

Multiply: Eating from the wrong tree
Genesis 3

If God's vision for humanity was one of fruitful faithfulness, how come we live in a world of thorns and thistles?

A world of thorns and thistles is the result of...

- I. Our CHOICES: good or evil? Genesis 3:1-7.
 - a. Test or temptation: Is God's word trustworthy?
 - b. The process of sin: appetites, senses and imaginations.

- II. Their CONSEQUENCES: life or death? Genesis 3:8-21.
 - a. Fear (v. 10)
 - b. Shame (vs. 10, 11)
 - c. Blame (vs. 10-13)
 - d. Judgment (vs. 14-19)
 - e. Death (v. 19)

- III. And GOD'S GRACE: unmerited favor when we deserve death Genesis 3:15, 21, Romans 5:12-21.

Choices are free
But consequences have a price tag
That only God's grace can pay

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1. Ever since Genesis 3 humanity exists in a condition that some theologians call total depravity. Meaning that our wills are corrupted and are slaves to sin. God made humans free to choose but because of sin every time we have a chance to choose, apart from God's grace, we chose evil. How does this understanding of our human condition help us understand what goes on around us? Can our problems be fixed with education, money, technology or morality only? Our morally bankrupt condition makes the message of God's grace in the gospel of Christ all important.
2. Sin has unavoidable consequences. The road of forgiveness and regeneration begins by acknowledging our spiritual bankruptcy (Matthew 5:3) and our responsibility for our sinfulness. It takes humility to come to God and ask for grace but grace is the antidote to our bondage. What area of your life is in need of God's life-giving grace-filled forgiveness and healing?