**FOCUS Bible Study - April 06**

[**VIEW RECORDING - 95 mins (No highlights)**](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP)

[@0:01](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1.46) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

This meeting is being recorded. Good morning. We have Sarah and we have Lori on so far. Good morning. Welcome.

Good morning. We have a slight different camera angle this morning because I had to get my computer plugged in.

Yeah. We've got plans for the weekend. So many plans. Julie's going to a baby shower here shortly. Almost about the time the Bible study ends here.

[@0:57](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=57.74) - **Sarah Crawford**

I'm going to go see a play down here.

[@1:00](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=60.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

I'm in Milwaukee, and we got to get packed this weekend because we're heading out to go see my son on Tuesday morning Hours done.

Yes, our son. Sorry, our son Good morning. Hi, Aaron. Hi, Jeanette morning Glad you guys can make it Aaron, love your hair Thank you Morning here, too.

I combed whatever crows were left out of it, but it's Saturday morning, and I think we're all family now, so Yes, my daughter picked them out.

Oh, that's a cool Fingernet figure nail polish color.

[@1:50](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=110.22) - **Erin Ashcraft**

They're third glue on We'll see how long before I them, right?

[@1:58](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=118.3) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

I'm Julie's got to see Where are they? Whoo hoo! And then the pink ones pink and they're like mermaid or something.

Maddie picked them out. How cute.

[@2:09](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=129.84) - **Erin Ashcraft**

I have a friend that sells them so she like picked out one for me. They're little wild but it's cold.

[@2:17](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=137.84) - **Sarah Crawford**

I haven't seen them press on one, sold.

[@2:20](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=140.84) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Yeah, they're Gluon, um, Red Aspen, my friend Lindsay Lenerson. She's in the group, the Facebook group, she sells them.

[@2:28](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=148.5) - **Sarah Crawford**

And they're really with the Red Aspen.

[@2:31](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=151.68) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Way cheaper than Gluon, you get them done elsewhere.

[@2:34](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=154.36) - **Sarah Crawford**

Oh, yeah.

[@2:36](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=156.94) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Hi, Lori.

[@2:40](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=160.04) - **Laurie Nelson**

Hello. I did. morning.

[@2:42](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=162.98) - **Erin Ashcraft**

I just posted Lori's Bible study from last night that we had. So that's on there.

[@2:47](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=167.62) - **Laurie Nelson**

you for doing that.

[@2:48](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=168.9) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Yeah.

[@2:49](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=169.92) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Cool. What was the topic, if I can ask? Uh, the heart of a servant and a lot of it had to do with Jesus's example.

[@3:00](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=180.0) - **Laurie Nelson**

Oh, we read out of Philemon to about his runaway slave and stuff like that.

[@3:08](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=188.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah. Very cool.

[@3:09](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=189.62) - **Laurie Nelson**

Interesting stuff.

[@3:20](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=200.36) - **Erin Ashcraft**

My hubby's listening, but he's cooking breakfast.

[@3:23](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=203.72) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

All right, that's good. We've got a couple of minutes you up before nine o'clock, so I usually give it two or three minutes after.

So we've got plenty of time here.

[@3:46](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=226.08) - **Sarah Crawford**

So guys, I'm recording a, I'm recording a testimony interview on HSBN, which Holy Spirit Broadcasting Network on Monday.

[@4:00](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=240.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Cool.

[@4:01](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=241.0) - **Sarah Crawford**

That's Who does a show? I'm super nervous for it.

[@4:06](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=246.6) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Oh, you'll be fine. God bless you. That's awesome.

[@4:12](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=252.38) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Yeah, please share whenever it's posted or whatever we can watch it.

[@4:18](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=258.1) - **Sarah Crawford**

Well, for sure.

[@4:19](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=259.8) - **Erin Ashcraft**

That's exciting.

[@4:30](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=270.76) - **Laurie Nelson**

People's testimonies fire me up. Like, it reminds me that God didn't just do that to me.

[@4:37](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=277.74) - **Sarah Crawford**

Oh, right.

[@4:39](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=279.04) - **Laurie Nelson**

Right.

[@4:40](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=280.76) - **Sarah Crawford**

my life is like what? And I think part of it is just being so like, so plugged in. Like, I don't have any other distractions of the world right now.

Like, it's just God, God, especially when I'm on my kids. And then when you do that, it's like, things keep coming at you when you're

or so in the flow, you know, so it's just wow.

[@5:06](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=306.3) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, there are definitely seasons for that, you know, that you just want to soak it up.

[@5:10](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=310.66) - **Sarah Crawford**

You know, like, so yesterday, so this is one thing that happened yesterday, just like flow wise, is I was eating breakfast at, I'd drop my kids off at school, and then I have to hang around Portage Partyville because I live an hour from the school, you know, all day.

So I go to breakfast on the way cafe, and there's bunch of people having a Bible study. So of course, I'm hearing stuff there that I need to hear.

Like, I'm just like listening into their Bible study. And then I get some kind of cue that tells me go to John four.

So I'm reading chapter four. And it's I think it's verse 35 or something. it's about the harvest, you know, I'm like, okay, that was just what was sticking out.

Then I go to the library. go to the library, walk into the library to sit down and do my work for the rest of the day, and the librarian picks up the phone, and she goes to whoever's on the other end.

Oh, the book, what's the book you're looking for? Seasons of Harvest? I'm like, I can't this shut up. Like, can I make this up?

[@6:25](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=385.98) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

That's pretty cool and stuff like that happens. I was working at the, we'll give it just a couple more minutes, by the way, it's 901, so just two more minutes.

But I was working for the state on a project, and I got a phone call, and I hardly ever got calls, or hardly ever get calls at a client, you know, but it rang on their phone, and I picked it up, and I said hello, and the lady on the other line says, Hi, Rick, and I'm like, hi, and she starts talking, and I realize I don't know who this lady is, and she's telling me about her medical problems, and I'm going, man, I don't think I am who you

That you know, we're looking for but I said, you know what let's pray and so if we prayed on the phone, you know Because was just one of those moments.

Obviously God used it as a connection. It was very interesting. I love it when those kind of things happen Well, hi Sean.

Hi Dave. Glad you guys could join us this morning. Hi, Alicia We seem to have lost Jeanette. Hopefully she'll get back on But glad everybody's able to make it that bright and early this morning.

It's nice to see the sun shining Hopefully it's shining in your area, too We're gonna enjoy it because it's supposed to rain tomorrow.

So we're gonna make the most of it today, right? For those of you just joined my wife is also in the room.

So Julie say hi Julie no hand wave this morning I came over to see her now, so then I came in so high.

I got a duck out a little early for a shower and actually the next Bible study I have a different shower.

It's a crazy month.

[@8:16](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=496.56) - **Laurie Nelson**

You are busy.

[@8:17](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=497.98) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, it's very busy. Yeah, for sure. There's Jeanette. Welcome back Jeanette. Glad you were able to make it. All right, let's go ahead and get started.

It's 903. don't want to keep us waiting too long because we got a lot to get through today. But I always say that, right?

you know, what's new? Let's go ahead and open up with the word of prayer. Lord Jesus, I thank you for this beautiful, beautiful day and for these beautiful people, Lord God.

just pray, God, that you would anoint us, speak to us, God, lead us ever closer to you because that's the whole reason we come this morning.

We want to hear from you. We want to be impressed upon by your word. We want to be changed because of your Holy Spirit.

So, God, hold nothing back from us. God, pour into us God, teach us, lead us God, shape us into your image.

We thank you, give you glory, we give you praise in Jesus name. Amen. All right, well, this morning, I'm actually little overwhelmed.

I've been studying the topic, the cross, as I mentioned out there that we'd be talking about today, for a couple of weeks now.

And man, I've just been overwhelmed with how much I've been like learning and just growing from it. And, you know, I, I told Julie, and I said, there's so much here that I think it's, it's gonna be way too much.

And she said, well, you know, it's okay to split it up. And so we might actually do that. We might have a couple of lessons on just the cross itself.

So with that said, I've kind of divided it into what I call four parts. So I kind of know like at what point I could stop at any one of those completion of those parts, not that we were.

We're going to take four lessons, but at least, you know, we can cover it section by section. So the first part we're going to cover is about the foundation.

And so to do that, we're going to go to first Peter, chapter one, first Peter, chapter one. Oh, and let me ask a quick survey question here.

This app that I've been using that you probably see up on the corner that says, Fathom records the video and it records the audio and it creates summaries of the transcripts and detail of our conversation.

And I've been posting that on the website. Does anybody find that useful or is that just kind of like a waste?

Anybody have an opinion on that? No, Rachel said she was using it for her mom. Oh, OK. that. OK, does anybody else have an opinion on that?

