

Series: Beginnings, Betrayal, Blessings

Title: The Truth about Nakedness

Text: Genesis 3

**Beginnings, Betrayal, Blessings
The Truth about Nakedness**

Star Trek Universe Group - Buck Rodgers (his real name) writes:

“Watching ST VI tonight. I found myself subconsciously looking for plot holes.

“That isn't like me. A lot of us do that now I think. How do we turn that off? Criticism is 2nd nature now and I don't like that about myself.

“I bit apples at one point and I'm sad now. Idk, funny YouTube reviews, negative fb groups, maybe a mesh of stuff, maybe 2009 reboot unlocked it, idk. I want it to stop. I want to be a kid again and just be amazed.”

Certain movies you can never see again for the first time

- The Game
- The Sixth Sense

Recorded Football games

- If you hear the results.... It changes all the suspense

Once you have the knowledge...the plot twist is not surprising.

The Bible gives us a beautiful picture of innocence

INNOCENCE

Deut. 1:39

And the little ones that you said would be taken captive, your children who do not yet know good from bad...

Matthew 19:14 ESV

...but Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.”

Matt 18:3

...and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

God Gives Blessings

The Blessing of Bounty

Genesis 2:15-17

¹⁵ Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to cultivate it and tend it.

¹⁶ The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may freely eat;

...

The Blessing of Boundaries

Genesis 2:17

¹⁷ but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for on the day that you eat from it you will certainly die."

- Before Adam and Eve sinned and ate from the Tree of Knowledge, they had no inner desire to sin. They were VERY GOOD.
- Their "evil inclination" was an external force, embodied in the Serpent.

But once they had taken of the fruit that had been forbidden – all innocence was lost

Gen 2:25

²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Gen 3:7, 11

⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked.

¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

- That path from innocence to brokenness is there for all of us. And what a tragedy when we come to a stage when we see all for what it is.
- We look back to that fateful moment in the garden where it all went wrong.

Are We Prone to Betrayal?

Genesis 3:1

Now the serpent was more cunning than any animal of the field which the LORD God had made.

- **נָחָשׁ (Nachash)**
- *So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast out to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him . . . He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years (Revelation 12:9;20:2).*
- The serpent was not evil.
 - It was simply a creation of God
 - It was likened to all other livestock but other than
 - It could speak – we do not see other creatures speaking, yet we see that a donkey can.
 - Still, there is an aspect of communication here
- The serpent was not a supernatural being.
 - In some way, Satan entered into the body of the serpent to tempt Adam and Eve.
 - Satan entered Judas
 - Jesus to Peter – Get behind me Satan
 - Satan had already betrayed God and was set to destroy God’s plan for beauty and relationship with mankind

So he sets up temptations

- Temptation comes from
 - Satan
 - Sinful cravings
 - Societal enticements –
 - making it easy to break the law,
 - Displaying life contrary to God’s plans as the great cause
 - Selfish desires
 - Andrew Murray, South African pastor and writer of the 19th century – If we have the spirit, why do we succumb to temptation?
 - SELF

Everyone experiences temptations

James 1 – 13-15

¹³When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; ¹⁴ but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Luke 22:40

On reaching the place, he said to them, “Pray that you will not fall into temptation.”

Matthew 6 – Lord’s prayer

¹³*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.’*

1 Corinthians 10:13

¹³ *No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.*

- Yes we are all faced with temptations. But why do we break faith and betray what is right and good?

It starts with a betrayal of belief

Betrayal in Belief

Genesis 3:2-5

²*And he said to the woman, “Has God really said, ‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?’” ² The woman said to the serpent, “From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat; ³ but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.’” ⁴ The serpent said to the woman, “You certainly will not die! ⁵ For God knows that on the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will become like God, knowing good and evil.”*

Did He say it?

- Become like God
- Eyes open

- Knowing good and evil
- Surely die

Did He mean it?

- Half-truths and twisted truths
- Not die – Physical? Spiritual?
 - They died spiritually and physically
- Eyes open – yes
- Like God – knowing good and evil - yes

These are the tactics of today regarding the Bible and the teachings of Christ.

