

Full Scope of Scripture – Part 3e

From our previous lesson, we established that;

- ✓ God created man in His own image and likeness for the purpose of ruling the restored earth.
- ✓ God is a Trinity and man was also created as a tripartite being with a spirit, soul and a body covered with glory; originally created perfectly in His image and likeness.
- ✓ We need to note that since God is perfect, all He does (His works) MUST be perfect –

Deut.32:4 *He is the Rock, His work is perfect; for all His ways are justice, A God of truth and without injustice; Righteous and upright is He.*

Mat. 5:48 *Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect. Read also **Psa.18:30**.*

- ✓ Therefore, when man was created;
 - His spirit must have been perfect – conscious of God
 - His soul must have been perfect – knowing ONLY good
 - His body must have been perfect – covered with His glory and never meant to die.

Psalms 104:1 *...Thou art very great; Thou art clothed with splendor and majesty, 2 Covering Thyself with light as with a cloak...*

- ✓ Here we see God is covered in light (glory) and clothed in splendor and majesty (greatest regal magnificence). This description of God is often seen like this in the OT and in some of the passages, the very description itself indicate His ruler ship as well.
- ✓ One example is found in:

I Chronicles 16:23 *“Sing to the LORD, all the earth; Proclaim good tidings of His salvation from day to day. 24 Tell of His glory among the nations..... 27 Splendor and majesty are before Him, Strength and joy are in His place. 28... Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. 29 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; ...31 Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; And let them say among the nations, “The LORD reigns.”*

- ✓ God the Father is enthroned in the heavens, covered in glory and clothed in splendor and majesty as He executes His sovereign rule over all of creation.
- ✓ It's evident that the garments of splendor and majesty are for ruler ship and if man is to have dominion, he would have to be clothed with that as well. However, we see that after the fall instead of man receiving those garments, he actually lost what he already had (the glory – light as with a cloak).

Gen 2:7 *“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground.....*

Gen 2:16 *“And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 “but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.....2:25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.*

- ✓ The Hebrew word naked used here before the fall is arowm and it means partially naked – naked in the sense of having an under covering, but not possessing an outer garment.
- ✓ And from **Psa 104**, we can conclude that since both Adam and the woman were created by God in His own image and likeness for the purpose of ruling over the earth, God must have covered them with His light (glory). No wonder then the scriptures say they were “naked and not ashamed”. They had the inner garments – God's glory (seen as light in verse 2).
- ✓ Let us therefore note that the man and the woman could not yet be fully clothed with the royal garments, nor could they step into the position of ruler ship because they had to be tested first. Before they would fulfill their created purpose, they had to prove their worthiness to rule through the test of obedience. Hence, the partial nakedness, as they awaited the outer garments of splendor and majesty.

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In **Gen 2:17**, God stated that if they disobeyed the command not to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, they would die. So what died?

Gen. 3:1 *Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?”*
2 *And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; **3** but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.’”*
4 *Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. **5** For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”*
6 *So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. **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 coverings.*
8 *And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam 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 Adam and said to him, “Where are you?”*
10 *So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.”*
11 *And He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?”*

- ❑ **Do we see vs. 4 “You will not surely die... you will be like God (do you remember a similar scenario of one who wanted to be like God?)**
- ✓ After failing the test – they surely died – just as God had said
- ✓ After the fall an entirely different Hebrew word is used for naked - **eyrom** which means **total nakedness** - i.e. no covering whatsoever, the inner garment (God’s glory/light) was gone, and that is why they were hiding even with the fig leaves covering.
- ✓ They tried to cover their nakedness with a work of their own hands and that was completely futile. God, finding Adam and Eve in this condition, completely rejected the works of their hands. God completely rejected their feeble efforts to atone for their own sin by seeking to replace the covering of pristine glory with fig leaves. However, to cover their nakedness, a sovereign work of the Creator was needed.
- ✓ Then, to bring His fallen creature back into a right relationship with Him (although not in complete keeping with their previously un-fallen state — something still future even today), God provided a covering consisting of animal skins (Genesis 3:21). This necessitated death and the shedding of blood; and in here lies the basic unchangeable truths concerning the state of fallen man and the means that are necessary to effect his redemption.

Gen. 3:21 *“Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.”*

- ✓ Unredeemed man is a fallen creature, alienated from God; and two things are necessary to affect his redemption:
 - Divine intervention.
 - Death and shed blood.

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- ✓ Let us also note that their entering into sin had a consequence and this consequence adversely affected the purpose for their creation as they were now **totally naked - they no longer had the covering of glory.** without that they could not wear the **royal robes of dominion**, which meant they **could not rule** over the earth as God had intended, in that condition.
- ✓ Their sin also had a consequence for all three parts of their being. Man as a whole being was now under a death sentence – **Rom. 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death...***
 - Spiritually dead and no longer in union with God – **Ephe.2:1** *And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins*