[@10:49](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=649.76) - **Alicia**

I'm sure. Why you have them?

[@10:51](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=651.52) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Have you? OK, but have you not like nobody's gone out and read those transcripts, right? Or peruse those those word documents?

the transcripts, right? Okay, well, I'm just trying to follow up to see if that's useful or not, because then I don't have to worry about editing them and such, but all right, so let's go to first Peter, chapter one, we're going to read verses 18 through 20, and would anybody also like me to post the scripture list out on the chat?

Okay, why don't I quick do that before we read then, and I'll tell you what, if you want to get ahead of the game, I will also, let me just find the minimize here, sorry, I'll post all four parts of it, so that way you'll see what's coming up ahead if you want to get ahead and read all of the scripture, just got to get to the bottom here, because even this morning I added two or three there on the list, but I asked

added two or three from this morning as I was reviewing again. So they're now they're out there. Okay, so now you can follow along.

So first Peter, chapter one, we're going to read verses 18 through 20. And Laurie, would you mind reading for me first?

[@12:19](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=739.42) - **Laurie Nelson**

For as much as you know, that you were not redeemed with corruptible things as silver and gold from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ as of a lamb without blemish and without spot, who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these times in these last times for you.

[@12:42](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=762.04) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay, thank you. So what did we gather out of those three little verses? One and verse 18, know, we were, we were redeemed.

tells us that we are redeemed, but not with corruptible earthly things, right? And he compares it to silver and gold, but and not by simple words.

birds and tradition of man. We were redeemed in verse 19 by the blood of Christ, right? Because he was the perfect sacrifice without spot or blemish.

And then verse 20, this is the interesting part, who was foreordained, that means thought of beforehand, pre-designed, if you will, put in a practice before the foundation of the world, not at the foundation of the world, but before the foundation of the world.

So I hope this gives you a picture, right, that when God designed this world we live in, before he put anything in motion, before he even spoke anything, his first act was to think about something.

And his first act to think about everything was, how is everything going to play out? Because he already knew.

Have you ever sat, for example, and planned out your weekend? Somebody asked if we had any height and thought about, okay, what am I going to do this whole weekend, right?

And you sit and you think about, okay, all the activities you've got going on. And the time schedule and how things are going to work, right?

Especially if you've got a busy weekend because you're trying to coordinate everything, right? So you're thinking about it in your mind before it ever happened.

And then you get to those things and you compare. Did it happen the way I thought it would, right?

Well, God is so much better than that even. He knows exactly what it's going to happen. He doesn't have to compare because he already sees every possibility, every opportunity out there, he's playing for it already.

And so from the very first thing he thought about was salvation through Jesus Christ. I think that's incredible, right?

And that it was manifested to us in the last times. And Peter wrote that. So we've been living in the last times, if you will, since Jesus came to this world.

the physical body. So you might say, we're living in the last of the last times. We're living in the last of the last days, right?

mean, time is winding down. So I think that's why I started thinking about the cross, given that we just had Easter.

or a week or two to go, right? I lose track of time last weekend. So it was a great point.

I probably shouldn't have been ahead of the game of that and thought about it beforehand. But all this stuff started kind of swirling in my head, my heart.

And so I started digging into this. And I thought, if God planned this from the foundation of the world, then let's figure out why and what he put in motion at the start to bring it all to pass.

Because if you have an idea, you've got to take that first step of action that then brings it to pass, right?

So what was that very first thing he did? Well, let's go right into Genesis. Genesis, chapter 2, verses 7 through 9.

And Aaron, when you have that, do you mind reading for us?

[@15:48](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=948.88) - **Erin Ashcraft**

And the Lord formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life.

And man became a living soul. And the Lord God planted a garden eastward and Eden. and there he put the man whom he had formed, and out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant for the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

[@16:14](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=974.18) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you. So now here in these three verses, we have the very first action of God in association with man.

Now we know before this God spoke the world into existence, the light, right? The first of the darkness, the sky versus the water, all of the animals, you know, all this.

But now here we get to man. This is his first interaction with man and the whole purpose really of his design.

So all he did beforehand was setting the stage, right? It's kind of like putting the props in place, right?

Because as we know later, it says that God took man and put him in the garden to even to dress it and to keep it.

So it was like he set the stage to put man on center stage. And when he created man, he didn't just speak man, he got involved.

the word formed in the scripture. So he got personally involved and it says he breathed, he formed a amount of the dust of the ground that's important to capture that dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and we understand from previous Bible studies that that phrase breath of life is the same root word in the Hebrew as wind or spirit.

So in other words you could say he put his spirit, God put his spirit in demand by how breathing into his nostrils in other words like a mouth to mouth resuscitation or a holy kiss if you will.

So God didn't just form man he personally intimately got involved with the creation of man and that's it says when man became a living soul.

So there are some who argue that man was alive in the flesh at that point but not alive in the spirit.

Yeah give or take whatever but we know at that point man is a living soul and that was the differential differentiation between the rest of mankind or

or keep planet animals, right? Because they don't have souls, but man was given a soul. And God planted the garden, and he put the man in it, whom he had formed.

And like I said later, there's a clarification that he said, he put it there to dress it and to keep it.

And then verse nine, here's the interesting part. Out of the ground, God makes everything to grow, but he makes these two trees to grow specifically.

And he identifies what they are. Anybody, what are those two trees? He and life and the tree of knowledge, good and evil.

Tree of life and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. So three components here. the three components are life, good and evil, okay?

Hold on to that for a second. Now, if we're talking about the cross, and we talked about in first Peter, for those of you who just joined, welcome, first scripture was in first Peter, one 18 through 20.

And it talked about how God had planned out Jesus Christ and the reality. redemption of mankind from the foundation of the world.

So, if this was God's plan and he sets the stage, we have three things here that are highlighted. The life, good, and evil.

Now, if we're talking in terms of the cross, this just stuck out to me when I thought about this.

Was there just one cross on that day that Jesus died? No, how many crosses were there? Anybody? Three. so we had Jesus in the middle, right?

And Jesus obviously represents life. But we had two, what they were called, malefactors or criminals on either side, right?

on either side. Does anybody remember how each of the criminals responded to Jesus?

[@19:53](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1193.37) - **Carla Buchanan**

The one criticized him, said that if he was truly God, he could get the I'm all down and the other one said that he was, you know, he had no reason to be on the cross that they belong there.

[@20:09](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1209.58) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

That's right, Carla. Thank you for sharing that. That's exactly right. So we could say one who kind of belittled Christ or criticized him, represented evil.

The other one who said, I'm getting what I deserve represented good. You see the components here, tree of life, tree of good, tree of evil, three representations.

So what does that mean? does God even from the beginning in Genesis and the symbolism of the cross trying to tell us?

He's trying to tell us as we as we'll see when Adam and Eve take of the fruit that without God, without the proper life in us, what we think is good still comes up short.

It still leads to death, and obviously we know the plain out evil leads to to death, right? How can we how can we verify that in Scripture?

Proverbs, chapter 14. Proverbs, chapter 14. We're going to read verse 12. Sarah, when you find it, do mind reading for us?

[@21:26](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1286.18) - **Sarah Crawford**

14, 12. There is a way that seems right to a man, but it's end is the way to death.

[@21:35](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1295.98) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So you could say right, same is good, right? We think something's good, we think something's right according to ourselves.

Scripture's telling us it just still leads us to death, okay? that that answers the good question. can't be just good enough because it's only going to lead us to death.

And that's exactly what happened to that particular criminal. I mean, he realized at the end, his goodness came up short.

But what about the other guy. Proverbs chapter 11 verse 19. Proverbs 11 verse 19. Alicia, do you mind reading that when you find it?

[@22:18](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1338.5) - **Alicia**

Truly the righteous attained life, but whoever pursues evil finds death.

[@22:24](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1344.66) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So I think that one's pretty clear, right? So you've got good that comes up short, got evil that even obviously comes up short, they both lead to death.

So what is the thing that helps us bridge the gap? It's life. And obviously in the symbolism across, it's Jesus Christ.

Now let's go back to Genesis and continue our story here in Genesis chapter 2. We're going to read verses 15 through 17.

And Carla, do you mind reading for us today in Genesis 2, 15 through 17?

[@23:06](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1386.82) - **Carla Buchanan**

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

And the Lord God commanded the man, you are free to eat from any tree in the garden, but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

So, for when you eat of it, you will surely die. For the Lord, okay, thank you.

[@23:34](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1414.58) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

So he makes these trees, two trees, one representing life, one representing good and evil, and he gives them one command, simple command.

You can eat of any other tree, what the tree of knowledge of good and evil, because what's going to happen the day they eat of it, what's the related punishment?

