

EXHORTATION: The Secret of the Fall in Eden

The events that took place in the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2 and 3) are pregnant with many lessons about man's relationship with God. In the Garden of Eden, we saw God's perfect order—God as the sovereign Lord who ruled over all, and Adam and Eve, the humans with delegated authority over all the earth. In this order, Adam and Eve had it all. They had Eden laden with material abundance, the animals at their beck and call, God's presence to meet their spiritual needs, and each other in perfect matrimonial harmony. However, they lacked two things. The first was the insight into the realm of the spirit without God's guidance, and the second was the control over their destiny. These were to be God's, and rightfully so, as these are the things that make Him God over all men. Their bad attitude to these apparent limitations was to lead them to their demise.

While it is a no brainer that Adam and Eve sinned against God, our understanding of the nature of their sin, and the factors that predisposed them to these failures will change our walk with God for better. What happened in the Garden of Eden was more than just disobedience; it was a spiritual decampment or defection to alternative spiritualism. The devil was the architect of the fall. He is the one who wants to be worshipped. He wants to take the place of God. So, the devil came with an offer that Adam and Eve could not refuse. He offered them independent spiritual insight that was not managed by God, and the opportunity to be like God (i.e. take control of their destinies.)

Why did man fall for this ruse? The reasons are many. First, we are prone to discontentment. We tend to go for what we do not have, and to disregard that which is common to us. We are like a dog sitting by the side of a pond with a bone in its mouth, that sees its reflection and jumps into the pond in a bid to get the other dog's bone, and in the process, it loses the real bone. Second, man has an insatiable desire to know and to gain insight into the unseen world. Many have sold their souls and many will continue to do so, just to "know what is going on." One wonders, what it shall profit a person to know what is going on, when he or she can not do anything to change it. Third, we have a desire to control and take charge of our lives even from God (I Samuel 8:1-7.) This tendency has made us so vulnerable to Satan's tricks, and the Church is not free from this. The involvement of professing Christians in alternative spiritual worship today is in part due to the desire to gain and maintain control of their lives.

The secret of the fall in Eden was rebellious self-emancipation through alternative spiritual means. What we need to understand is that we have a God who is above all, and in absolute control. All we need to do is to walk with Him in a covenant relationship sealed by the blood of Jesus Christ. The scripture testifies that the eyes of the God are in perpetual search for a man or woman whose heart solely trusts God, to demonstrate His strength on his or her behalf. Adam and Eve saw things after they fell, but could not change what they saw. Instead, they lost their authority to the devil and became his slaves (Romans 6:16). Like Paul the Apostle, I will wait on God to see what He chooses to show me (2 Corinthians 12:1-4). I will stay in the true freedom found only in Christ (John 8:36.) Neighbor, what about you?

PRAYER TOPICS

1. Let us give thanks to God for He is I AM THAT I AM. He is above all and in Him do all things consist. He is all that we will ever need. May His name be praised forever.
2. Ask the Lord to forgive us for straying from Him, and falling prey to the seductive, and deceitful offers of the devil and his cohort. Let us cry out for ourselves or our loved ones who are trapped in alternative spiritual worship, that the Lord would open our eyes to see our folly and repent (i.e. turn around) from this great transgression.
3. Are you on the fence with respect to this issue? Pray that God would help you to choose Him, and to know that you can not have it both ways (Revelations 3:16). Pray that the Lord would open our eyes and heart to see the deceitfulness of Satan and the faithfulness of Christ and choose the latter.
4. Let us pray for those who do not know Christ, and are trapped in Satan's dungeons, slaving for him. Pray for their salvation and deliverance, that they may be free to serve the ONE and only TRUE GOD.
5. Pray that as God sets us free, that the great revival that took place in the early church would be experienced in our times (Acts 19:19-20). Pray that the word of God would grow and prevail in our families, cities, states and countries.

God bless us as we continue to wait on Him. Amen.

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