

Scriptural Truths

E-Mail Meditations

The Lord Will Come . . . Perhaps Today . . . Behold, I Come Quickly . . . Rev. 22:7

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There's A Way Back To God

Introduction

In the Book of Romans the holy apostle begins by viewing himself as a physician diagnosing a disease and then prescribing the remedy. He also approaches the problem being viewed as a criminal lawyer bringing forth the evidence and showing the universal unchangeable guilt of the individual. This he does from three avenues of truth:

- a) The first, evidence being what an individual automatically does, they sin.
- b) The second, with our sinful parentage.
- c) The third, for want of a better term, a defective gene within us all. This defective gene has metastasized throughout the entire person, spirit, soul and body. Furthermore, it intensified in its power as time goes on with each individual. It is called "sin". The fact is, we can do nothing about these three things. We cannot break the habit of sinning, nor can we separate ourselves from our sinful parentage, nor divest ourselves from this deforming gene within us.

Where did it all begin and what were its characteristics when it first appeared on earth?

It all began when humanity did four things:

- a) There was a refusal to believe the warning of God and accepted the lies of the devil.
- b) There was a changing of that which God had said.
- c) There was the taking that which the serpent said as truth.
- d) There was the rebellion against the government of God.

Where are we today?

Today the governments of the world are in complexity concerning the rebelliousness that is rampant in so many cities. Murders and raping is rampant as is all aspects of destruction. Little babies are pulled apart by the thousands and so many ask two questions: "How did things get this way?" and "Can things get any worse?" As I read of the automatic results of this defective gene back when man first sinned, I see the same today only on a much larger scale and more pronounced. The root cause was not and is not a lack of knowledge or an accident.

- a) God had said: "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:16-17).
- b) However, despite his knowledge, Adam deliberately chose present creation over God. He chose to disobey God and rebel against the governmental command of God. When an individual has no fear to rebel against the Most High, or in taking His name in blasphemy or rejecting His only way of salvation, that individual is in a state of rebellion against the Most High. Then the question is: "Who is he or she siding with?"

- c) When humanity has no fear of the divine government, there will be no fear in rebelling against the government of man, the workplace, the educational system, or in the home. A generation of insolent rebels and little children rule the home.

When sin entered the world, humanity refused to take any responsibility for what they had done. I stand amazed at the words of Adam who said, "The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat" (Gen. 3:12). Let's not miss what he is saying. Adam is telling God it is his fault he took of the fruit. It was because of the woman you gave me! Poor Adam, he just could not help it, if only God had not given him the woman everything would have been first class, he could not be blamed for that which originated from God! What a display of refusing to take responsibility. Eve was no better. She blamed the serpent saying, "The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat" (Gen. 3:13). At least she told the truth, the serpent did beguile her, but she did not take responsibility for what she did.

- a) This is what we have today. "Nothing is my fault", people are destroying businesses and taking that which does not belong to them but it is not their fault. It was because they did not have good upbringing, or it was their teachers who told them to build your self confidence, or New Age teaching that "you are god and no one can tell you what to do". There is no such a thing as "Right or Absolute" today, so if a thing makes you feel good then do it.

There was a changing of that which God had said.

- a) God in very distinct words spoke to Adam. There was nothing complicated about them: "And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Gen. 2:15-16). God provided man with all the best of food, a very relaxing job of being a gentleman farmer, and no doubt a beautiful wife. The only prohibition was, "Do not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil". Amid the orchard of delightful fruit trees, the like of which we have never tasted, one would think man would be satisfied. Then with Adam beside her (Gen. 3:6) the serpent began to speak to Eve. Adam was right there, he abdicated his position of headship and protection. Now watch the wording:
- i) Satan started off with an apparent agreeing with that which God had said saying, "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" (Gen. 3:1). That is what God said and Eve by agreeing or accepting what he said as truth, lost the first round.
 - ii) Then Eve changes what God said by adding to it saying, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die" (Gen. 3:3). She added "neither shall ye touch it." God did not say that.
 - iii) Then she modified God's absolute for God said, "Thou shalt surely die" and Eve changed it to "Not eat of it LEST ye die".
 - iv) Then Satan said, "Ye shall not surely die" (Gen. 3:3). The serpent did three things:
 1. He intimidated God was holding something worthwhile back.
 2. That the threats of God were only words, "He did not really mean it".
 3. Finally, he promised a life enrichment course in which she would be as God (Gen. 3:5).

[What were the results?](#)

Their eyes were opened (Gen. 3:7) and immediately they knew something had happened. They had lost something and they knew they were naked. It is, to my mind, the glory they had as a covering was gone and being aware of it's absence, they sought to use creation to hide themselves. At the moment of Adam's rebellion there was the awareness that fellowship with God had been broken and nothing could be humanly done to restore the broken fellowship or give back the glory they had. They tried the putting together of fig leaves but that was insufficient, then they tried to hide from God in the trees of the garden. Then the Voice of God was heard, "Adam, where art Thou?" (Gen. 3:9). That voice which heretofore was so sweet they did not want to hear. Like a child who has eaten the cookie mother told him not to eat, he loves mother's voice but not this time because he is guilty of disobedience. Can fellowship with God ever be restored? Can an awareness of disobedience against God ever be quieted and its punishment removed? Thank God a thousand times over it can.

[How can man be brought back into fellowship with God?](#)

When we consider the justice of God and the punishment that was our due, God's mercy and grace is beyond comprehension. Because of my sins I deserved to be forsaken by God in the Lake of fire, no hope of any release, no ray of light forever, utterly without and only unspeakable grief and nothing to give ease for all eternity. It is so dreadful to think upon, and yet thousands today think that if they make themselves a covering of good works, penance, prayers, or

being a good neighbour, all will be well. God warns, “the wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23), but He offers a full and free deliverance and reconciliation through the cleansing and restoring work of Christ at Calvary. On that cross in the three hours of darkness Christ bore our forsakenness. He was forsaken by God as God brought down on Him the execution of divine justice. He suffered for one hundred and eighty minutes of unspeakable agony. He suffered my hell and now offers to every individual a righteous pardon, a perfect cleansing, a full reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:20). It's a gift and all one has to do is receive it (Acts 10:43). Heaven will be filled with those who cast aside the fig leaves of good works and accepted God's gift, the garment of salvation from the Son of God. Hell will be full of those who rejected God's Son's gift and depended on the fig leaves of good works.

. . . Rowan Jennings

**SALVATION IS NOT YOUR
GOOD WORKS, RELIGION
OR RITUALS,
IT'S GOD'S WORK
ON THE CROSS.**

*For by grace are ye saved through faith;
and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:
Not of works, lest any man should boast.
Ephesians 2:8-9 KJV*

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