

And since we have a great High Priest who rules over God's house, let us go right into the presence of God with sincere hearts fully trusting him. For our guilty consciences have been sprinkled with Christ's blood to make us clean, and our bodies have been washed with pure water.
Hebrews 10:21,22

We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are. Romans 3:22

When God covers you 4 things happen.

- You will not have as much trouble letting people see who you are.
- You will not need to put others in their place.
- You will not be frightened to confront people about their faults.
- You will not fear what the future holds for you.



What Genesis tells us about God and life.

The Reasons For The Human Condition Genesis 3:20-24

Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.²¹ The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.²² 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 forever."²³ So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.²⁴ 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.

Reason #1 Where the Human Condition Started. "The Reaching"

"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 ...' " vs.22

What's the significance tree of life?

The tree of life was necessary to sustain all of what it meant to be made in God's image. To live out what we were made to be not what we became. Therefore Adam and Eve had to be stopped.

What is God saying when he says Adam and Eve must not be allowed to reach out? It means they've lost God. As broken as they are, Adam and Eve still want what they were made to be, they still want what God gave to them.

Two Examples:

1)The longings we have for relationships, career, family, are never fully realized in life. They elude all of humanity. We get a taste but it never lasts.

The Truth: Until you understand what's going on in the fallen human existence, you are always going to reencounter the inevitable frustration of placing your hope in something that cannot deliver.

2) There is absolutely nothing more natural than death. Everyone and Everything dies. We're told to embrace it.

The Truth: Everyone struggles with the idea of dying one day, it feels like the most unnatural thing we face in life.

- You will pursue but you will not find contentment in this life. It is life outside God's covering.

"Everything is meaningless," says the Teacher, "completely meaningless!" ...8 Everything is wearisome beyond description. No matter how much we see, we are never satisfied. No matter how much we hear, we are not content. Ecclesiastes 1:2,8

Reason #2 What is the Nature of our Human Condition? "The Covering"

Verse 21: "The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them."

What is this nakedness that has to be dealt with?

- **1st** is the human condition is such *we cannot bear to be out of control of what people know about us.*

In other words, nakedness is a sense there's something wrong with me and I can't keep others from finding out.

Nakedness is a deep sense there's something inadequate. I'm not what I ought to be.

"And they ate. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; Genesis 3:7a

The eyes being open has to do with this deep sense of being vulnerable and it's caused by God no longer being our cover. Adam and Eve and by extension all of human history has and is living outside of God's protection.

...so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves. Genesis 3:7b

The most fundamental thing in the human condition, according to what the Bible is telling us, is we're all born with this sense of inadequacy and we're trying to cover ourselves up.

Reason #3 What Will Account for Our Human Condition? "The Sword"

Verse 24: "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."

Why a sword? Because a sword always represents the justice of God in the Bible. Always. It means there's a debt to be paid.

Then what's the hope? 40 centuries after Adam and Eve were sent out, there was somebody else who was cast out.

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, ... But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; ... the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ... For he was cut off from the land of the living; Isaiah 53:4,5,6,8

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, Hebrews 10:19,20