Death, death, right, okay, now why do you think God does this? Why do you think he sets it up this way?

If he's setting the stage, why do you think he's setting it so?

[@24:08](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1448.44) - **Carla Buchanan**

He wants us to choose him to have a relationship with him.

[@24:14](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1454.64) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Right. If God created man with free will or the power to choose, if there's nothing to choose from, what's the point?

Right? So if God gives us free will, but gives us nothing to choose from, then it's like in vain.

And God doesn't do anything in vain, right? So to choose also represents obedience or love. So if God created man, because he wanted somebody to love him back, and think about this, that God already had angels created, because we know that he's talking to somebody when he says, let us create man in our image.

And so some speculate, he's talking to himself or he's talking to the angels, or the arch angels, or the seraphim,

He's obviously communicating, but it's not to a man because he didn't create man yet. So the whole idea of him creating man was so that he could have something that loved him back because the angels were automatically supposed to respond, They didn't have the same power of choice that man has.

So by exercising choice, we also show whether we love God or not. So now this makes sense why God would set it up this way, right?

But if we continue what happened, we're going to read verses one through ten in chapter three. Let's split that up in five verses each.

Shana, do you mind reading for us today versus one through five of chapter three?

[@25:52](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1552.48) - **Carla Buchanan**

Is this in Genesis?

[@25:54](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1554.72) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Oh, correct. We're in Genesis.

[@25:56](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1556.34) - **Shawna**

Yeah.

[@25:57](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1557.9) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Versus one through five, I apologize.

[@26:01](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1561.32) - **Shawna**

This is the book of the generations of Adam in the day when God created man. He created him in the likeness of God.

He created the male and female. He blessed them and called the mankind in the day when they were created.

Adam lived 130 years and became the father of a son in his own likeness.

[@26:20](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1580.58) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Donna, can I interrupt real quick?

[@26:22](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1582.0) - **Shawna**

you sure? I doing the wrong one?

[@26:23](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1583.6) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Are you sure in chapter three?

[@26:25](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1585.4) - **Shawna**

Oh, no, that's chapter five.

[@26:27](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1587.7) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay, no problem. Great scriptures, by the way, but yeah.

[@26:32](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1592.68) - **Shawna**

All right, one through three.

[@26:34](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1594.38) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Chapter three, one through five.

[@26:36](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1596.56) - **Shawna**

One through five. Got it. Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast in the field, which the Lord God had made.

And he said to the woman, has God said, you shall not eat of any tree of the garden. And the woman said to the serpent, we may eat of the fruit from the trees of the garden, but from the fruit of the tree, which is in the midst of the garden.

God has said, you will not eat of it, nor will you touch it. it or else you will die.

Then the serpent said to the woman, you surely will not die. For John knows that on the day you eat of it, your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.

[@27:13](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1633.2) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay. Thank you. So let's pause there before we continue. So the serpent or the devil, because we get in revelation, the clarification that the serpent represents the devil, so we can say one in the same.

So the devil here is subtle. He's tricky. He's crafty in other words. And he slides up against the woman and he says, basically, he confronts and says, you can't have everything, right?

Because remember what God said, you can have everything but one. And now the devil has twisted that perspective and he said, what?

You can't have everything because you can't have this one, right? He's totally coming at it from the opposite angle, right?

her think that she's being deprived. And so then the woman says, you know, no, we can eat of any fruit of the tree of the garden, except for this one.

And she also goes on and says, we can't even touch it. No, God didn't say anything about touching it, right?

They could use it for hacky sack or or badminton or whatever they wanted, right? But you know, he didn't say anything about touching it.

And so Notice at that moment in verse 4 that's when the devil knew he could just slide in to a Misunderstanding she had about the word of God, right?

Because she he knew she didn't know the word of God for herself To the point that she should have it's not a complicated word of God, right?

he said is don't eat of it But because of man and man tries to over-complicate things and regulate things That's what the Pharisees did.

had over 600 laws and regulations on top of what the Scripture told them that they should or should not do, right?

So by trying to complicate it It allowed the devil to sneak in and take advantage of them And so what does he do by coming in and taking advantage?

He confronts Lately confronts the word of God because God said to them the day you eat was the day you're gonna die And he says you will not die.

He simply adds a three-letter word So you will not die right lightly confronts it. All right. from there, let's continue versus six through 10 Rodney Do you mind reading for us?

[@29:12](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1752.0) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Yeah, all right sure And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was pleasant to the eyes and a tree to be Desired to make one wise she took of the fruit thereof and did eat and gave also into her husband with her And he did eat and the eyes of them both were open and they knew that they were naked and they sewed Big leaves together and made themselves aprons And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden and the Lord God comes

Alden, the Adam said unto him, Where art thou? And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, and I hid myself.

[@30:10](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1810.56) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Hey, thank you. So notice something, verse six. In order for her to see the fruit, she had to be standing next to the tree, right?

So she allowed herself to be in a place of temptation. She didn't have to be there, right? She could have been totally on the opposite side of the garden.

She couldn't have been doing anything else, but she made a point of because she was being deceived. She made a point of going and investigating.

Hmm, let's go check this out. Oh, it does kind of look appealing, but notice she didn't come alone. Who's standing right next to her?

[@30:49](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1849.16) - **Carla Buchanan**

Adam.

[@30:50](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1850.2) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Adam, yeah, her husband, right? And so she considers and she understands that the fruit of this particular tree is good and evil.

The knowledge is gonna give her knowledge. There's no lie in that. That's absolute truth. going to give her knowledge But what kind of knowledge and at what price right?

So she takes us thinking it's going to make herself wise in other words Put her on the same par with God and you see the knowledge of the good and evil is thinking.

know best More than God, right? It it makes us think that we're at the same par that we can make the same decisions have the same Understanding the same revelations is God and I'm sorry, but no we're created beings We are so much below that In Isaiah 55 God says my thoughts are not your thoughts My ways are not your thoughts because my ways because my ways and my thoughts are higher than yours so much higher than the earth than the heavens I mean think about the expanse that we can't even comprehend the slightest idea of who God is We're when we talk in these Bible studies and we study the scripture and we've done it three decades And maybe our entire lives.

We're only scratching the surface We want to get a little piece of dust under our fingernail of our understanding of who God is and so when she would she consumed that fruit She thought okay, that puts me on par.

It's an it's thinking I know better I can make my own decisions and without the proper life source You're not going to make the right decisions.

You've got to have that intersection of good and evil and life To make the right decisions Decisions All right, so what happens they eat the fruit.

Oh, no, we're naked what what's that got to do with anything in other words? They were full of shame Sin leads to shame You feel bad about it.

You feel bad about what you did you may not be able to express it put your finger on it say Oh, this is what I'm feeling But you will have reactions based on that shame and their reaction was to say oh We're naked let's cover right What's that gonna do they were already naked it that no effect

on them beforehand. So they're trying, their actions trying to cover up were meaningless. were pointless. Yeah, Carl, I see you got your hand up.

[@33:09](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=1989.72) - **Carla Buchanan**

Go ahead. Yeah. When Judas betrayed Jesus, did he have the same reaction as Adam and Eve then?

[@33:21](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2001.82) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Meaning what?

[@33:24](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2004.82) - **Carla Buchanan**

They were sorry for what they did. But did they repent? Sorry to interrupt you.

[@33:33](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2013.92) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yes, you're right. Because there's a difference, and we can talk about that a little bit more here, and the scripture tells us there's a difference between worldly sorrow and godly sorrow.

So everybody, whenever they sin is going to have this reaction of shame, right, and the sorrow that comes in.

Whether you identify correctly or not is the pivotal point. If you realize that, wait a minute, what I did was wrong, and I don't want to do it anymore.

That is a godly sorrow. I want to change there and the only way I can change is connecting to God Like I said, having the right life source will help you make the right decision So when you realize oh, I've made a mistake I need God in my light to help me keep from doing this mistake You have a way out you have the connection to heaven to save you when you realize you made a mistake But there's nothing I can do about it.

I'm condemned to this You're either going to live a life of sin that will eventually lead to death or you're going to do what Judas did and take the easier way out and Commit suicide, right?

That unfortunately is what? Worldly sorrow is about because they don't realize there's hope to get out of that situation and to stop doing it Yeah, God really showed his mercy then on Adam and Eve by not Condented Deming them right then and there.

Yep, you're exactly right. We're going to talk a little bit further about that in just a minute Okay, so

So here they realize their shame they cover up with fig leaves right that they grab the first thing available They think about fig leaves and they cover up and then all of a sudden they realize they hear God's voice Now it wasn't that God wasn't already in the in the garden.

