

“THE DAWN OF REDEMPTION”

GENESIS 3:20-21

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INTRODUCTION

Satan is cursed and defeated; creation is ruined and devastated; mankind is lost, condemned to misery and ruin, and doomed to die.

What a miserable situation! What hope is there?

The last element of the curse is **death**. So **why should Adam have any reason for hope or optimism**.

DESPITE MAN’S SIN, THE GRACE OF GOD FOUND A WAY OF REDEMPTION AND HOPE FOR MAN.

I. ADAM’S FAITH (3:20)

A. As seen in his wife’s name

- The final element of the curse was “death”; now Adam calls his wife “Eve”—i.e. “Life” or “Life-spring.”

B. As seen is the explanation of the name: “Because she was the mother of all the living.”

- This explanation was given by Moses, the author as also in 2:24 of the purpose of marriage.
- Eve did in fact become the “mother of all living.”
- 1. “Living”—with an emphasis upon **true life** according to Gen. 3:15.
 - It is obvious that all humans descend from her; but, it is more significant that the “seed of the woman” comes from her.
 - Through Eve victory will be won over Satan!
 - Adam in this naming of his wife gives evidence of **faith in God’s provision of salvation**.
 - Surely repentance was included as well. The Law, announced in the curse worked **repentance** in Adam.
 - The Gospel was also prominent in the curse—which resulted in producing **faith** in Adam.
- 2. Mother of **ALL** living
 - There was no pre-Adamic race living on Earth outside the garden—*before, during, or after the events of the Fall*.
 - Nor were or are there any other living human beings outside of Earth—only the angelic beings mentioned later in v. 24 and in other Scripture.
 - Moreover, the temptation and Fall had to have occurred **soon** after creation, since **no children had been conceived yet** (see 1:28).
 - See Gal. 4:26 where Paul says that the New Jerusalem is “the mother of us all” -i.e. all NT believers.

II. GOD’S RIGHTEOUSNESS (21)

A. God made Clothes for Adam and Eve—his wife

- This statement does not merely mean that He gave directions on how to make the garments.

- There is no reason to question that God Himself actually constructed them.
- B. The Clothes consisted of “coats of skin.”
1. Physical Provision
 - Such would be more durable than fig leaves.
 - Such also authenticated their proper sense of shame in nakedness.
 - Such also condones their desire for modesty.
 - Such also would provide protection from their environment, from the sun, and from the changes in weather—all harsher since the Fall.

But, do these explanations fully explain the reason for the garments of skin? **NO!**
 2. Spiritual Provision—covering for man’s guilty soul
 - Why the need for God’s intervention if He were merely caring for their decency and comfort?
 - Adam and Eve could have taken care of such themselves.
 - a. God has sanctioned the slaying of animals for man’s needs—but not yet for food.
 - b. The death of animals (sheep?) indicates that there are now grave disorders in the World.
 - c. This slaying of animals is likely the first examples of the offering of sacrifices for sin.
 - How else can we explain the early knowledge of sacrifices?
 - Sacrifices are commonplace in the time of Cain and Abel.
 - The remainder of the OT takes sacrifices for granted: e.g. Noah, Abraham.
 - Who taught mankind to offer sacrifices?
 - Who was the Pentateuch written for?—the Israelites in the days of Moses. Surely they would so interpret these coats of skin.

CONCLUSION

In sinning against a holy God, Adam had manifested 1) a sense of personal merit and a doubting of God’s goodness—claiming goodness as his own right; 2) a presumption of security; and 3) a sense of liberty and assertion of independence.

The three results were: 1) Shame of nakedness due to claiming personal merit and yet sinning, and shrinking from God while becoming ashamed of himself; 2) Sense of danger—leading to a *hiding from God* and a *fear of death*; 3) bondage to sin and Satan.

God’s solution to these three issues are:

- 1) Satan’s condemnation—resulting in the **liberty of truth** to men who trust God and turn from sin.
- 2) God’s longsuffering—restoring hope to man.
- 3) Provision of **Sacrifice and justification**—giving **confident faith** to man.