



In the Beginning ... Cast Out but not Cast Away

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

February 21, 2021

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." So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. – Genesis 3:22-23

What do you do when your world falls apart and there doesn't seem to be any hope on the horizon? It all depends upon how Big your God is and how well you know Him.

- Failures often _____, but God invites us to join Him in His work of _____.
- This passage reminds us that while Sin makes a _____, God makes a _____.

The World Before us the Garden Behind Us ... 3:20-24

- I. A Glimmer of _____ ... (3:20)
- II. A Demonstration of _____ ... (3:21)
- III. A Pronouncement of _____ ... (3:22-23)
- IV. A New Perspective on _____ ... (3:24)

So What ...

1. Sin results in severe _____.
2. Sin will often _____ us from relationships that we value.
3. What lies _____ is better than anything that has existed _____.

Truth for Life

For the week of February 21, 2021

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Have you ever known someone that their wayward life just went too far? Their life was totally wrecked. What happened? What was the thing that ultimately became the cause for the downfall? Were there efforts along the way to attempt correction?
2. This weekend we heard that while sin makes a big mess, there's no mess too big for God! Even knowing this, sometimes it can feel like God is missing and there is little hope. In the following verses, what hope can we count on in the midst of the mess?

Psalm 34:17-18

Psalm 46:1-3

Psalm 37:1-2

Psalm 9:18

Looking back at what you wrote above, which of these verses catches your attention the most? Why?

3. One of the most recognized stories of how sin makes a huge mess is the story Jesus told of the Prodigal Son. Read the story from Luke 15:11-32. The story of the prodigal son highlights the compassion and mercy of a loving father AND the wisdom of a dad who let his kid leave and allow the son's choices to result in major consequences. As you read the story, what stands out to you? Why? How was the father's choice to allow his son to go a choice that was rooted in love?

How do the following passages help us follow the Father's example and blend both of these responses in love?

Psalm 103:8-13

Hebrews 12:5-7

Galatians 6:7-10

How would you define compassion based on these verses? Would you say your natural and initial response to rebellion leans more toward compassion or consequences? Can you think of any ways these passages help you balance your response? If so, explain.

4. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.
 - a. How do you know when to confront a sinning Christian? Since we're all sinners in process, what sins need confrontation?
 - b. What safeguards can help us avoid the human tendency of dodging Scriptures that confront our sin?
 - c. Where's the balance between holding firm convictions versus the openness of being corrected where we're wrong?
 - d. How can we get people who deny their sin to face it?



In the Beginning ... Cast Out but not Cast Away

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

February 21, 2021

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." So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. – Genesis 3:22-23

What do you do when your world falls apart and there doesn't seem to be any hope on the horizon? It all depends upon how Big your God is and how well you know Him.

- Failures often **Define Us**, but God invites us to join Him in His work of **Remaking Us**.
- This passage reminds us that while Sin makes a **Mess**, God makes a **Way**.

The World Before us the Garden Behind Us ... 3:20-24

- I. A Glimmer of **Hope** ... (3:20)
- II. A Demonstration of **Grace** ... (3:21)
- III. A Pronouncement of **Judgment** ... (3:22-23)
- IV. A New Perspective on **Mercy** ... (3:24)

So What ...

1. Sin results in severe **Consequences**.
2. Sin will often **Forever Separate** us from relationships that we value.
3. What lies **Before Us** is better than anything that has existed **Behind Us**.

Truth for Life

For the week of February 21, 2021

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Have you ever known someone that their wayward life just went too far? Their life was totally wrecked. What happened? What was the thing that ultimately became the cause for the downfall? Were there efforts along the way to attempt correction?
2. This weekend we heard that while sin makes a big mess, there's no mess too big for God! Even knowing this, sometimes it can feel like God is missing and there is little hope. In the following verses, what hope can we count on in the midst of the mess?

Psalm 34:17-18

Psalm 46:1-3

Psalm 37:1-2

Psalm 9:18

Looking back at what you wrote above, which of these verses catches your attention the most? Why?

3. One of the most recognized stories of how sin makes a huge mess is the story Jesus told of the Prodigal Son. Read the story from Luke 15:11-32. The story of the prodigal son highlights the compassion and mercy of a loving father AND the wisdom of a dad who let his kid leave and allow the son's choices to result in major consequences. As you read the story, what stands out to you? Why? How was the father's choice to allow his son to go a choice that was rooted in love?

How do the following passages help us follow the Father's example and blend both of these responses in love?

Psalm 103:8-13

Hebrews 12:5-7

Galatians 6:7-10

How would you define compassion based on these verses? Would you say your natural and initial response to rebellion leans more toward compassion or consequences? Can you think of any ways these passages help you balance your response? If so, explain.

4. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.
 - a. How do you know when to confront a sinning Christian? Since we're all sinners in process, what sins need confrontation?
 - b. What safeguards can help us avoid the human tendency of dodging Scriptures that confront our sin?
 - c. Where's the balance between holding firm convictions versus the openness of being corrected where we're wrong?
 - d. How can we get people who deny their sin to face it?