It was his garden He was used to being in the garden They were used to having him in the garden, but all of a they tune in they realize we hear God and high right because of their shame Shame pulls people away from God again You know, it's gonna drive you away from God unless you realize your need for God and you're vulnerable And you're willing to expose your nakedness before God so to speak and say this is who I am This is the shape on me and I need your help God because I can't do it any other way but they chose to hide right and kind of cover up themselves and and God says what's going on here guys, right?

And and Adam says well, we're naked. All right, let's continue verses 11 Through 24 let's split that up again 11

through 16, okay, and then somebody else take 17 through 24. So, Julie, do mind reading 11 through 16? And he said, who told you you were naked?

Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from? The man said, the woman that you could hear with me, she gave me some fruit from the tree and I ate it.

Then the Lord God said to the woman, what is this you have done? The woman said, the circuit received me and I ate.

So the Lord God said to the serpent, because you have done this. First are you, above all the livesets and all the wild animals.

You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman in between your offspring and hers.

He will crush your head and you will strike his heel. To the woman he said, I will greatly increase your pains and childbearing.

With pain you will give birth to to children, your desire for your husband and he will rule over you.

All right. Thank you, Julie. Dave, do you mind continuing versus 17 through 24?

[@37:10](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2230.9) - **Dave Meisel**

Sure.

[@37:12](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2232.18) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you.

[@37:13](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2233.94) - **Dave Meisel**

And to Adam, he said, because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you saying you shall not eat of it.

Cursed is the ground on an account of you and hard labor you will eat of it all the days of your life.

Thorns and thistles, it will bring forth for you and you will eat of the plants of the By the sweat of your face, you will eat bread until you return to the ground because out of it, you were taken for you are dust and to dust you will return.

man called his wife, wife named Eve because she He was the mother of all living, of all living, the Lord God made garments of skin for both Adam and his wife and clothed them.

The Lord God said the man has become like one of us knowing good and evil and now he might reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat and live forever.

Therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden, maybe even, to tell the ground from which he was taken.

He drove the man out and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubon and flaming sword which turned in every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.

[@38:52](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2332.62) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Thank you Dave. appreciate that. Micah just saw your hand up. Did you want to make comment or question?

[@38:57](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2337.68) - **Mike**

Yeah, if I could. Okay. Hopefully I'm coming through. I wanted to go back to what you said about Eve's first step in getting in the trouble was going near the tree.

And it relates to the Lord's prayer, us not into temptation. I've heard people ask, well, why would God lead us into temptation?

Well, he doesn't. The verse really means help us stay away from situations in which we might become tempted. It's just a linguistic way of saying it sort of using reverse language.

But of all of all Bibles, the message, which at times can be crazy, I think says this in a way which is good to

to keep in mind, keep us safe from ourselves and the Lord's prayer is a daily, it's a daily recitation.

Remember every day before you take your first step out in the world that one of the first things you need, you want protection from the devil but you want the Lord's help in keeping you safe from yourself and keeping you from taking that first step in the neighborhood where you don't need to be.

[@40:32](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2432.38) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

That's exceptional. Thank you for sharing that Mike. Appreciate that. That corresponds with something I saw on Facebook the other day and yes again you can learn some things on Facebook.

If you look at the right things, this gentleman was explaining the word sin, S-I-N right as we know it and in the Hebrew there's characters related to the letters and like the S represented the I in a character form represents the I and the I.

I represented like a fish hook and the end represents like a body of fish. And the way he explained it was so cool.

It's like sin is what you entertain with your eye that hooks you to multiply because the fish represents multiply and then it hooks you and you multiply that in your life.

So that goes exactly with what Mike was talking about. If you go to a place where you like you are willing to look at something and be entertained by it, it hooks you and it's not the thing that God wants for your life, but you're multiplying that in your life, you are ending up in a place of sin, right?

So very, very good. All right, so we know that's exactly what happened with Adam and Eve. They fall in this place of sin, right?

And God gives them an opportunity to own up to it. He says in verse 10, you know, verse 9, you know what's going on?

And they kind of like shug and they don't want to deal with it. And he says, well, then who told you you were naked?

He's trying to drive to the point. Okay. This is the way God works most of the time with us.

if we realize this. God gives us opportunity to reach out to him, and it's a soft opportunity, if you will.

It's kind of like, he's wooing us as scripture says, he's trying to bring us in. And if we respond, that's awesome, he'll work with us further and further.

But if we don't respond, God loves us so much that he takes a harder stance, and he tries to get our attention even harder.

It's like, hey, wake up, pay attention, right? He'll kind of like a parent, raise his voice, say the middle name, whatever it takes, right?

To get our attention, right? And if we do, great, we need response, and he starts working with us. But eventually, we think we get unlimited chances in this life.

And I'm sorry to say we don't. I don't know how many chances God gives us, because scripture doesn't really make that clear.

But it's not unlimited, because you think about the days of Noah, we knew that the boat was being built, they knew they could have gotten on the boat.

But at some point, that door was closed and sealed, they could no longer get on it, just as the rain started to fall.

Right, so at some point God says enough right just like any parent enough. You want to touch the self I've told you a hundred times don't touch a stove, but if you're so into it go ahead You know What else can I do?

I put up a warning sign. I've told you all about it I've shown you by putting my hand on the stove that it's hot, you know, but what else can I do?

You want it go for it, right? And you're gonna suffer the consequences and that's what happened here God gives them an opportunity.

They kind of shy away. gives them another opportunity Hey, who told you you're naked and then they start the blame game pointing fingers, right?

Because that's what shame does it doesn't want to point us point the finger at ourselves and say we had a role that we played in this Right, it starts to say no the person associated here this person in fact They starting blaming God God you gave me the woman, know It's the woman who deceived me, but you know what that leads directly back to you God It's your fault if you hadn't give me the woman.

I wouldn't have done this right? So the plane the blame game and And so God says, OK, enough of that.

And he's going to dole out judgment. We're going talk about that in a minute. But in the middle of that, he also gives a promise, which ties us directly in to 1 Peter.

And talk about that in a second, right? And then so all of that happens. And then God does one final thing.

He covers them with coats of skin. Remember, what were they already wearing? Anybody but Julie? She's got an advantage because she said it right here, right?

[@44:27](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2667.78) - **Laurie Nelson**

So what were they wearing? Big leaves.

[@44:31](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2671.16) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Big leaves, right? So they're already covered with big leaves. So why does he bother covering with coats of skin?

[@44:38](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2678.8) - **Carla Buchanan**

It's the first blood sacrifice.

[@44:41](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2681.56) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Exactly right, because there was no blood in flig leaves, right? So when he takes a coat of skin, it doesn't tell us how he does it.

Well, let's imagine he's got to take some kind of an animal to get the coats of skin, right? And if we study the Bible in themes, and we know Jesus called the Lamb of God, what kind of animal can you suppose?

was that God used to grab these coats of skin. I strongly suspect it was a lamb and he picks the lamb up and he strokes the lamb to comfort it right but then he's got to rip the hide off and now there's a dead lamb bloody hide that he's holding and he covers Adam and Eve with it.

So now when God looks at Adam and Eve he doesn't just see Adam and Eve he sees a bloody mess, a sacrifice in their place and then he drives them out of the garden right and who in the garden besides Adam and Eve in devil was there God because it was his garden right so what's he doing he's separating him from his presence.

He's like saying nope I can't be associated with sin so he drives out sin. Now God was promised in the judgment in Genesis chapter 2 that we read right in verse 17 but the day you eat of it was the day you shall surely die.

Did they physically die? No but something died in their place we call that substitution. So there was physical death Did they die spiritually because as we read man became a living soul and got put his spirit in him They didn't die spiritually other than the fact that he separated them from their presence So we call that death's a separation So God was true to his word that there was physical death and separation of the spirit But it didn't come about like we would have normally thought right so God says something to you and you think oh, it's gonna happen this way Don't get your mind to that on it don't get your heart set on it God works in mysterious ways God God's ways are higher His thoughts are higher.

He can bring it to pass in a numerous number of ways, right? so Let's go on and read I'll get to you in one second Carlo.

Okay, so I don't have my hand up. Oh, okay I don't know how to take it off. Oh, no problem.

Okay, no problem. So I'll go ahead Mike. Let's see your hand up. Go ahead.

[@46:55](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2815.28) - **Mike**

Let's Yeah, um, I think you use the term

[@47:00](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2820.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

bloody mess.

