

Guilty BUT Love

Main Scripture: Genesis 3:1-24, Genesis 4: 1-12

Supporting Scriptures: Job 14:1; John 1: 1-18; Mark 1:1; John 3:16-18; Romans 10:9-10; Isaiah 53: 1-12; 1 John 3:4-5

We believe the gospel has the power to transform us to take us from the realms of darkness to the marvellous light that Jesus has revealed to us. It is by the working of the Holy Ghost that we minister the word of God.

Genesis 3:5 - The moment you disobey the word of God you will have the power to know. Your knowledge will increase to know what is good and what is evil.

Eve misunderstood/rebelled/rejected the love of God in interest to acquire the power of knowledge. We must understand the commandments of God are love - they are not burdensome. When God gave the tree in the middle of the garden and gave the command it was a commandment of love.

Eve looked on the tree and rejected the commandment to try to elevate her mind to a status that God did not give her. She was inclined to listen to the serpent.

Both Adam and Eve were together in the act and at that moment their eyes were opened and they suddenly felt shame from their nakedness. Sadly the new insight they gained was just the consequence of their own nakedness and shame.

When their eyes were opened they became conscious of their nakedness and so they became ashamed. Prior to this, they were naked and not ashamed. But then having cringed to the words of the serpent they recognized how naked they were and they were ashamed and they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves. Guilt entered the mind of the children of God (Adam and Eve) and what they attempted to do was to cover it. They had no other remedy for their shame so they hid.

The attempt to evade God was an act to admit their guilt.

Sin was external to man and now it became internal when they ate of the fruit.

Adam and Eve were now both dying physically and they both died spiritually. Now humans had a guilty conscience and so the first act of guilt was to hide from God. This is the same for us today. When we sin we get guilty and when we are guilty we then attempt to hide our guilt to try to cover our shame.

But God walks in the gardens, not a walk of condemnation but a God of love and kindness. Yes God is just but He has a love for humanity because we were created in the likeness in the image of God. So even when man distances themselves from God, God will always be in search of them. In the garden God spoke to man and man spoke to God. Sin, however, makes a man guilty and hides.

Verse 11: Shows a radical change of self-awareness.

Man, unfortunately, did not take responsibility for their sin. They blame each other.

God recognize the nakedness of Man and the weight of sin both spiritually and physically. Sin now caused a change in man and God covered them (Genesis 3: 21) - an Act of Love.

Despite their transgression and punishment Adam and eve are not wholly alienated from God. God provides garment of skin to cover their nakedness and shame. God is interested in removing the guilt from the human mind and having fellowship with man and restoring man to his former glory.

Gods act of mercy in Genesis 3:22

God recognized if they ate of the Tree of Life they would forever remain in that sinful state so in an act of love He banished them from the garden of Eden. The lord did not want mankind to remain in a guilty state permanently he wanted man to find access back to him where mankind could rid himself of a guilty conscience.

In the story of Cain and Abel God rejected Cains offering and accepted Abels offering. This made Cain angry and God in an act of Love had a dialogue with Cain: "Why are you angry?... watch out sin is crouching at the door...you must subdue it and be its master"

But sin had control over Cain and it resulted in guilt and when it was unconfessed it resulted further in depression and further led to murder and when God asked where Abel was Cain was cursed to be a homeless wanderer on the earth.

Effects of Sin:

-robs us from the peace of God

At best man is born in sin and happened in iniquity. We inherit the fallen nature of Adam. When God approached Cain he gave him an opportunity to have peace with God. Restoration with God must become our primary focus. Man with their own attempt to restore this relationship is always futile

How can I get rid of the guilt?

Man that is born of a woman is a few days old and full of trouble (Job 14:1)

John 1:12 - a message of reconciliation - faith in the word of God; believe and acceptance of the word, he gave them the authority to become children of God. And here they now have a right to access God and the relationship can be restored with God simply by believing in Him (the word)

This word became flesh full of love and faithfulness - its Gods love given to man in his sin condition to deal with man and his guilty conscience.

John 1:17-18: - the first time John gives a name to the "word of God"

God is a spirit and we use human terms to understand him by saying he walks etc. but he is a spirit and no one has seen God, even Moses only saw the backside of the glory of God. Isaiah saw his train and he

cried out because he thought he was about to die. But John said the unique one has seen him who is himself, God. God revealed in flesh.

What is the revelation fo God that Jesus reveals to us? The LOVE of GOD
John 3:16

Any individual (doesn't matter to guilt) Gods love was given through Jesus.

Faith in Jesus gives us the authority to be a son of God. And they will not perish it is impossible for one to believe in Jesus Christ and receive the wrath of God. God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world. Jesus did not come to the world to judge you, his revelation is an act of LOVE. He came not to condemn the world He came to elevate man from their low status so that they can be reconciled with God. Salvation is with Christ Jesus. A man getting rid of his guilty conscience comes through faith in Christ Jesus. There is no judgement against anyone who believes in Jesus (same is true for pimps, strippers, murderers etc.) this is a gift to all of us. No Judgement against the believer but those who don't believe and reject him is to remain in a guilty state.

One of the ways the enemy seeks to render you powerless is to form an impression of guilt and so you won't approach God with confidence and you will shy away from God. But by placing your trust in Jesus Christ you will have forgiveness of sin. You believe on God and you place your faith in Christ Jesus and he removes your sins. The devil will attempt to bring up your past to render you powerless but God, when he forgives you, remembers your sins no more. The slate is wiped clean.

It is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God... (Romans 10:10)

Salvation is with Christ Jesus, anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.

Isaiah 53 - nothing beautiful about his appearance, he came into the world and the world did not know him and rejected him. A man who is full of sorrows and grief. We turned our backs but LOVE was caring our weaknesses. Love took the guilty conscience and the effects of sin produced in man's mind.

We didn't understand his punishment was the punishment he took from us.

He was beaten so we could be whole, whipped so we could be healed.

Sorrow and grief are results from sin

1 John 3:4-5 - Jesus is the gift for our freedom from sin. Every man's sin was carried to the cross by Jesus Christ. The sorrow that we experience from our sin and nakedness Jesus carried it to the cross.

YET God laid on his son the sin of us all. Love in silence - he was led like a lamb to the slaughter...he did not open his mouth and no one cared that he died without descendants. He did no wrong but He took our guilt and was buried like a criminal for us. It was a curse to die on a cross and Jesus took it.

God poured out his wrath on Jesus so we could be saved.

After his death, the veil of the temple was rent in two showing there is access to God through Jesus Christ

WHAT WILL WE DO WITH THE GIFT GOD HAS GIVEN?

Why are you travelling with a guilty conscience when there is a gift given and all I have to do is to believe and place my trust in Him. This is not a one time experience, to believe and go off in retirement, no, it is to live a life of trust in the Lord in every area of our lives. Release yourself in trust in God. All you need to do is to simply believe. From we left the garden we toiled for everything but here is a gift that is given to us that we don't have to buy we don't have to exercise human effort to receive but just trust in Gods gift for humanity. Faith in Jesus Christ results in justification. - Man in a clear conscience with God and overcoming the power of SIN.

You may have blood on your hand and you can't sleep, no peace within, sin has robbed you, understand that all you have to do is to receive Jesus Christ by faith and be buried with him in baptism. Faith in Christ Jesus grants us eternal life and salvation Hope beyond the grave.

What we need now is the peace of God.