweet, unhindered fellowship with God. He is able to do that because He doesn't just cover sin, He removes sin. He takes our sin and gives us His righteousness.

God desires to bless you. The only way to experience it now is to come into the light, be honest about and confess your sin and come to God through Jesus.

Do you see God's heart in Genesis 3? Are you emboldened to leave your hiding place and come to God? How does seeing His purpose for your pain help you look to the future with hope?

Additional Reading: Exodus 26:31-34; Hebrews 2:14-15; John 10:10; Galatians 3:13-14

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to com.

If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at

<https://fbcum.org/sermons-new/>

***Next week's sermon text:** we turn to [Genesis 4:1-16](#) "A Family Feud"