[@47:01](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2821.18) - **Mike**

Yeah, right. So if you were an Old Testament Jew, because of sin, your life in a lot of ways was a bloody mess, because you were constantly making or going to the temple and sometimes even participating in these sacrifices for your own sin with the priest, sometimes you got the blood splashed onto you, and then there was, of course, the day of atonement when the whole nation was reminded through blood of this constant need to cover up sin to the next time it needed to be done, and then cover it up again to the next time it needed to be described.

the gospel, what a relief it must have been to these Jews who, you know, God loves me so much that it was done once and for all by Jesus on the cross.

And, you know, once and for all means once and for all, it doesn't mean that I've got to be back in the temple in a week getting that content blood all over me and having this bloody mess to deal with all the time that reminds me of our sinfulness.

So, you know, that was the start of it right there in that. And that's why the good news is, you know, so much of a breakthrough.

[@48:37](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=2917.42) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

You got it, you got it. so why that sacrifice was even needed? It comes back now to the curses that were placed, right?

So let's go back and understand what were the curses that God put upon as a result of the sin in chapter three that we read.

Well, in verse, the first thing to be cursed was the devil, right? Because he It caused the commotion, right, and he used to what feed off of dust, right?

This is in verse 14 of chapter 3 on a belly You should crawl and eat dust all the days of thy life, right?

So What was man made out of? Dust So now think about this The devil is to feed off of dust The devil is to feed off of dust the devil is a supernatural being who gets energy from feeding off of dust So when we sin we are feeding him energy to exist So you want to stop the devil in your life from having any energy or power in your life stop sinning Come to God.

He will give you the energy and the strength you need to overcome sin. Remember the knowledge of good and evil, thinking you know best, you need the proper intersection of life in you to make the right decisions.

Otherwise, if you keep doing what you've always done, you always get what you've always got, right? Okay, so the first curse on the devil, the second curse is actually associated with the serpent.

It is on the cattle, right? Or the animals, right? beasts, what would happen? They would now fear man, they would slither away, they'd be afraid of mankind, right?

Previously, there was no fear in the animals to man. So there's the second part of the curse. The third curse on the woman, what was going to happen to the woman?

Anybody besides Julie? Anybody? What was the curse on the woman?

[@50:48](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3048.06) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Go ahead, right? Pain and childbearing.

[@50:51](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3051.02) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Pain in childbearing. And not that it wasn't so understand this, it was an increased of pain in childbearing. So it was already part of God's decision.

design was to associate that to bring forth life took a struggle, takes energy, takes some effort, but the pain associated with it right now is intense.

And she can't get away from it by saying, well, okay, you know what, I'm going to avoid what God put in place by doing my own thing, and I won't have children, right?

I just won't, I won't have to endure that because I won't have it. But he put in, in that place, a desire for her to want to have children, to want to connect with her husband.

So she won't be able to just separate from what God has put in place. All right, the curse on the man, anybody, including Julie?

But now he also missed the part of the M-A-T-B. I didn't miss it.

[@51:40](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3100.56) - **Carla Buchanan**

I'm coming back to it. We're talking about the curse.

[@51:44](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3104.28) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Well, but that's not the curse. We're talking about the curses. Thank you. We'll come back to that. So what was the curse on the man?

[@51:52](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3112.42) - **Carla Buchanan**

He had to work for his food.

[@51:54](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3114.38) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, that was part of it. He now had, when everything was just naturally growing, that actually, He isn't a curse on the man as much it is but also on the ground so that's a curse on the ground or the material things There was another curse also on a man besides the fact that he'd have to work.

What else was was he cursed?

[@52:13](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3133.96) - **Carla Buchanan**

Turn to dust.

[@52:15](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3135.44) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, he would now die physically, right? returned back to the dust from which he was created So man was initially created to be immortal, but now he's gonna face mortality.

He's going to die All right, so we got five curses the devil the serpent the woman the man and the ground Anybody tell me what the number five means Dave go ahead I was just gonna say and thinking of the whole dust thing.

[@52:41](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3161.48) - **Dave Meisel**

It seems pretty profound to me and that like Our bodies were made from the dust, but like you said originally God had to breathe the life into us and And even though the devil gets the feet on the dust which our bodies return to he doesn't get access to our spirit

[@53:00](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3180.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Right. You got it. That's pretty awesome. That is awesome. You got it. So he can try and try and try but if we connect with God, he has no real sting or ability.

[@53:12](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3192.04) - **Dave Meisel**

gonna see that in part two that we'll get to.

[@53:14](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3194.44) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah. Okay so five curses. Does anybody remember what the number five represents? What? Did you say something? Okay. Five represents grace.

You see in the middle of all the curses, and this is what Julie was alluding to a minute ago, there's still grace.

In the middle of your situation, in the middle of the difficulty of your life, there is still grace. Where is the grace found in all of this?

It's found in verse 15 as Julie was pointing out and it says, between the serpent, devil, the woman between the seed and her seed.

It should bruise ahead and now she'll bruise his heel. This is what I was saying is the verse that connects us to the very first verse.

We Bread and verse Peter about the foundation of the world that Jesus would be slain for the from the foundation of the world This is the promise of the Messiah The promise of the one who would pay the price for all the mistake that we need for all the sin This is the connecting point that that the devil though He might try as day pointed out he might be able to strike our heel, but you can't kill somebody by hitting their heel right But take that same wounded heel and step on that person's head or crush that person's head You have a very good chance of killing that person.

In fact, that's what Jesus will do He will ultimately destroy the devil. will throw him into the pits of hell, right?

So the sacrifice that Jesus did on the cross was not only for our benefit, but was to destroy the enemy It was to destroy the devil as well as provide us with the source of life I Think that's incredible.

I think that's just awesome and now think about this this This is our part one of the cross. it says, essentially, the Old Testament, they only had hope of Jesus permanently paying the price.

Mike mentioned it a minute ago when he said that the Jewish people had to come over and over year after year, and even more of them once a year, if they've had sin in their life, because, you know, they might come and present the lamb and six months down the road, they lost their temper and they did something that they caused sin, they got to come back and bring another lamb that year.

So it wasn't just a yearly sacrifice. It was whenever they had sin on top of the yearly sacrifice for the nation.

They were constantly coming back and having to make this bloody mess of sacrifice, right? So they only had hope that Jesus would once and for all pay the price for our sin.

You must really agree, God's heart, that he died for all of us once and for all. And the Jews didn't see it and they're trying to get back to doing sacrifices again now, but I can't even imagine how that impacts.

God, his own people never accepted him as their Messiah, and now they just want to go back to that tradition and mom.

And so that's a great point. Think about that. Go ahead, Carla, go ahead.

[@56:14](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3374.32) - **Carla Buchanan**

But Jesus was Jewish and his disciples were Jewish, so they were the ones to start it. I mean, I have another question though.

[@56:24](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3384.78) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay, can I put you on pause real quick and we'll come back here. As I will address what Julie said.

So she's right in the sense that the Jewish people today, who still hold themselves out as Jewish in the practice of the Old Testament, they are striving to implement the bloody sacrifices, the animal sacrifices, right?

They are ready to go at a moment's notice, if you will, if they get the okay, that they would start doing it again.

And I believe it does grieve God's heart because there is no need for it. He paid the price once and for all.

Now, the reason, if you think about revelation, as they get close to fulfilling that, read the book of Revelation, what's going to happen?

They may institute it, but it's not going to happen very long because God's going to put an end. He's going to come back and say, enough, you guys have totally missed the point, right?

They missed the point when he first came that he was a God of love because they thought he was a God of war.

And now they're thinking he's a God of love and he's going to come back as a God of war, right?

He's going to say, enough, you guys have totally missed the point, right? He's going to put an end to it.

But also understand this, if you read the Talmud, which is the Jewish history, the customs, if you will, they used to tie a scarlet rope or a scarlet piece of twine or some kind of twine or yarn or something, right?

That it was dyed scarlet on the day of Talmud, they would tie it to the tabernacle. And when the bloody sacrifice was made and God's fire would fall, it is tradition.

You can read it that it would turn white as a symbol that God removed, push back the sin of the

nation. The year in their history that Jesus died for the sin of the whole world, that stopped happening. It would no longer turn white, because it was proof.

Again, another symbol outside of the scripture that we already know, another sign that was trying to tell the Jewish people they did not have to do that anymore, because he paid the price once and for all.

All right, so Carla, you had another question.

[@58:27](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3507.0) - **Carla Buchanan**

Yeah, this has always been on my mind when Jesus was, you know, died at the cross. He had two criminals on either side of him.

But James and but they were talking about heaven. But it just seemed like, you know, God uses unlikely people all the time, you know, whenever I feel proud, I think of that and it brings me back down to where I should be.

[@59:19](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3559.38) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yep. Those who even may say they know God can strive for prideful position, right? see a lot of that happening in the church, unfortunately.

