



KICK OFF

Most people are naturally 'good.' The monstrosities of the world are caused by the few people who are warped and evil.'



KEY VERSE

I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.'
Genesis 3:15



BIG IDEA

The impact of the fall on the universe.



INVESTIGATE

THE HEART OF SIN Read Genesis 3:11-13

1. What are the 'horizontal' aspects of sin that we see emerging in Adam & Eve's relationship?

THE WIDESPREADNESS & DEPTH OF SIN Read Genesis 3: 8-24

2. From verses 8-24 both Adam & Eve are responsible for sin entering the world. Discuss
3. What relationships are destroyed by sin in the following verses?
v8
v7, 9
v10-16
v17-21
4. Genesis 3:16 says: "Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you." What is this desire? And what is the likely impact in marriage?

GOD'S MERCY

5. Where is God's mercy seen in the following verses?
v9
v22-24



DIG DEEPER

Genesis—An Introduction and Commentary by Derek Kidner

Verses 22—24 Paradise Lost. The expulsion is by decree; it could also be expressed as by logical necessity, since eternal life is fellowship with God (Jn. 17: 3), which man has now repudiated. The point is re-emphasized in the phrase *the ground from which he was taken*, an echo of 19; it is that half of the truth about him (2: 7) by which he has chosen to live; and he must end where he belongs. (Cf. Phil. 3: 19-21)

24. Every detail of this verse, with its *flame* and *sword* and turning *every way*, actively excludes the sinner. His way back is more than hard, it is resisted: he cannot save himself. The *Cherubim*, God's multiform and awesome thronebearers in Ezekiel's visions (cf. Ezk. 1:5 with Ezk. 10:15), are seen elsewhere as symbolic guardians of the holy of holies, their forms embroidered on the veil that barred access to it, and modelled above the ark (Ex. 36: 35; 37: 7-9). At the death of Christ this veil was rent in two (Mt: 27: 51) and the way to God thrown open (Heb. 10: 19-22) in fact as well as symbol.

THINK &
APPLY



6. Think it through. Why does God ask us to confess our sins, when He already knows what they are?

7. Eve lays all the blame upon the serpent. What do we learn about sin from the following passages?

Romans 7: 11 and Hebrews 3:13

James 1: 14

8. The sentence passed onto our first parents in Genesis involved the following: Pain, subjection, curse, thorns, sweat, sorrow and death.

Read the following passages to see how our Lord Jesus knew each of these in his life.

Pain—Isaiah 53:11 Acts 2:24

Subjection— Gal 4:4

Curse—Gal 3:13

Thorns—John 19: 2

Sweat—Luke 22:42

Sorrow—Isaiah 53: 3

Death—Philippians 2: 8 Hen 5: 8

9. In commenting on verse 21 Derek Kidner wrote: (p 72)
(See Sidebar)
Is God the first social reformer?

21. The coat of skins.

It is unduly subtle, and a distraction, to foresee the atonement here: God is meeting immediate rather than ultimate needs, for both are His concern. The coats of skins are forerunners of the many measures of welfare, both moral and physical, which man's sin makes necessary. Social action, now delegated to human hands (Rom. 13: 1-7; Jas. 2: 16), could not have had an earlier or more exalted inauguration.

PRAISE GOD that he is the first social reformer.

CONFESS our dislike of the idea of covenant: serving someone irrespective of whether your getting something out of the relationship or not.

ASK GOD for a sense of how sin is the great leveller.

PRAY ALSO for practical ways to express justice and compassion.



PRAYER

Praise God for the challenges raised by God's word through this study

Praying for others in your group:

Pray for others in your group



FAMILY
DISCUSSION

How do we apply this passage in our daily life?



READ AHEAD

Next week's topic is:

The History of the World in a nutshell

Read: Genesis 4: 1-10