

**Introduction:** Our four passages this morning tell the Big Story of The Bible. First, God created everything, including earth and 'adam'. Then Yahweh assigned 'adam' the role of being His dependent steward over His Creation. Then the serpent successfully tempted the 'woman' and the 'man' to the sin of disobeying God, with the consequence of being expelled from the place of delight. The last passage gives the way people may once again be dependent stewards of Yahweh's Creation. This is ONLY by forgiveness of sins through surrendered faith in the work of God's Savior Son. \*\*\* From this morning's Bible passages we will discover that God's Word is a unified whole; and, we can know God better when we put the pieces together to see the whole picture. \*\*\* When Jesus prayed to His Father before dying on The Cross for our sins, He said that eternal, full and fruitful life IS knowing the ONLY True God AND The Savior-King He sent. (*John 17:1-3*) \*\*\* As we study these passages, looking at other passages, we will learn what every person must know from the experience of other people. We will discover how to cross FROM death due to sins TO three-fold Life IN Jesus, with our dead spirits reborn to life (*Titus 3:3-8; Ezekiel 36:24-27; 1 Peter 1:3-9; 1 John 5:1-5*).

**I. All of Creation is summarized in Yahweh-God creating 'adam' from dust. (*Genesis 2:4-7*)**

- A. The earth was empty on the day it was created. (*Verses 4-6*)
1. The account (generations) of the heavens and the earth when created in the day Yahweh-God fashioned them. (*Verse 4*)  
**Account-generations:** Chapter one was a general overview of Creation. This is the first of ten times this phrase appears in *Genesis*, because Yahweh will now give specific details. The phrase divides the book into ten sections. (See 6:9; 10:1; 11:10; 11:27; 25:12; 25:19; 36:1; 36:9; 37:2) The longest section is about Jacob-Israel (14 chapters), followed by Abraham's father (over 12 chapters). The shortest are about Ishmael (6 verses) and Esau (8 verses)!  
**The day:** 'The day' may refer to the first four days. Day ('yom') has a variety of meaning.
  2. The earth did not yet have plants ('day five'); Yahweh had not yet caused rain; no 'adam' to serve the ground. (*Verse 5*)  
**Not even plants:** At this point in Creation there was no life on earth.
  3. And 'mist' will ascend from the earth, and it watered the whole face of the ground. (*Verse 6*)  
**Mist:** It may mean stream. (*Job 36:27-28*) Here the mist (stream) comes up from earth, in Job it descends to earth.
- B. Yahweh-God breathed into 'adam's' nostrils, then 'adam' was a living soul. (*Verse 7*)
1. Then Yahweh-God formed the 'adam' ... (*Verse 7a*)  
**Formed:** Yahweh-God created out of existing materials as a sculptor fashions a statue.
  2. ... from dust from the ground ('adamah') ... (*Verse 7b*)  
**Dust:** Dust is small particles. Yahweh-God's curse for Adam is to return to dust. (*Genesis 3:19*)
  3. ... then He breathed into his nostrils His breath (spirit) of life ... (*Verse 7c*)  
**Breathed:** So the 'adam' now has God's Spirit in him.
  4. ... and then the 'adam' became a living soul. (*Verse 7d*)  
**Soul:** The soul is the emotions, intellect and desires of humans.  
**Image of God:** 'Adam' is a three-part being (body, soul and spirit) in the image of The Trinity.

**II. By actions and words Yahweh-God establishes the parameters of His relationship with people. (*Genesis 2:15-17*)**

- A. Yahweh-God put 'adam' in Eden to serve and keep it, and commanded him to eat from every tree there. (*Verses 15-16*)
1. Then Yahweh-God took 'adam' and put him down in the garden of Eden to serve it and to keep it. (*Verse 15*)  
**Take and put:** By this gracious action Yahweh is providing for 'adam' by placing him in a paradise (Greek for garden) of Eden (delight in English).  
**Purpose:** Serving and keeping the garden is stewardship. Yahweh-God delegates (under His rule) the care of His physical creation to 'adam' who has Yahweh's Spirit. He will work with his Creator to bring the 'very good' creation to perfection.  
**Image of God:** True image of God. 'Adam' joins with Yahweh-God to improve what He fashioned. (*Philippians 2:12-13*)  
**Application:** Let us work with God to perfect His 'very good' Creation.
  2. Then Yahweh-God commanded 'adam': Of every tree of the garden, you will surely eat. (*Verse 16*)  
**Gracious provision:** Lit. 'to eat, you will eat', emphatic. 'Adam' is commanded to eat the variety of fruit Yahweh created!  
**Application:** Let us be thankful to God for providing all we need.
- B. And 'adam' was strongly commanded not to eat from one tree, because on eating he would surely die. (*Verse 17*)
1. And of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you shall not eat of it. (*Verse 17a*)  
**One condition:** A stronger command, in the form of the ten commandments. (*Exodus 20:1-17*) Grace! The ONLY condition of God's covenant with 'adam', but people cannot keep one commandment!
  2. Because in the day you eat from it you will surely die. (*Verse 17b*)  
**Because:** Literally, 'to die, you will die'. Make no mistake, death for disobedience is certain!

**III. The serpent shrewdly caused the 'woman' to disobey Yahweh-God; and then, having seen with her eyes both the 'woman' and the 'man' disobeyed God. (*Genesis 3:1-8*)**

- A. The serpent questioned the 'woman' about God's command, implying God was limiting them. (*Verses 1-5*)
1. The serpent was shrewd from any living thing of the field; then he said to the 'woman': Did God indeed say you will not eat of any tree if the garden? (*Verse 1*)  
**Shrewd:** The serpent tries to get the 'woman' to doubt God, not using the divine covenant name.
  2. She replied: We will eat of any tree of the garden, and God said of the tree in the middle you will not eat from it, neither shall you touch it, or you will surely die. (*Verses 2-3*)  
**Confusion:** She also uses the lesser divine name and adds to God's word of commandment, proving herself a liar and breaking a command repeated in the Torah. (*Proverbs 30:5-6; Deuteronomy 4:2; 12:32; Revelation 22:18-19*)  
**Application:** Let us fear the consequence of 'adding to God's Word'.

