

## The Fall of Man 6.15.20

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In the previous two lessons, we saw with the support of scriptures that man is created a tripartite being (spirit, soul and body) and Salvation is spoken of as a past (finished) salvation, a present process (continuous) salvation and a future salvation. For us to further understand this, let's look at how the fall of man affected all the aspects of man and **how** redemption in its full scope is to be attained.

**Gen 1:26** *"Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion'"*

Notice the first two things God says in respect of Man.

- i) ...in our image according to our likeness.
- ii) Let them have dominion...

So being made in the image and likeness of God, man is made a three part being - spirit, soul and body.

- Man's spirit – that part of man that is conscious of God – In union with God
- Man's soul – seat of a person's emotions, feelings and desires focused on the person's man conscious existence – I think, I need, I want.
- Man's body – that which hosts the spirit and the body.

1. Another facet of God's image and likeness can be seen in:

**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. 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:

**1 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.

With man having been created by God in His own image and likeness, just as God covers Himself with light as with a cloak, he covered the man and the woman in glory also, the reason why we see the man and the woman "naked and not ashamed".

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2. Let us 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.

Gen 2:17 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. 3:7** *"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."*

After the fall an entirely different Hebrew word is used for naked - **eyrom** which means **totally naked**.

They tried to cover their nakedness with a work of their own hands and that was completely futile. To cover their nakedness, a sovereign work of the Creator was needed.

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

**(Please read the whole of Genesis 3 and visualize it. We will talk more on it)**

3. Please note that their entering into sin had a consequence and this consequence adversely affected the purpose for their creation 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

- a). Spiritually dead and no longer in union with God
- b). Corrupted soul - they had a sin nature.
- c). Body without the glory - started the process of decay
- e). Eternal separation is now what awaited them and not them only but all mankind - procreated from that first man and woman.

And as a result of that sin, every person ever born to a man and a woman would be born:

- Dead spiritually,
- 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 had 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).

**Psalms 8:4** *"What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? 5 For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor"*

**6 You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet,"**

This same Psalm is quoted by the author of the Book of Hebrews as he was inspired to write about the coming Messianic Era (Millennial Kingdom). The text reveals that the "world [Lit., the inhabited earth] to come will no longer be subjected to the angels who presently rule over the earth (**We will look at this next time God willing**).

**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"*

**Eph. 1:20** *"which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, **21** far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come."*

**Phil. 2:9** *"Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth..."*

4. What I would like us to see after this is that the plan and purpose that God had for man which He stated when He was creating man will still come to pass as no one can thwart it.

**Isaiah 46:9** *"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,"*

### **QUESTIONS**

- 1. We previously studied the tripartite being of man as he was created in God's image likeness. What is the other aspect of God's image and likeness?**
- 2. How do we see that in man's creation?**
- 3. What command was given to man after creation and what scripture did we look at?**
- 4. What were the consequences of disobedience in regards to man's image and likeness?**
- 5. Did man get to rule and what scriptures support your answer?**
- 6. Are we currently above the angels? What about Jesus?**
- 7. Was God's plan for man as stated in Gen. 1:26 thwarted?**