They may have a knowledge of God, but they're missing the connection of God. Remember, it's about that connecting point, right?

They think they know God and the good and evil plan, right? They know good, or they think they know good, but without truly having that relationship, that intersecting point of life, real life with God, they're missing the point, right?

You see it all around you, unfortunately. But the goal that the whole reason Jesus did any of this from Genesis to Revelation is about relationship, that we would have

the right relationship with God. Right? So as I was saying, the Old Testament, they only had the hope that their sin could be paid for once and for all.

We read throughout the Old Testament, we're going to read some of this, of stories and prophecy that Jesus would come and how he would die and the fact that he'd paid the price.

And there's symbolism and a lot of this that we're going to read. But the New Testament is the reality that Jesus paid the permanent price for our sin.

And if you specially read that, if you turn to the book of Hebrews, chapter 9 and 10, we're not going to read both chapters.

But I want to point out a few scriptures within that Hebrews, chapter 9 and 10. This will, if you read this as homework, if you read these two chapters as homework, you're going to see a lot of connection of what everybody's been sharing here today.

Right? It talks about, in starting with verse 9, the tabernacle plan. And as Mike was pointing out, when they would sacrifice the

the lamb, would sprinkle the blood on every part of the tabernacle as a symbol that it was covered. The realization is that you are a living tabernacle and that the blood of Jesus is to recovering your life, right?

And then you continue reading verse 9 and how they stood and they gave these sacrifices year after year, right?

But it wasn't by verse 12 of chapter 9, neither by the blood of goats and the calves, but by his own blood he entered once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling and unpleen, sanctifying to the purifying flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ who through the eternal spirit of offered himself without spot to God purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

And I'll read one more verse this Old Testament versus Nubiti. He's the girl between the three the the three

of the New Testament that by means of death for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament.

He's talking about Genesis, what we read, the transgressions that started there. They which were called might receive the promise of internal inheritance.

And it just goes on and continues to talk about how Christ fulfilled the sacrifice permanently for us so that we could have this eternal life.

And so that we could only have it by those who obey Him right by, it's awesome. just, we don't have the time to get into verses chapters 9 and 10, but I really encourage you to read both of those, okay, because you're going to see a bigger picture.

So that's wrapping up part one. Before I get on to part two, any questions about what we covered, about the, about the sacrifice, about the curses, about the promise that God has given, okay.

So, as we move forward into part two, I want you to understand if there were five things that were cursed, then there are five things that have to be redeemed or dealt with, right?

The first being the devil. We know the devil will be dealt with by being thrown into the pits of hell, okay?

So there's going to be no redemption for that. But the other four things need to be redeemed. We said the cattle, right?

They're under the curse. They need to be redeemed. When you read the book of Revelation, you're going to understand that when Jesus comes back, all the relationship between the rest of the animal kingdom will be set back to what it was in the Garden of Eden because it says the lion will lay down with the lamb, right?

It says that, you know, there will be no more fear amongst them. So at the end of time, when Jesus comes back to rule on this earth, will the animal kingdom be redeemed?

There's no need to redeem them through blood because they didn't sin. But there will be redemption through being set right, put back as what was initially put

in place at the end, right? So, it will bookmark it. Everything was in proper place, relationship at the beginning, everything would be put back in proper place and relationship at the end.

So, there's three other things that need to be redeemed. The curse on the ground. We've talked about that through offerings and tithes.

We already had a Bible study on that. That's how we redeem material things, right? So, if you want to know more about that, go to those Bible studies, watch those videos.

That's how you redeem your material things. You've got to be paying your tithes, you've got to be making offerings, right?

To show God you love him, but you got to do it out of a cheerful heart. You can't do it out of just strict obedience because that means nothing if it's not coming from cheerful heart.

So, to redeem your material possessions, proper heart alignment with God, follow tithes and offerings. So, that means two other things need to be redeemed.

and woman, right? Through the blood of Jesus, right? That's how we are redeemed. That's what Hebrews 9 and 10 will show us.

And how did the Old Testament allude to that? Let's get into part two, numbers, chapter 21, numbers, chapter 21.

Numbers, chapter 21, going to read verses one, three, nine. And Mike, do you mind reading for us today? Numbers, chapter 21, verses one, three, nine.

[@1:05:28](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3928.7) - **Mike**

Okay. Hopefully I'm coming through. When the Canaanite, the king of Aaron, who lived in the Negan, heard that Israel was coming by the way of a farm, he fought against Israel and took some of them captive.

In Israel, vow to vow to the Lord and said, if you will indeed give this people into my hand, then I will devote their city.

to destruction. And the Lord heated the voice of Israel and gave over the Canaanites and they devoted them and their cities to destruction.

So the name of the place was called Hormat. How far did you want me to go, Rick?

[@1:06:17](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3977.16) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Three nine, please.

[@1:06:18](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=3978.22) - **Mike**

Okay. Mount the land of Edom in the people became impatient on the way and the people spoke against God and against Moses.

Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water and we loathe this worthless food.

Then the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people and they bit the people so that many people of Israel died and the people came to Moses and said we have sinned for

We have spoken against the Lord and against you. Pray to the Lord that he take away the serpents from us.

So Moses prayed for the people and the Lord said to Moses, make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole and everyone who was bitten when he sees it shall live.

So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole and if a serpent anyone he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

[@1:07:32](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4052.12) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay, thank you. So this story represents to what we read from the Garden of Eden. Okay, how so? Well King Arad, Arad means a wild and Canaan means zealous.

So think about this. Here you got this king who is like all over the place like right? That's the way mankind is.

That's the way Adam and Eve were and thinking they knew best. They're just all over the place. Doing their own thing.

Stirring up trouble. He saw that the Israelites were sent into the Promised Land. He saw God was trying to do something.

So what did he do? He stirred it up. The devil saw God was trying to do something. did he do?

slid in there and stirred it all up. Israel vowed a vow saying, okay, God help us destroy this king.

Help us to get in the proper place. They made a vow. They said, we will do this. So God said, okay, if you're going to do that, I will bless you in a place called Hormach, which means devotion.

He took them at their word that they would be devoted to him. God takes us at our word when we say, yes, I will live for you, God.

I will do this for you, God. He takes us at his word and he then starts to bless us.

But then what happens? We don't fulfill our side of the promise, right? God is always faithful to fulfill his.

What did he say he would do? He would bring them into the promise land, right? He will and he and we know he will because we see that he does.

But what do they do? They don't fulfill their part of the promise. And so something happens and I'm going to share my screen if I can figure this out because I want you to see this.

**SCREEN SHARING: Focus started screen sharing -** [**WATCH**](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4170.838808)

And so I got to pull this up. Give me a second here. And can you guys see my notes?

You know, Holler, if you see what's on the screen.

[@1:09:45](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4185.2) - **Dave Meisel**

Yes.

[@1:09:46](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4186.2) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Okay. You see this map on the screen? Yes. Everybody. Can everybody see that map?

[@1:09:52](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4192.2) - **Carla Buchanan**

Yes.

[@1:09:53](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4193.4) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

is the map of the Israelite journey out of Egypt. can see they came down the whole peninsula and they came.

up and around and so this story is taking place right where I've got this little black arrow cross thing going and you can see I drew a little red arrow they wanted to cross the land and go right in the promised land through this red arrow right there okay but because they didn't keep their part of the promise what happened they had to follow this yellow line you see that yellow line seems a little bit out of the way doesn't it and because of that scripture tells us they started complaining right and you see why they would complain that's a long way out of the way when they could have easily just made that little cross the trek over right so why am I sharing this whoops are you guys still there okay I want to make sure I didn't lose anybody everybody's there okay so why am I sharing that because we say god I will live for you we come to that place that says okay god I want everything that you have for me right he takes us out of the word he says I will

I will bless you, then, as a result of you and your word. But if you don't follow through, he's going to take us through a place or a journey to help us realize our need for him, right?

That's what, that's the whole point of sin, too, guys, is that God allowed it, and he allows us to make these mistakes, so we recognize our need for him, right?

It's not because he doesn't want to punish us because of our sin, but he wants us to learn from it, right?

The better choice is if we make that cross over and say, God, I realize I need you and just live for him, right?

But that doesn't happen for most of us. Most of us were like Adam and Eve. We make mistakes and we fail and we fall.

And God doesn't want to have to punish us, right? Because he showed extreme mercy to Adam and Eve in the garden by not actually killing them on the spot, which he could have done, and fulfilled his work and been done with it, right?

And he showed him extreme mercy by driving them out of the garden because What else was in the garden was the tree of life, and in their sinful state, if they had reached out for that tree and eaten of it, they would have lived in a state of sin forever.

