

THE GLORY OF GOD

Week 5 – The Self-Revelation of God – Gen. 3-5

October 8, 2024

The glory of God – the weightiness of God...

ALL God's attributes exist and operate simultaneously at all times – at every moment throughout eternity!

Have we grasped that God has revealed His glory and continues to reveal His glory in His creation...so that no one has an excuse NOT to believe God?

Our FOCUS in this lesson: grasping what God has revealed to mankind concerning HIMSELF and His plan for mankind – per the BIG PICTURE of REDEMPTION!

Following sin entering the world, God REVEALED to Adam judgment – the consequence of man's disobedience....

Gen. 3:16 - *To the woman He said: 'I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children; your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.'*

Gen. 3:17-20 - *Cursed is the ground for your sake; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. ¹⁸ Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. ¹⁹ In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and to dust you shall return. ²⁰ And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.* Adam named his wife "LIVING"!! Eve means living. There is HOPE!!!

Following God's words of justified judgment as Adam and Eve had rebelled against and offended God, our gracious and merciful God provided the blood!

Gen. 3:21 - *Also for Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.* In lieu of the fig leaves they crafted for themselves – aka good works.

The first physical death should have been the immediate death of man and his wife...but it was an animal. What message was being declared?

- Someone sins – there must be death. (Rom. 6:26 – *the wages of sin is death*)
- We're understanding a substitutionary death in this verse. An innocent animal taking the place of one who sins.
- And, we're understanding that blood was shed.

And then, because of God's holiness and love, we read...

Gen. 3:22-24 - *Then the Lord God said, 'Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever' (In mercy, God protected Adam and Eve from the horrible fate of having to live forever as sinners by preventing them from eating from the tree of life) — ²³ therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. (Perhaps they were wondering if they'd ever see God again because it was only in Eden where they had met with Him) . ²⁴ So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden (cherubim are always associated with the presence and glory of God [Isa. 6; Eze. 10; Rev. 4]. When cherubim are represented on earth, such as in the tabernacle, Ex. 25:10-22, they mark*

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a meeting place with God. How so? Ex. 25:19, 22 - Make one cherub at one end, and the other cherub at the other end; you shall make the cherubim at the two ends of it of one piece with the mercy seat... And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel – because God wanted the children of Israel to know, His revelations of Himself...His glory

...and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life. A flaming sword? Protecting entrance into the Garden of Eden. WHY? God protected sinners from eating from the tree of life. WHY? After man rebelled, God could not allow access to the tree of life to sinful man. In God's mercy, He kept A&E away from the fruit of the tree of life that would make them immortal...living forever in their sinful condition. A flaming sword that revolved? Was this the glory of God seen as light...as fire? Might this be telling us that Adam and Eve still had access to the presence of God – surrounded by the cherubim at the east of Eden...by the flaming sword?

What was God revealing? How much did Adam and Eve realize?

Gen. 3:15 - *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.* The seed of the woman implies a birth.

Eve's response when she gave birth to her first son, Cain...

Gen. 4:1 - *Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, "I have acquired a man: the Lord...Jehovah.* In Hebrew the verse reads: *I have gotten a man: Jehovah.* Eve appears to have understood from the prophecy in Gen. 3:15 that Satan would be defeated by God through the offspring of a woman – through a God-Man. We know, from hindsight, that a supernatural birth is understood in this prophecy. Eve appears to be taking God at His word. She understood God's promise but not all the details. The timing wasn't God's timing! Eve was believing that the promise was to be fulfilled immediately. This wasn't a virgin birth. Cain was certainly not the God-man!!

I have gotten a man: Jehovah - Eve called her firstborn son "Cain" which means "gotten" or "acquired". The name "Cain" basically meant, *I've got him* or *Here he is*. Eve, it seems, believed that the resolution for sin would come through her. She understood herself as the woman who would give birth to the deliverer. I imagine that Adam and Eve longed for the resolution of sin! How quickly Eve must have been disappointed. Eve was soon to realize, after Cain killed Abel, that Cain was not the One Who would carry out the promise of God.

What did Adam and Eve relay to their sons about their time in the Garden with God? Did they tell Cain and Abel about their having fashioned fig leaf coverings for themselves? Did they share that God took one of the animals – one of the beasts Adam named and that they were given the responsibility to nurture – and God removed that animal's breath and a red substance came spilling out? Did they speak of the garden where God walked with them – where God sent beings to guard the entrance after they rebelled?

