

Sermon Discussion

21 February 2021

Read Genesis 3:20-24 together.

Dig Deeper

In the aftermath of the Fall, we see God's kindness on display as He promises hope to creation. In the middle of the pain and sorrow of the Fall, God makes a promise and a sacrifice which foreshadow the eventual sacrifice of Christ.

First, God makes a glorious promise of hope in Genesis 3:15. This is often called the "*Protoevangelium*", the first announcement of the Gospel, because in this verse, we see God promising that the serpent who led Adam and Eve into disobedience and sin will be destroyed. One day, an offspring will come into the world and will be bruised by the serpent, but ultimately, He will bruise the head of the serpent. In this promise, God foretells the coming Christ, who through His death will defeat Satan, the enemy of God.

Second, God makes a glorious sacrifice in Genesis 3:21. Out of a great love for Adam and Eve, God provides them "*garments of skin and clothed them.*" In this simple act, we see the beauty of the Gospel foretold. In order to provide the garments of skin, God had to kill an animal, making this the first picture of sacrificial atonement in the Bible.

We see from the very beginning that the wages of sin is death, and that in order to be reconciled to God a sacrifice has to be made for sin.

1. What is hope? Why is hope important for the Christian life?
2. How do you think Adam and Eve felt when God gave them garments of skin? What does this reveal about God's character?
3. Read Ephesians 1:13-14. What does this say about having security in Christ? Why would this be an important concept for discipleship?
4. In what ways can you be more diligent to set your hope on the Gospel?

Application & Prayer

- Pray about how you could you bring the hope of the gospel to your friends, family, and neighbours.
- Meditate of this verse: "*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*" -Romans 8:35, 38-39