But by driving them out of the garden, he kept them from living in a state of sin permanently, because he wanted them to nurture and learn and grow as result of what they've been through, right, so that the relationship they'd have with God would be meaning more meaningful.

That's why scripture says he who has been forgiven much loves much, but he's been forgiven little loves little, right, God understands we make mistakes and he's not expecting us to be perfect.

But what he's expecting of us is to continue on the journey to grow, right, and if we continue to grow and get better and become closer to him, that's what his desire is because that's what relationship is.

Relationship is all about growth and developing together. But if we don't, we become like those complaining Israelites, right, want to.

Stop the journey. We want to stop the growth We want to just camp out where we're at and guys.

Oh, sorry if you do that the fiery serpents are gonna consume Right because he noticed who sent the serpents Who sent the serpents Who'd allowed it?

God did Isn't that strange? Why because he didn't want them to settle in that place of Mediocracy in that place of like just block right and and live in that so he prompted these Serpents and their point firing means poisonous poisonous serpents to like agitate them get them moving right get them moving in the right direction Help them to see that where they were at was not where they were supposed to be at Right, but some of them were They continue to complain and so the poison got into them and they died Right and that's the way sin is if we don't learn from it and draw closer to God.

It's going to destroy us It's going to Poison us right and the only solution to that because they came to Moses and they said hey look we're dying We don't know what to do.

We're complaining. don't know how to we don't know how to make this connection to God We know we need it But we don't know how to make this connection.

So Moses prayed and God tells him put the serpent Representation of the poison the thing that's killing them on this pole.

And so what do you end up having? Cross when they look at it, right? This thing that was killing them is now they can see it they can actually associate with it.

Ah Okay, and it was made out of brass It's important that scripture tells us it's made out of brass because brass represents judgment it represents the judgment of God and That's why all the tabernacle pieces were made of brass if you look I've got when they made the altar made the labor everything is made of brass because it was a judgment of sin So the thing that was poisoning you has already been judged

It's going to be destroyed, but you've got to get to the place where you connect with it. Because if they were camping and remember, this is a huge camp and they put this in the center of the camp, if you got it by one of these snakes, you better run, not just walk, not just take your leisurely time to get there, you better run to the center before the poison consumed you because you need to see the price that was paid for you.

Right? If you're living in sin, you need to run to the cross because it's the cross that has already paid the price and you've got to be able to connect to that and say, yes, I get it.

I understand it. Now no longer are the fish hooks of my eyes leading me into sin, but now I'm hooking in to Jesus on the cross who has paid that price and I want that to multiply my life.

Does all make sense? All right, well, those are the two big parts I wanted to make sure I covered today.

questions, thoughts, comments, or concerns about what we've covered? Yeah, Carla, go ahead.

[@1:16:12](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4572.38) - **Carla Buchanan**

Do you think because they take modes, you know, the old testament, like some some religions believe that the priests are there to forgive your sins?

You know, because that just always seemed wrong to me because after Jesus died, even the and the apostles were the ones that could do that.

It doesn't say that I want you to make more apostles, I want you to make more disciples, and that's in relationship with Christ.

Why they feel that they have to go to a priest to have their sins.

[@1:17:00](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4620.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

He's forgiven, understood. came out of a background that had that concept, right? I came out of a religious organization that had that concept.

So I know exactly what you're talking about. And I want you to think about this one. Scripture tells us that in order to understand God and God's word, we need somebody to teach us.

That's why Bible studies like this are helpful. Nobody gets it on their own. We need God to teach us and guide us and direct us.

And he's chosen to do that through men and women, right? So as we learn, we share that's actually how we also grow.

Stephen Covey in his book, when he said, you know, when you learn a topic, if you turn around and teach that topic, something shifts in your mindset that now you become even deeper, engaged with the topic, right?

It becomes part of you as you turn around and teach it. So I think that's the whole reason God chose to save people through his word by others teaching it.

Because I'll tell you, as I study these words, these lessons and such, even better. tax me, you know, to such a debt that I grow and I'm learning, right, as I'm sharing this stuff.

So, one, we need each other to learn. So I think they start with a premise of that, right, that, but then that gets twisted, unfortunately, to the fact that, well, I understand it, but you can't, you know, so you need me to help you understand it.

And that becomes a prideful thing, right, and pride gets in the way of whatever God is trying to do.

Then they say, okay, well, because you can't understand it and because I do, well, then how are you going to truly connect to God, right?

I'm going to have to pray for you for your sins to be forgiven, but they forget that Jesus when in the story about the man being lowered through the roof of the house, they tore up the tiles and then lowered the man, right?

And he said, your sins are forgiven, right? That was the first thing he said to them. They said, what?

How can you forgive sins, right? And he said, well, which is easier to say your sins are forgiven or get up and rise?

And he said, well, just so you know that the power has been given unto men. He said, get up and rise.

And then scripture says, they're amazed that God gave men the power to forgive sin, right? So they take that out of context too.

forgive each other of sin. Love covers a multitude of sin scripture says. When we love each other, we forgive each other, right?

So if Laurie offended me, and I forgive her, I have the ability because God gave me the right in the ability to forgive her, that sins gone.

But they use that out of context and they'll say, look, we are the holders of God's word. We are the holders of God's spirit.

So we're the ones who can forgive. And it's a bunch of garbage. I'm sorry. We are to forgive each other because we're on the same level playing field.

If we know God and I don't care if you know one ounce of God or a trillion ounces of God, we're on the same playing field.

If we have the right art to know God and to love God and to serve God.

[@1:19:57](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4797.56) - **Carla Buchanan**

Thank you.

[@1:19:58](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4798.92) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, thank you. for bringing that up. I hope that helps. Other questions, thoughts, concerns, comments?

[@1:20:07](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4807.14) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yeah, to piggyback off of what you're saying about that, Rick. Last night in our Bible study, we talked about the Master Servants relationship and how Jesus was here as our Lord and Master.

And he's like, you say, well, because that's what I am. But on his last day alive on Earth, at the Last Supper, he laid aside his garments of mastery.

And he girded himself with a towel, and he got down on the floor to humble himself even further to wash his disciples' feet.

And he said, do you know what I've just showed you? Do you know what I've just done to you?

He said, you should be doing this. This mind should be in you. And so we shouldn't ever have that mind of we're exalting ourselves.

We're masters above anyone else. We're all brethren. And I think Jesus was showing us that trying to teach us that.

[@1:21:06](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4866.42) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yes, I agree. And like I said, we'll never know everything about God. mean, so if we keep the right attitude and right spirit, we can continuously learn about God.

If I ever reach the place where I think I know enough about God and I'm cool and I'm safe and I'm good to go, you know, that's where pride creeps in.

That's why the devil is so subtle. That's where pride gets in. And all of a sudden I've lost. I'm actually lost if I get in that position, right?

I need to stay in a place of humility and realize I need to grow. I need to continuously learn.

I need to continuously expand, right? Because God is ever expanding himself. If you think they go up into space and they're trying to analyze this universe and there's they think they bang, but they think because of big bang, everything's continues in the expanding that they'll never reach the end of it.

Well, I'm sorry, but that's the way God is, you know, if they would just take the clue that that God is ever expanding.

And he's wanting us to continuously expand in that relationship with him, you know? Sorry, I a little carried away obviously with the topic.

[@1:22:11](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=4931.02) - **Erin Ashcraft**

I love I love my god Any other any other thoughts questions, yeah Rodney So you just you touched on a word that I think is the key When you said humility and pertaining to forgiveness There's got to be a humility on the person asking for that forgiveness I mean some people don't have that and it's a fake forgiveness Really that forgive me in the moment.

Um, please forgive me, but then there's no change but Going back to what we were saying when I first popped on while you guys were talking while I was cooking that godly sorrow Produces repentance so

You can ask for forgiveness all day long, but if there's no sorrow behind that or humility, where's the true forgiveness add in that?

Because for me, I can say I'm sorry all day long to my wife, but if I don't show any remorse behind that, she's not going to buy into that.

So I think it's a humbling thing in the wilderness that he gave them a way of escape. Yeah, he's the one who created the situation for the fiery surface to be biting at you, but he also at the same time created that way of escape.

Now, if some of them ran just to be saved from death, I mean, who knows? But there had to be some humility in there because they knew they'd done wrong, and then they wanted to live.

So we got to humble ourselves here. We can't let this pride keep us. Do you want to get bit by a cobra and just stay there and die?

[@1:23:56](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5036.9) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

mean, who would want to do that? Well, think about it. The pole, the cross is in the middle of the camp.

It's so when you're running to get to the middle, what's everybody else doing? They're watching you. They see you.

They observe. know. huh. Look at Joe. He's running to the cross. Oh, what did he do? know? Do they start gossiping or do they start following?

