

Taking Responsibility

Adam's failure:

- Was the one who received the mandate to rule of earth
- Received the instructions
- Received the responsibility to oversee the garden – cultivate it and make produce more – fruitfulness
- God gives him a companion – woman
- So God expects him to be a good steward over his resources
- And a good steward over his wife – relationship

He is not standing in his position – as leader and manager of God's creation,

- When eve passes the fruit to him, he should have taken a stand and but instead he remained passive and joined in on the party
- He knew better – he had heard from God – he should never have touched the fruit let alone allow his wife to even get near it – and eat of it. He should never have eaten it.
- Not only did he let God down, he also let his wife down and of course himself
- He did not protect her
- Both of them ended up falling morally

Why did this happen?

- Because he did not keep God's Word in his heart

The confrontation

When confronted by God for his sin:

Vs 8. Hid from the presence of God

Heard the sound of God walking in the garden in the cool of the day

- Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord among the trees of the garden,

Vs 9 – Adam, where are you?

Was out of position

Even today He is asking – Adam where are you?

Most men today have abdicated their position

- Not anywhere in the homes
- We are not there in our wives' lives
- Our children's lives

Our physical absence from our position as the cover for our loved ones has caused emotional wounds

- Our women are emotionally aggrieved
- Our posterity is struggling at all levels
- We have a dysfunctional society all over the place
- Dysfunctional leaders, husbands, wives, women men, children – in all sectors of life
- Men and women who perpetuate the injuries – we are wounding others because we too were wounded
- Relations cannot be maintained – they are broken up – divorce
- Single mothers – Absentee father – Adam Is not at home – not in his place
- Even when we are there – we are not there
- Contributed to behavioral problems and mental health issues

Young men

- When a young man matures without the biological male role model
- there are results in violent reactions to stress and emotions, resistance and hate towards authority – aggressive

Young women

- A girl's relationship with her father serves as the model for all her relationships with men in her life, romantic and otherwise.
- that the absence of a father in a daughter's life leads to increased promiscuity and sexualized activity.

ADAM AND EVE REFUSE TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY

Adam Blames others:

- indirectly blames God
- directly blames the woman
- he says nothing about his disobedience
- rolls the guilt onto the woman
- excuses
- finger pointing

Gen 3:12

The woman you gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate

- she made me do it

Eve – women

- She took over the man's role
- Did so with negative influence
- I can guarantee you that Adam did not take this fruit easily
- There must have been a lot of persuasion here
- Negative influence
- Usurping of authority

Also, the woman refuses to take responsibility; she says nothing about her disobedience

- She excuses herself – rolls on the guilt to the snake

Vs 13.

And the Lord said to the woman, What is this that you have done?

The woman replied, "the serpent deceived me, and I ate"

In other words:

- It wasn't my fault
- It was the snake
- The devil made me do it

Blame – shifting

- It is a universal disease
- Ever since then – its been part of our human nature

THE NEED FOR TAKING FULL RESPONSIBILITY

- When we fall short of God's glory, we need to take full responsibility

David did

- when confronted by Prophet Nathan about his adulterous relationship with Beersheba and later killing Uriah her husband

2 Sam 12:13

Then David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD." And Nathan said to David, "The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die

ROADBLOCK TO MERCY

- Verbal hiding – blaming others – puts an obstacle in the way of Mercy

THINGS WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT

- I want to believe that the result would have been different if Adam and Eve had been true to God – taken responsibility of their actions
- **Asked for pardon**

Psalm 51: 1- 4

Have mercy on me,^[a] O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. ² Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment

Vs 7.

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Vs 9-13

Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right^[b] spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation and uphold me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

Taking responsibility of our sins – takes away the wrath of God

I John 1:5-10

- **If they had repented – the story would be different**
- **True repentance begins with realizing that you have sinned and instead of explaining your actions away – blaming others but you**
- **Taking responsibility and asking for forgiveness**

Acts 17:30 – Paul in Areopagus – Athens – people who did not know who they worshiped – inscription on an – To the unknown God

Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, ³¹ because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.”

Result – the full wrath of God