

Rediscovering the story of the Old Testament

Session 1 – The Grand Narrative

Lesson 3

The Good Earth: Heaven and Earth Joined at the Garden

The Mandate (3-6)

Genesis 2:15 *The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.*

From Genesis 1 and 2, we see that God’s image-bearers are to _____ the earth and _____ it and to act as farmer-priests in _____ the earth. But after reproducing and filling the garden, what next?

Genesis 2 begins with “these are the _____ (Hebrew: *toledot*) of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

That phrase will be repeated _____ more times in Genesis as the image-bearers procreate, creating new

As the _____ grow, culture and society developed as
_____ developed across the world,

Through the _____ laws, through the process of
_____, God is constantly creating new living plants
and animals.

For “_____” in this home does not mean a
_____ of activity but living in this home, using the
home what it was designed for. So just as the Creator God
continues creating, his _____ image-bearers
continue their creating as well.

But what will this future look like? In Revelation we see some of the details.

_____ of heaven and earth, not just heaven and the Garden of Eden, being _____ together.

There will be a _____ as well as a garden .

The image-bearers will be _____ and judging the angels.

The worship and glorification of God will be more than just being with Him and singing His praises for He has created us for so much _____.

The Rebellion: Heaven and Earth separated

The Choice (7-11)

Genesis 2:9,17 *The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil... but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”*

For God to create creatures in His image, He had to take a _____ . To make creatures who could freely choose to _____ , they also had to be able to choose to _____ love.

However, choosing to not love the one who is the very source of _____ is incredibly disastrous; it means putting a barrier between one's self and the source of _____ itself, indeed, it is to take on evil itself.

To test the love of his image-bearers, God placed the Tree of _____, whose fruit they were told not to eat of on the penalty of _____.

These were _____ people in a _____ world, but where they could make a choice to not _____, and to risk death by making something more important than their relationship with the Creator.

God's creation was good, very good, and was destined to _____ and grow _____, giving more and more glory to God .

There were also other beings, _____, that also had the option to obey or disobey God. Some angels rebelled against God, the chief one being _____, and those angels were removed from the presence of God.

For reasons known only to God, _____ was allowed to tempt the image-bearers to also rebel. A _____ convinced the woman to _____ God's intentions and God's consequences of eating from the Tree of Knowledge.

The deceived woman, and the _____ man, *who was* _____ *her* chose to rebel and eat from that Tree.

The Consequences (12-17)

Genesis 3:21-24 *The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil ... the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken ... at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.*

The consequences were immediate and drastic. The signs of deaths affected everything. There was death of

_____:

between the serpent and _____

between the people and _____

between the people _____.

between the people and the _____.

Everything was _____ by the evil that had now entered the world.

The people were _____ from the Garden and from the Tree of Life contained therein .

Being separated from the Tree of Life would mean suffering physical _____.

However, God would use the curse of _____ eventually break the curse caused by the rebellion.

God _____ the man and woman with the punishment of pain and sweat, but at the same time, He provided a sign of the _____ to their rebellion.

Within the consequences, there was _____, but
there were hints of hope:

Hint of the ultimate solution by a future _____ of the
woman,

The provision of clothing was a hint of the future
_____ that would be made on their behalf

One of life's lessons is that _____ take time. There're
no shortcuts to building relationships, growing to
_____, or pursuing justice.

Adam and Eve couldn't wait for their time to gain
_____ and they paid the price.

God's solution to the problem of sin was also a process that
was going to take _____.

Growth of Sin (18-22)

Genesis 4 *Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.*

Genesis 6:5-7 *The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the Lord said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them.*

The _____ caused by the rebellion, infected all the image-bearers who came after Adam and Eve.

Cain and Abel showed that they understood that sin required the penalty of _____. To reconcile themselves to God they made _____ for God

But Cain did not offer a proper sacrifice. His sinful attitude gave way to _____, and then to jealousy of his brother, Abel, and then to killing him.

Later on, we see that the effect of the rebellion eventually got so bad that God saw it necessary to start over and _____ most of the people on earth through a great flood .

But even in the midst of their immense _____, we see signs of the innate _____ that the image-bearers possessed as they created cities, musical _____ and _____.

More _____, the image-bearers planned to make a
name for themselves

God _____ their languages, causing them to split up
into _____

From those nations, God would separate out one

To form a new nation to

create a pathway to restore His _____ with His
image-bearers.