We read only of two sons of Adam and Eve: Cain and Abel. There were others. God had commanded Adam and Eve to “Be fruitful and multiply”. From where did all the “multiples”

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come? Sisters and brothers! The law against incest had not been commanded by God until Lev. 18:6-18.

Gen. 4:2-4 - *Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. ³ And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. ⁴ Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat.* At the beginning of God dealing with mankind, sacrifices are introduced because God had sacrificed an animal in the garden. (Sacrifice is the appointed way of approaching and worshipping God in that day)

Gen. 4:4b-5 - *And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, ⁵ but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry and his countenance fell.*

Gen. 4:4-5 – Abel’s offering was an animal. Blood would be shed. It was the firstborn of his flock. That was a sacrifice. Did Abel know that he would have additional sheep? No. But he offered his best to God. God respected Abel...God respected Abel’s heart attitude toward God.

Cain brought “an” offering. The text doesn’t read that it was the best offering. There was no blood in what Cain offered. Perhaps Cain had disdain for God’s instruction and brought what he wanted to bring – some of his crop. And, Cain’s heart attitude? Cain was not repentant.

Heb. 11:4 - *By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous (in a right relationship with God), God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.* Abel’s heart attitude/motivation continued to speak of a relationship with the Lord from that time through to today...and moving forward.

I John 3:12 – we read of Cain...*Cain who was of the wicked one and murdered his brother. And why did he murder him? Because his works were evil and his brother’s righteous.*

God pursued Cain...

Gen. 4:6-7 - So the LORD said to Cain, 'Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.'

God lovingly confronted Cain. God warned Cain that if he chose not to obey God's commands the ever-present sin was lying at the door and would overpower him. Sin has a desire to devour us. Our ruling over sin, I'm suggesting, is found in submitting to God as our Master! Cain rejected God's word and was not sorrowful. Cain did not repent. Cain murdered his brother Abel. Sin ruled over him.

And we see more clearly the consequences of sin.

In Cain and Abel we understand two people groups within "mankind" – the wicked (I John 3:12) – his destiny - Gen. 4:16 - *Then Cain went out from the presence of the LORD and dwelt in the land of Nod* (wandering; flight; unrest – the destiny of those who flee from the presence of God) *on the east of Eden*. Notice the sins in Cain's line: polygamy (first time recorded) and murder. The righteous and they are presented to us within the context of a right offering God and the right heart attitude.

And then...

*Gen. 4:25-26 - And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, 'For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.'*²⁶ *And as for Seth, to*

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him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.

Abel was the descendant/seed through whom "the" Seed of the woman would come. God "appointed" another seed for Eve, Seth, whose name means "appointed." Through Seth the One

would come Who is “the” Seed. We read Jesus’ genealogy through Mary in Luke 3:38 – that Seth is the son of Adam, the son of God!

Seth’s son was Enosh whose name means mortal/frail. Here is the recognition that God is God and man is NOT! Physical death is understood. Man is frail.

God’s plan of redemption continues to unfold. With the understanding of man needing to depend upon God, we read ...*Then men began to call on the name of the LORD...*for mercy and grace!

Gen. 5:5-11 - ...*all the days that Adam lived were nine hundred and thirty years; and he died.* ⁶*Seth lived one hundred and five years, and begot Enosh.* ⁷*After he begot Enosh, Seth lived eight hundred and seven years, and had sons and daughters.* ⁸*So all the days of Seth were nine hundred and twelve years; and he died.* ⁹*Enosh lived ninety years, and begot Cainan.* ¹⁰*After he begot Cainan, Enosh lived eight hundred and fifteen years, and had sons and daughters.* ¹¹*So all the days of Enosh were nine hundred and five years; and he died.* What is the common denominator among men? Re: each man it is said, *and he died.*

Message through Adam’s genealogy through to Noah

<u>Hebrew</u>	<u>English</u>
Adam	Man
Seth	Appointed
Enosh	Mortal
Kenan	Sorrow
Mahalalel	The Blessed God
Jared	Shall Come Down
Enoch	Teaching
Methuselah	His death shall bring
Lamech	The despairing
Noah	Rest/comfort

Man is appointed mortal sorrow. The blessed God shall come down teaching. His death shall bring the despairing rest.

Once again, in the midst of judgment and death, God's GRACE prevails! We find new life/restoration in the message of the names through Adam and his descendants.

QUESTIONS: What was new to you? Impact? How are you studying the Bible currently? Are you sharing this with others? What are their responses?

SUGGESTED HOMEWORK: Reread Week 4 w/ Bible references. Continue journalling. Share with others. INVITE ppl to "October 7 – REMEMBERING. Read Week 6 when rec'd.

