ELEMENTS OF SALVATION – GENESIS 3:20-24

FAITH

And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living (Ge.3:20)

- The name Eve means "life." That is a faith statement.
- Adam knew life would come from the womb of his wife.
- How did he know that?
- "I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed" (**Ge.3:15**).
- Based on that promise, Adam knew that there would be a seed of his wife, One of which would crush the head of Satan.
- When Adam names her "Life," he affirms the promise of God to be true.
- What has happened here then is Adam has moved back to God's side. Adam believes God now.
- He has, in a sense, faith in the unseen Christ (the One who will crush Satan's head).
- The essence of faith is simply believing everything God has revealed; and that's all he had.

ATONEMENT

*Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them (**Ge.3:21**)*

- God said, "In the day you eat" – you what? – "you die." But immediately God is gracious.
- Here is God's grace expressed in a symbolic way toward the unworthy couple who deserve death.
- Instead of killing them God covered them.
- God acts in grace and mercy and compassion for the sinful and shameful couple: "God made tunics of skin, and clothed them."
- Because of lust and sin, people need to be clothed. They need to be covered.
- God covered them not with the wool taken from an animal, but with the skin of the animal. This meant the animal had to die.
- The atonement or covering of the sinner is through the death of an innocent substitute.
- God chose the animal; God killed the animal; God took the skin of the animal and covered the sinners. This is the first death in the world.

SECURITY

*[22]Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever" — [23]therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden…(**Ge.3:22-23**)*

- Man now knows what is good and what is evil. They know evil because it is in them and it is their constant experience.
- Man has become like one of us, but for him this is debilitating and with a personal experience of evil in his own heart.
- What is God going to do about it?
- **Ge.3:22**, "take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"
- Would that be bad? Absolutely. Why would that be bad? Because he would live forever in a sinful state, with no hope of deliverance. It would be a horrible existence.
- **Gen 3:23** therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken.
- Adam and Eve would not likely leave the Garden voluntarily.
- The temptation to overpower death by eating will be overwhelming because they do not want to die.
- God is driving him out of the Garden of Eden so that he will not end up eternally evil. God secures His people from falling.

HOPE

*[23]…to till the ground from which he was taken. [24]So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life. (**Ge.3:23-24**)*

- The greatest glories of heaven are reserved for the people who suffer most down here.
- God sent them out to cultivate the ground from which he had been taken.
- God stationed the cherubim to guard the way to the Tree of Life. That is part of the securing aspect.
- That is a class of holy angels with astonishing light that surrounded the throne of God.
- Eden is an earthly replica of heaven.
- They were put out at the east of the Garden.
- Every day for the rest of Adam's life he watched the sun go down as a reminder that he was not allowed back in the paradise of God.
- They lived in hope that one day they would enter the true paradise of God.
- Hope is a purifying reality. "And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure (**1Jn.3:3**). Hope sanctifies.