Man died the day he ate of the forbidden fruit. Since his body continued to live, revealing that his soul — the life-giving principle in the blood (**Leviticus 17:11; cf. Genesis 9:4**) — remained unchanged with respect to life (natural life), it is evident that it was his spirit that died.
 - Corrupted soul - they now had a sin nature – **Gen. 3:22** *Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil.”*
 - Body without the glory - started the process of decay- **Gen. 3:7** *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 coverings.*
 - Eternal separation from God and His purpose is now what awaited them and not them only but all mankind - procreated from that first man and woman.
- ✓ And here now is a description of FULL SCOPE of DEATH - a complete departure from the image and likeness of God in the context of rulership.
- ✓ In summary, when man sinned, the complete being of man - spirit, soul, and body - became in a fallen state. They lost everything; they found themselves in an awkward position (1) naked (2) separated from God (3) without a covering of glory (4) hiding from God and eventually driven from the garden of Eden and the way to the tree of life guarded by Cherubim and flaming sword.
- ✓ With this understanding of what happened when Adam and the woman sinned, (they suffered full scope of death), we can begin to address the full scope of redemption or salvation.
- **Note: Only Adam and the woman were created. All others in the human race are procreated.**
- ✓ And as a result of that sin, every person ever born to a man and a woman would be born:
 - Dead spiritually
 - Corrupted soul (with a sin nature)
 - In an utterly naked condition (not covered with glory)
 - In a physical body that is susceptible to sickness and eventual death.
 - Separated from the purpose that God has stated in **Gen. 1:26-28**. Not having dominion, nor power and authority (**Certainly not what we would like to hear, but that’s the truth of the scripture**)
- ✓ Through no fault of our own, each of us came into this world spiritually dead, and separated from God. We know that we were born into this state because we have been born into the human race, i.e., born into the lineage of Adam. Originally, God created Adam in His own image and likeness, but Adam’s sin changed the nature of mankind.

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Gen 5:1 *This is the book of the genealogy of Adam. In the day that God created man, He made him in the likeness of God. 2 He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them Mankind in the day they were created. 3 And Adam lived one hundred and thirty years, and begot a son in his own likeness, after his image, and named him Seth.*

- -Man's sin in the garden in Eden produced death. Man died the day he ate of the forbidden fruit. Since his body continued to live, revealing that his soul — the life-giving principle in the blood (**Leviticus 17:11; cf. Genesis 9:4**) — remained unchanged with respect to life (natural life), it is evident that it was his spirit that died.
- ✓ The spiritual nature is that part of man that links him directly with God. “God is spirit,” and man's worship of God must be “in spirit and truth” (**John 4:24**, NASB). The death of Adam's spirit separated him from God (establishing the primary meaning of “death” in Scripture — separation from God), and this death (this separation from God) “spread to all men”

Rom. 5:12 *“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned... 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.”*

- ✓ Consequently, all humankind was/is born after the image and likeness of Adam, an image and likeness that reflects not only a fallen state (i.e. separation from God), but also an inability to change that state.
- ✓ Only a divine work; only a Sovereign work of God can accomplish that or change that state and this we will address in our next lesson God willing.

□ Here is an inspiring and encouraging conclusion on this lesson:

- It is IMPORTANT to understand that the **SUPREME RULER** over the entire Universe is our **GOD**; He is **KING** over His Universal Kingdom. However, for the most part, the Bible does **not** deal with this Universal Kingdom. The Bible deals with the kingdom that has to do with this earth and the heavens that surround this earth. (“the Kingdom of God” and “the Kingdom of the heavens” are used in Scripture, and these phrases refer to one-and-the same thing)
- This is the area that man was to dominate but Satan brought about his disqualification to rule.
- After God created man, and having stated His purpose, Satan brought about his fall – Hence man was disqualified to rule (Gen. 3).
- However, this action did not thwart God's plan – God being all knowing had the plan of redemption in place - “**the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world**” (**Rev. 13:8**). Simply stated, God created man to rule; then after being disqualified, God offered man redemption (Gen. 3:15) in order for him to be placed back in a position to rule.

Isaiah 46:9-10 *“Remember the former things of old, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,’”*

Colossians 1:16 *“For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.... 20 and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven having made peace through the blood of His cross”*

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- ✓ The author of the Book of Hebrews was inspired to write about the coming Messianic Era (Millennial Kingdom) and this text reveals that the “world [Lit., the age] to come will no longer be subjected to the angels who presently rule – **Ephe. 6:12... rulers of the darkness of this age ...**

Heb. 2:5 “For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels **6** But one testified in a certain place, saying: “What is man that You are mindful of him, Or the son of man that You take care of him? **7** You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, And set him over the works of Your hands. 8 You have put all things in subjection under his feet.” For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him. 9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone”

- Great news is that the plan and purpose that God had for man which He stated when He was creating him will still come to pass as no one can thwart it. This is what the full scope of salvation will accomplish; to bring man to that original condition, with a redeemed, spirit, soul and a body covered with glory. After all that is restored, then man will put on the garment of honor and majesty and ascend to the throne as join heir with the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.
- Until then, let us remain diligent and may the Lord bless your diligence. **2 Tim. 2:15**

Questions:

1. What command was given to man after creation and what scripture did we look at?
2. With understanding from our previous lessons, who is the serpent and what are his reasons for causing the fall of man?
3. Please read Gen. 3:4-5. Do you remember a similar scenario of one who wanted to be like God?
4. What were the consequences of disobedience in regards to man’s image and likeness?
5. Did Adam and Eve manage to cover their own nakedness with fig leaves and why?
6. God created man to rule. Did he get to do so and what scriptures support your answer?
7. Are we currently above the angels? What about Jesus?
8. Was God’s plan for man as stated in Gen. 1:26 thwarted?