It has caused a casual apostasy within the Church

- The integrity and infallibility of the Bible
- The nature and work of Christ
- Whether we obey Christ in all things or just the things that comfort us.
- There is a crisis of belief in authorities today globally and rightly so.
 - We have been told lies and gas lighted into thinking they may be true, even though every piece of evidence screams otherwise.
 - All things that are against the lordship and Sovereignty of Jesus are anti-Christ

Betrayal in Behavior

Genesis 3:6-11

How we deal with sin

Genesis 3:6

⁶When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took some of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband with her, and he ate.

2 Corinthians 11:3

But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ

- She saw
 - It was good for food

- Delight in her eyes
- Desirable to make one wise
- She took
- She shared

WHAT HAPPENS?

We hide from each other

Genesis 3:7

⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves waist coverings.

Hide from the Lord

Genesis 3:8-11

⁸ Now they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ Then the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ He said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself." ¹¹ And He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I commanded you not to eat?"

Betrayal with Blame

Genesis 3:12-13

¹² The man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me some of the fruit of the tree, and I ate." ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

- Adam blames Eve
 - "The woman whom You gave to be with me
- Eve blames the serpent
 - "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."
- In effect... God! It is your fault!
 - You made all things. You made the serpent

- The serpent lied to me.

This Betrayal leads to brokenness

Brokenness

Genesis 3:14-24

- Repercussions
- Consequence brought into place

Serpent: Broken connection between the serpent and man

נָחָשׁ (Nachash)

Genesis 3:14-15

¹⁴*“Because you have done this,
Cursed are you more than all the livestock,
And more than any animal of the field;
On your belly you shall go,
And dust you shall eat
All the days of your life;
¹⁵ And I will make enemies
Of you and the woman,
And of your offspring and he Descendant;
He shall bruise you on the head,
And you shall bruise Him on the heel.”*

Woman -Broken joy in relationship with birth and marriage

Genesis 3:16

¹⁶*“I will greatly multiply
Your pain in childbirth,
In pain you shall deliver children;*

*Yet your desire will be for your husband,
And he shall rule over you.”*

Man: Broken peace in relationship with work and needs Genesis 3:16-19

“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat from it’;

*Cursed is the ground because of you; With hard labor you shall eat from it
All the days of your life. ¹⁸ Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you;
Yet you shall eat the plants of the field; ¹⁹ By the sweat of your face
You shall eat bread, Until you return to the ground,
Because from it you were taken; For you are dust,
And to dust you shall return.”*

Adam makes three mistakes: sitting, hiding, and blaming.

- Sitting and allowing it to happen without saying something
- Hiding when we have done wrong
- Blaming others and even God for our actions. And nothing has changed.
- I think all of us have made the same mistakes so let me issue three challenges: quit sitting, quit hiding, and quit blaming.

Broken with God

Genesis 3: 22-24

²² Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil; and now, he might reach out with his hand, and take fruit also from the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”— ²³ therefore the LORD God sent him out of the Garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ So He drove the man out; and at the east of the Garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.

- Their innocence was gone
- Their lives were forfeit
- This is a compassionate act

Breaking the Chains – God’s Redemption Plan

We are affected by the actions of Adam.

But we live on the other side of the Cross

God Covers their Nakedness

Genesis 3: 20-21

²⁰ Now the man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all the living. ²¹ And the LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

God promises a Savior

Genesis 3: 15

*And of your offspring and he Descendant;
He shall bruise you on the head,
And you shall bruise Him on the heel.”*

THIS REDEMPTION PLAN

In Christ a return to Innocence

Romans 5:10-19

¹⁰ For if, while we were God’s enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹² Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all people, because all sinned— ¹⁵ But the gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died by the trespass of the one man, how much more did God’s grace and the gift that came by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, overflow to the many! ¹⁸ Consequently, just as one trespass resulted in condemnation for all people, so also one righteous act resulted in justification and life for all people. ¹⁹ For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous.

Revelation says that the Tree of Life will be in heaven

We will live eternally with Him completely healed and made innocent by the gift of Christ which makes us clean and COVERS our sins

Come to Jesus