

The Design of Man, the Fall, and Protecting the Mind through Faith Rest

Preparation for class:

What is confession of sin? 1 John 1:9

- homologeo is not saying the same thing as God.
- homologeo does not require emotion or guilt.
- homologeo is an honest admission of sin. You say the same as your sin. You say it like it is. Honesty is the core issue behind confession of sin.
- Confession of sin requires no deceit. Psalm 32

A. The design of man. Gen. 1:26-29; 2:8-9, 15-17, 19-20

1. We were designed for fellowship with God. Gen. 1:26, 27
2. We were designed to rule over the earth. Gen. 1:26, 28
 - subdue, then rule/govern
3. We were designed to work. Gen. 2:15
 - to manage what God had provided.
 - originally all work was unto the Lord.
4. We were designed to enjoy God's creation. 2:9
5. We were designed to live by His provisions. 1:29
6. We were designed to be subordinate to God. 2:15-17
7. Did God change?

B. The fall. Genesis Gen. 2:16-17, 3:1-7

1. The command from God was made known to Eve. 3:1-3
 - the fruit itself was not evil or morally corrupt.
 - the command served as test of obedience.
 - the command also served to show man that actions independent from

God will remove peace, rest, and wellness within the soul. Such actions go against God's design for man.

2. Eve thought that the fruit would ultimately be good for her. 3:6
3. This becomes the first occurrence of self righteous thought in man.

- a. What God said was bad, she believed was good.
- b. This becomes the real issue behind pride. Anytime one thinks

independently of God in determining what is good and bad or right and wrong, they are acting as God. This is also behind all idolatry.

C. Evidence of what occurred as Eve exalted her thinking above God's word. Gen. 3:22

1. - Satan's claim Gen. 3:5.
 - Like God = **כְּאֵלֵּהִים**
 - How does this differ from being created in likeness to God?
2. What was man like prior to the fall?

- already in the likeness of God. 1:26, 27 כְּדִמוּתֵנוּ (pattern, resemblance)
- not equal to God but subordinate to God. 2:15-20

3. Could man make himself more into the likeness of God than God had already made him?

4. Man did not become more like God in wisdom or character.

5. Man became "like one from Us"

- "like one" = כְּאֶחָד (echad) - Man became like an echad. Man acted independent from God. 2:24, Deut. 6:4

- "from Us" = מִמֶּנּוּ particle preposition suffix 1st person common plural.

The basic meaning of the word is "from" and often with the idea of separation or coming out "from" something. 2:17; 3:3, 5.

6. Did man become "like one from Us (God)" by means of knowing good and evil or for the purpose "to know" good and evil?

- לְדַעַת - This is a qal infinitive construct of the verb יָדַע (yada) with the inseparable preposition לְ. Yada is a verb meaning "to know" which means "to know" or "knowing" when in the qal infinitive construct form. When the inseparable preposition לְ is prefixed to the word it expresses purpose of result.

- Man became separate or "one" out "from" God for the purpose "to know" good and evil.

- Man knew the goodness of God but now came to know evil. God does not know evil in the way which man came to know it.

- Eve said I think my way is better than God's way.

- Eve shows the first example of unbelief or broken trust in God.

- Eve demonstrates that lack of faith produces disobedience to God for the purpose of seeking what seems to be in one's best personal interest.

D. The Church's marriage to Christ as well as Israel's marriage to Yahweh represents a return to the union which was broken in the garden. **The Church** - Ephesians 5:32, Revelation 19:7; **Israel** - Isaiah 54:5, 62:4-5; Jeremiah 31:32; Hosea 2:16-20

1. Believers are currently betrothed to Christ and should be mindfully preparing to be with Christ. 2 Corinthians 11:2-3

- ἀρμόζω - To join or fit together, used of a carpenter joining together beams.

- Paul looks back to Eve. 11:3

- ἀπλότης - singleness of purpose, simplicity. This was and is the way God designed for us to serve. Colossians 3:22, Ephesians 6:5

- The issue for us, as it was with Eve, is to guard the mind. Philippians 4:4-9

1. Stabilize and protect the mind. 4:4-7

- φρουρέω - 1. to guard, protect by a military guard, either in order to prevent hostile invasion, or to keep the inhabitants of a besieged city from flight;(Thayer)

2. Focus and fill the mind. 4:8

3. Ready for action. 4:9

- E. A lack of peace or discontentment in life gives you an unprotected mind.
1. Living outside of God's peace/rest is a dangerous place to be. Hebrews 4:1
 2. Faith rest requires **knowing** the word of God and **believing** it.
 - Knowing requires seeking and listening. 3:7, 15
 - Hearing presents us with 2 options. Believe or harden your heart.
 - Knowing without faith can produce even more misery through self delusion about God's word. Lack of faith leads to disobedience. Hebrews 3:12-19, 4:2
 3. Lack of rest/peace will cause a person to go into frantic search happiness.
 4. True happiness/joy comes from faith obedience.
 - Can God zap you with happiness without controlling your mind? 3:10
 - Can it be gained through a change in circumstances? 4:8
- F. Example of the mind that is operating in faith rest. Psalm 23.
- G. Example of actions/obedience as a result of faith rest. Genesis 22:1-14