3. The serpent contradicts Yahweh-God's Word: because God knows in the day you eat your eyes will be opened to be like God, knowing good and evil. (*Verses 4-5*)  
**Accuses God:** Yahweh said the one in Eden was thrown down because of pride. (*Ezekiel 28:11-19*) Here, the serpent seeks to lead her in the same pride.

- B. Then, having seen the fruit to be desired, she took, ate and gave to her 'man', and their eyes were opened to their nakedness, and they hid from Yahweh-God. (*Verses 6-8*)
1. Then, she saw that the tree was good for food, a delight to the eyes, and desired for wisdom; then she took and ate its fruit and also gave to her 'man' and he ate. (*Verse 6*)  
**Eyes:** People in the book of *Judges* were condemned for doing what was right in their own eyes. Those without The Father lust with their eyes after things of the world. (*1 John 2:15-17*)
  2. The eyes of both were opened, they knew they were naked and sewed fig leaves together and made loin coverings. (*Verse 7*)  
**Consequence:** Having lost The Spirit of God, they experience shame, not loving intimacy.  
**Feeble cover-up:** Covering their procreation organs with shoddy clothing will not cover disobedience.
  3. They heard the thunder of Yahweh-God going back and forth in the wind of a storm. (*Verse 8*)  
**Judgment theophany:** More translators see God condemning them in a thunderstorm. When God redeemed His people from Egypt, He drowned the Egyptians in a thunderstorm. (*Psalms 77:13-20*) A holy God would not approach transgressors of His covenant in the 'cool of the day'! Yahweh-God banishes them from paradise to the east of Eden. (*3:21-24*)

#### **God's gift of paradise is lost without Jesus**

4. 'Adam' hid because of fear; but, Yahweh-God says a male from the 'woman' will crush the serpent. (*Verses 10-15*)  
**Fear and grace:** Once they respond with proper fear of God, He shows them grace – but it is in the distant future.

#### **IV. Pray to our Father in the words Jesus commanded for our sins to be forgiven. (Luke 11:1-4)**

- A. Five key petitions. (*Verses 1-4*)
1. Let your name be made holy. (*Verse 2b*)  
**Torah-Peter:** God made His people holy, they will be holy. (*Leviticus 11:44-45*) Peter commanded it. (*1 Peter 1:15-16*)
  2. Make your Kingdom come. (*Verse 2c*)  
**Citizens:** All who are IN The Savior-King are citizens of God's Kingdom on earth.
  3. Our daily bread, give to us each day. (*Verses 3*)  
**Whole person:** Bread from grain for the body, the bread of God's Word for the soul, and The Living Bread for the spirit.
  4. Forgive to us our sins, because we also forgiving everyone being indebted to us. (*Verse 4a*)  
**We need our sins forgiven:** Since we sin, we always need forgiveness, and we must be extending the same forgiveness to all being indebted to us. Then we stay IN The Savior and keep The Holy Spirit.

#### **Only those staying IN Jesus keep God's Spirit**

- Application:** May all receive forgiveness for sins IN Jesus.
5. And may we not be led into temptation. (*Verse 4b*)  
**Satan:** Satan, always tempts God's people to sin to estrange them from God. As he tempted the first woman, he tempts every disciple of Jesus. This is spiritual warfare. We only stay in God's Kingdom by staying IN The Savior.

#### **God's gift of paradise is lost without Jesus**

- B. Biblical actions. (*Various*)
1. Be new creations IN The Savior King to bring hope to creation that it will be released from bondage. (*2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Romans 8:22-27*)  
**We can be new creations:** We can be reconciled to God IN Christ who took our sins to give us His righteousness.  
**Application:** May we all grow as new creations IN The Savior-King.  
**We have a role to play to restore creation:** When we are fully revealed as God's children, Creation will share in the glorious freedom of God's children. IN Jesus paradise can be restored.

#### **God's gift of paradise is lost without Jesus**

2. Jesus will take His people to paradise after The Gospel is preached in The Holy Spirit. (*Matthew 24:1-14; Acts 1:6-8*)  
**Gospel:** Disciples of The Savior must first preach the good news of Him to every nation in the whole earth.  
**Application:** May we all participate with Jesus to finish His Great Commission. (*Matthew 18:18-20*)  
**Only in The Holy Spirit:** Only after The Holy Spirit comes upon Jesus' disciples will they receive and keep God's Spirit.

#### **Only those staying IN Jesus keep God's Spirit**

3. Hearing The Savior and believing The One who sent Him takes us from death to life IN Him; then we show our love by sharing our blessing that others may have what we have. (*John 5:24-25; Leviticus 19:18 & Luke 10:25-28*)  
**Cross-over:** All are born with dead spirits because of Eden; all must have dead spirits made alive by faith in The Gospel.  
**Share our delight in God's LOVE:** When we are fully blessed IN Jesus, love for our neighbor is the desire that they also enjoy God's LOVE.  
**Application:** May we do all we can so our neighbors have God's LOVE and the assurance of paradise.

#### **God's gift of paradise is lost without Jesus.**

**Conclusion:** Yahweh created 'adam', a three-fold being, to do His work in His physical Creation. But, 'man' and 'woman' disobeyed His one command and were expelled from the (paradise) garden of Eden. But now, the sin of disobedience can be forgiven IN Jesus The Savior.

#### **God's gift of paradise is lost without Jesus**