That's a choice they have to make, right? True humility means you start following, right? Because you see, okay, if Joe can do it, I can do it, you know?

So, yeah, it's a good point. You got to have humility in association with the request for forgiveness. Totally agree.

[@1:24:40](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5080.96) - **Dave Meisel**

Hey, Rick, can I jump in on that?

[@1:24:42](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5082.9) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, please, Dave.

[@1:24:44](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5084.5) - **Dave Meisel**

And I think too, you know, the scripture asks us to, you know, confess our sins to one another so that we can bury each other's burdens.

And I think if somebody's coming to you to confess sins, you have to have humility too because like to help them bear that burden.

You can't think, wow, I can't believe they did this. I'm so much better than them. You have to understand that their sin is something that maybe not right now, but eventually you could, you know, maybe fall to that sin.

So I think even hearing somebody, you know, confess their sin to you, you have to have that sense of humility, humility, humility, so that we can help each other bear bear burdens, exceptional point.

[@1:25:33](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5133.36) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

They love it, love it. And I totally agree, because there's a phrase I would often say to myself there, but for the grace of God, go I, know, meaning like, hey, I'm no different, I can fail, I could fall, I can end up in that, like you said, Dave, that same sin tomorrow, if I'm not careful.

[@1:25:49](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5149.5) - **Dave Meisel**

So it reminds me of actually a life point. I have a friend who, when I first met him, he was actually in prison.

when I first started visiting with him, And you know, we say, Dave, if you've known the things I've done, and I'd be like, you know, Dempsey, if you've known the things that I've done, you know, there, but for the grace of God, you know, and him getting me out of some things, I could be right here with you.

You know, it's, it's one of those things where, you know, we're not better than our brothers. I mean, it's only by God's grace that sometimes we get out of things or get through things.

[@1:26:31](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5191.98) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Totally, totally agree to you. Yeah, I think we have to remind ourselves too that as humans, we put a hierarchy on sin.

We say that lying isn't as bad as stealing is as bad as abusing another person. We create that hierarchy, but to God's sin is sin.

It doesn't matter if there is no worse sin or better sin or minor sin, we're the ones who create that.

Not God. Yeah, think about the fiery serpents in this case, right? Oh, I got bit on the toe, but I got bit on the elbow.

Well, does it really matter? It's poisonous poison. Yeah, Mike, go ahead.

[@1:27:15](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5235.34) - **Mike**

When we're open to allowing others to confess their sins to us, we're doing something very valuable for them. In the Hebrew language, the word commandment, and of course, when you sin, you've broken some kind of commandment, but the word commandment comes from a base word, a root word, that means connection.

So when you've sinned, you've either disrupted your connection with God or you've disrupted your connection with fellow believers. And that's going to, at some point in time, make you feel very lonely, very isolated.

it in a place where you don't want to be. So when you have the opportunity to, you know, hear someone's confession, you're, I mean, I think the forgiveness is really up to God unless it was a personal affront where you might be able to say, well, you know, I'm not going to, I don't hold this against you.

But you give them giving them the opportunity to reestablish connection to come back in from that place of loneliness and feeling hanging out there on a limb, I see it very much as a service of love that you can offer in your fellowship.

[@1:28:46](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5326.56) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yes, yes, I agree. And you also made me think of the fact that like as the person confessing sin to somebody else saying, hey, I've got this weakness, I've got this area in my life that I'm really, and I really,

We could use prayer. I really could use help you are establishing credibility one that you're real that you're trying to be humble But you're trying to be real you're establishing authority in your life Accountability right so that if you do fall again that you've got somebody to go to and say look You know, I made a mistake again.

Please help me. know continue to pray for me, you know, but more than that What you're doing is you're taking away the power of the enemy Because what you're doing is when you when you reveal that shame when you're no longer willing to hide behind the the fig leaves That you put up in your own life.

You're saying I'm taking away the power of the enemy to hold that over me To say because what he'll do is you'll try to put that shame on you and say look you can't tell anybody about this because look, you know You're so filthy you're so disgusting, know, you're so unworthy, you know, might so just be doing it You know because what difference doesn't make now But the moment you express that and get that out and say look and this is a weakness in my area my life You now have some economy

One ability, yeah, somebody who can help shoulder the load, just like when Aaron and her were holding up the rod for Moses to get the victory, They were shouldering the load.

get other people to help shoulder your land load. You take away the power of the enemy over your life, right?

You can't continue to make you feel like, well, you can't tell anybody about that because you already did. You can't hide that because you've already revealed it.

You might as well continue to do it because you've already revealed it, you're not gonna wanna do it again, right?

You know, you're taking away that power. Well, we are almost an hour and a half here. I wanna wrap up with a word of prayer and then any prayer requests, okay?

So let's pray Jesus. Thank you for this wonderful discussion today. Thank you for the revelation of the cross. Thank you, God, that you, from the foundation of the world, put a plan in place that we could know you, that we could be saved, that we could come running to you to get the poison out of our lives.

Thank you, Jesus, for your grace, your compassion, your mercy. perceive in your abundant love. I pray God that we would just soak it up and share it with others God that we would be the sponges that you could ring out over the lives of others around us that would draw them to you because of what you're doing in us for that.

Thank you Jesus, give you glory, give you praise, and I pray a special blessing in my friends Lord God is the next couple of weeks that this world would just ruminate within them, that they turn it over in their hearts, turn it over in their minds and grow as a result Lord God.

Bless them, keep them protected in Jesus' name. All right, anybody have a prayer request?

[@1:31:34](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5494.38) - **Erin Ashcraft**

Go ahead Rodney. I'd just like to say if we could all be praying for all the different groups that are starting, the home groups, home church, whatever you want to label it as, I have to protection over that because it's really starting to spread quickly and people are reaching out is like a wildfire how this is starting

like catch on. So be praying for the home groups that are already established part one and part two praying for those that are going to come yet.

[@1:32:11](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5531.78) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Sounds good. Other prayer requests? Anybody?

[@1:32:19](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5539.2) - **Laurie Nelson**

Yeah, I have one. Got to impress the new assignment on my heart for lack of a better word. He's just creating this boldness in me to contend for the faith to stand up for and defend his word and him and not that he needs that, but just giving me this passion for that.

so I don't really know what that looks like. So just to pray for covering and wisdom and whatever else it takes for that.

[@1:32:53](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5573.0) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

All right. Thank you. I think I got that. Anybody else for a request? Okay. Let's pray about these things.

Lord Jesus, again, thank you for your presence in your Holy Spirit. God, you are like a wildfire spreading throughout our homes, throughout our communities.

And God, we just pray that as groups open up to studying your word and to develop relationship in their communities with you, God, that you would give protection over those who are already opening your homes over those who would do so, God, that you would give them wisdom, guidance, direction, and be those who are seeking to the right location, God, they could get plugged in, Lord God, they need development, they need acceptance, they need discipleship, God.

Bless and encourage and let your warrior angels visit every home and be present in every home to protect and to encourage and to overshadow, Lord God.

Let your word be illuminated and let you be lifted up in those homes, God, that others will be drawn to you because you see

said, if you be lifted up, you draw all men unto you. Thank you for sending laborers, God. Thank you for sending the workers into the field.

God, for they are ripe right now, Lord God. They are white, ready for harvest. Help us to bring the hungry, the hurting, the lonely, into your presence, God, that they would find joy, peace, and contentment, God.

Thank you for Lori's desire to be speak out with boldness, God, user, give her discernment, give her wisdom, lead her to the right locations, the right people, the right situations, God, the right circumstances that she could speak your word of truth, that she would have the boldness, that there be no fear, because you do not give us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power, love, of sound mind.

I thank you for that, God. We claim it in Jesus' name.

[@1:34:40](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5680.52) - **Carla Buchanan**

Amen.

[@1:34:43](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5683.1) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

All right, well, thank you, everybody.

[@1:34:45](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5685.24) - **Carla Buchanan**

Thank you.

[@1:34:46](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5686.2) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Last week, and we look forward to seeing in weeks. We'll hopefully get into parts three and four of the cross next time.

[@1:34:52](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5692.24) - **Shawna**

Okay? Thank you.

[@1:34:53](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5693.5) - **Rick Stephenson (wisdomwell.guru)**

Yeah, God Take care, everyone.

[@1:34:55](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5695.58) - **Sarah Crawford**

Thank you.

[@1:34:56](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5696.28) - **Carla Buchanan**

Thank you.

[@1:34:57](https://fathom.video/share/zaRMzQ2xGBaxtymU_m2zuoeU3qGNURkP?timestamp=5697.06) - **Alicia**

Thank you. Thank