

# Sin and Mercy

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic

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The story of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3, highlights not just their fall, but more importantly, the mercy and love of God. On our end, God wants us to go back to Him; all we need to do is to admit our sins and ask for forgiveness. With God's mercy and forgiveness, we will live in His grace and will enjoy true happiness.

## 1. Two accounts of creation:

- 1.1. **Genesis 1:** We realize how much God loves us, because He shared everything. He created man in His image and likeness. He gave His mandate, to go and multiply, which means, to procreate Godly cultures.
- 1.2. **Genesis 2:** God created Adam and Eve as equals, to share everything and to have a suitable helper. God is also a helper to all of us; thus, we too must never abandon a person who is in crisis.

## 2. Genesis 3: SIN and MERCY

- 2.1. When God created man, He entrusted everything to them. But, the Lord asked them to be vigilant. The devil lured Adam and Eve, causing them to fall from grace. Their fall brought a distortion in the human understanding of who we are.
- 2.2. The first temptation by the devil was not about eating the fruit. Actually, the devil was casting doubt on God's word, by luring them with the promise that they would get the powers of God. Let us be careful that we do not become like the snake: let us not cast doubts and temptations on other people.
- 2.3. When we are in a state of grace, our relationships with one another are also harmonious. However, when the primary relationship (our relationship with God) has a crack, our secondary relationships will also fail.
- 2.4. God was facilitating reconciliation. By asking "where are you, Adam?" He was

leading them to admit their sin. However, while God wanted them to surrender and admit their sin, so they could be reconciled, Adam and Eve started blaming one another and the snake. Thereafter, they wrapped themselves with dried leaves or trash. God still had mercy for them and instead, made clothes from animal leather, to give them warmth and durability.

- 2.5. Did God curse them? No. God was teaching them the way of life: to die to oneself. However, up to the end, mankind did not own up their sins, nor asked for forgiveness, causing separation from God. God was looking for ways for them to come back. Had they repented, God could change them.
- 2.6. We are indeed children of Adam and Eve. We do not admit our sins even when we are at fault. Rather, we blame others for our actions. We need to let go of pride, anger, and unforgiveness. We must learn to be humble and ask for forgiveness, so we can go back to God's grace.

## Conclusion:

Genesis 3 foretold the coming of Jesus, laying out the plans for mankind to come back. True happiness is experienced by people who know how to be humble and forgive. By asking for forgiveness, we open our hearts and we go back to God's embrace.

## REFLECTION:

1. Why are you sad? hurt? Are you sure you are in a state of grace?
2. Is your heart closed? Have you refused to forgive people who have hurt you?

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