

Genesis 3

Your Name:

Genesis 3:20-24....After Care.

Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live for ever."

So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

I've got Trouble with the parents.....

You know how it goes. Suddenly, almost without warning, you find you've done something you shouldn't (or they've found out about something you hoped they wouldn't) and you're in trouble again. Grounded, maybe. No pocket money, maybe. Whatever.

But something else too.....they go on looking after you. They may be annoyed with you, but they still feed you!

God is just like that here to Adam and Eve. Let's look at this passage bit by bit:

Mother of all the Living..... In more ways than one! Genesis teaches that all people descend from her by birth, but we also follow her by sin too. She was deceived and rebelled, so do we. Actually, so was Adam, and Paul said it is from Adam that we inherit sin. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. (1 Corinthians 15: 21,22)

Clothed by God.....(verse 21) Why do you think God made them clothes? They hadn't needed them before!



Perhaps the answer can be found in what happens next.

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Banished

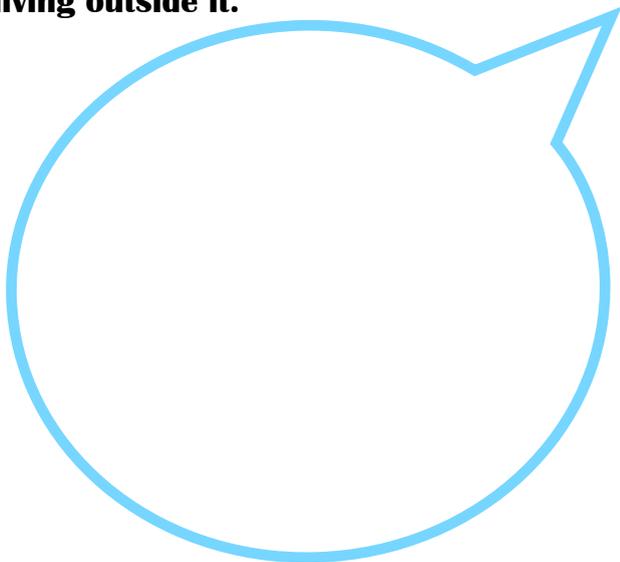
How do you imagine the Garden of Eden? Describe it in your own words.....you could use **Genesis 2: 8 - 17** to help.



Adam and Eve were now cast out of this protected environment.....perhaps that's one reason they needed clothes!

Why were they cast out?

Yes, they had sinned, but why particularly couldn't they stay in God's Garden do you think? After all, He let them carrying on living outside it.



Sidelight

The bit about the clothes is actually quite amazing. It says God made them out of **animal skins**. The only way to get an animal skin is to **kill** an animal. Up to this point, God had looked at the world and it was 'very good' (see Genesis chapter 1). The Bible says that up to this point there was no death in the world at all; in fact it says it was Adam that brought death into the world by committing this sin (see, for example, Romans 5:12-14).

What we see then is that God **sacrificed** an animal or two to provide clothes for Adam and Eve, and we learn later in the Bible that animal sacrifices are a picture of the sacrifice that Jesus would make for all humanity.

God had said "if you eat this fruit you will die" but He then provided a substitute to die in their place, pointing to Jesus who one day would die for them and for us because of our sin as well as theirs.

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The Tree of Life

This was something God always planned to give to us. It broke His heart that we could not have it then. The rest of the Bible is the story of God's Plan to give it back to us.

Genesis 3 ends with the way back to Eden, paradise, the Tree of Life blocked off and even guarded by heavenly beings called cherubim. There was no way back in!



But the Bible ends with it wide open again. Look up **Revelation 22**, what do you see in **verse 2**?

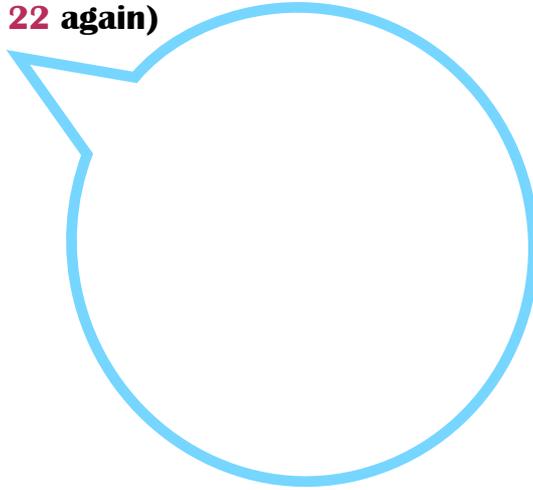
What is God's Plan to make it possible for us to get back to the Tree of Life? How would you say it in your own words?



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What other 'goodies' are promised to us in the Garden now that Jesus has opened it up again? (see **Revelation 22** again)



Genesis 3 sets the scene for the whole Bible. It tells us:

why there is sin in the world.....because we do not believe and trust God's Word

what the consequences of sin are.....separation from God and the good things He has for us

what God's character is like.....even though we hide from Him He looks for us and goes on loving us even when we hurt Him. He even carries on providing for us

what happens when we sin.....even though we can be forgiven, there are long term after effects

If you missed any of the studies ask for a copy of it to do at home.



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