

CFC-103. THE FALL OF MAN & THE CONSEQUENCES

3.1 The Tree of Life & The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil

- There were the Tree of Life and the tree of the knowledge of good-and-evil in the garden.
- The tree of the knowledge of good and evil offered to man a sense of judgement and discretion that is not connected to God. Partaking of this tree would mean cutting himself off from God. Man was instructed not to eat of this tree, that in the day he ate of it he would die.
- The Tree of Life was also in the garden (Gen 3.22). The fruit of this Tree was the life of God available to man in a receivable form. This fruit was the presence of the Son of God. Adam could eat of this Tree, which If he did, he would have continued as a son of God having in him life that come from God. (John 1.1-4, 11.25-26, 14.6; 1John 1.1-2, 5.11-12).
- Unfortunately, Adam turned away from the Tree of Life and took of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, seeking to have for himself the power to form independent judgement, not relying on God. This was REBELLION. (Gen 3.1-6, 22; Romans 3.11-12).

3.2 Adam (the father of mankind) sinned against God – a deliberate disobedience of God's instructions to him in the garden of Eden, choosing to obey Satan rather than God - thereby cutting himself off from God and joining with Satan. The consequence was death (separation from God's life). Man as a result of his sin therefore fell from the position of "son of God" that he was created for. (Genesis 2.7-9, 15-17, 3.1-11)

Adam lost his godly nature and became sinful as Satan. (Further reading: Gen 3:22-24, Rom 3:10).

3.3 The Consequences for us humans

- As the head of the human race Adam passed on his ungodly nature of sin and death to all of mankind. Rom 3:23, Rom 5:12,19, 1Cor 15:21 (See also Eph 2:2-3)
- The sin of Adam cut mankind off from the divine purpose. We lost the position of "children of God" for which we were created and are now described as "fallen short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3: 9-12, 23). We lost all the honour, power, glory & privileges that go with being "sons of God".
- The human generation from Adam is therefore dead to God (cut-off from the life of God) and is totally unrighteous to God. Rom 3:10.

All mankind is therefore fallen short of the glory of God. Rom 3:9-12, 23, 5.12-14. (See also Job 14.4, 15.14, 25.4; Psalms 51.5, 58.1-3).

- The picture of our loss is vividly described in the curses of sin in the Bible.– this includes poverty, sickness & death, and being under the dominion/ control of Satan (Genesis 3:16-19, 23-24 and several other scriptures).
- The curse upon Satan and upon all of his angels became our curse. Just like Satan the end for fallen humans (the Adamic generation) is the Lake of Fire (the 2nd death) which was initially meant only for Satan & his angels. (Rev.20:10-15, 21:8).

3.4 The Consequences for God

To God the Father and Creator of all things, the fall means first of all a loss. On God's part He lost His intended family, and the Son of God lost His intended brethren. The story of the prodigal son in Luk 15:11-24 clearly illustrates this point. In this story we see a father suffering the loss of his son, and the joy of having his son back.

Fallen man is therefore described by God as

- a lost sheep and a lost precious jewel (Luk 15:6-9),
- as lost & dead son (Luk 15:24 & 32),
- as sheep gone astray (1Pet 2:25)

3.5 Man & His Dead Works

- Since the fall, natural man's life has been a continual struggle to reclaim his lost honor and privileges. Unfortunately, this is not possible as the lost honor and privileges are exclusively reserved for the position of "son of God" from which man fell and died spiritually. Natural men are cut-off from God by sin and death and therefore cannot have and enjoy the glory of God. (Rom 3:9-12, 3:23, 7:14-24)
- **These fruitless efforts by men to have something they cannot obtain are what the word refer to as "DEAD WORKS"**. All the efforts - physical, education, social, religious, etc, to return to the lofty position God created us for by our own power are fruitless dead works natural men's state of sin and spiritual death.
- Every man has to be reborn and made alive in Christ to the position of "son of God" to enjoy the glory intended for man. The gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ presents God's redemption plan which He has executed in Christ to achieve this just like in the story of the prodigal son in Luke 15:11-32.