

Brightest Links of Life

- The day Adam listened to Eve and Eve listened to the serpent ... the very brightest link of life were broken.
- Sin entered the world and death through sin
- Adam and Eve hid themselves...
- They were no longer comfortable in the presence of the Lord.
- A sense of fear and shame led them to hide.
- This is our greatest danger! Ask David what sin can do to our comfort in His presence.

Hiding from the Presence of the LORD

- *And they heard the sound 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 among the trees of the garden. Gen 3:8*
- What does this mean?
- What does one do to hide themselves from the presence of the LORD?

Hiding from the Presence of the LORD

- They did not seek His presence.
- Instead of turning to Him:
 - For repentance and confession
 - For forgiveness and Mercy
 - For guidance and counsel
 - for answers and solutions
- They hid— act like the problem wasn't there
- Not only did they ignore the problem!
- They sought to ignore God.
- This is a grave temptation we must avoid

It is Impossible to Hide!

- *If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! 9 If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, 10 even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. 11 If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night," 12 even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you. Ps. 139:8-12*
- Like the Ostrich with its head in the sand.

It can only be a State of Mind

- *In Him we live, move, have our being Acts 17:28*
- It can only be a state of mind.
- *The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; God is in none of his thoughts. Ps 10:4*
- *The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God.” ...2 The Lord looks down from heaven upon the children of men, To see if there are any who understand, who seek God. 3 They have all turned aside, Ps 14:1; 2-3*

Out of Sight ... Out of Mind

- *For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man — and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Rom 1:20-23*

Did Not Stop with Adam and Eve

- *Cain also broke the brightest link of life*
- Cain- an offering God could not accept. Gen. 4:3-5
- Cain became angry and though God pleaded him, he refused to repent. Gen. 4:6-8
- Cain then “*went out from the presence of the LORD*” Gen. 4:16
- How did he do this? Gen. 4:25-26
- An entire race lived their lives without any knowledge of God. So did Israel
- *So the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD. They forgot the LORD their God, and served the Baals and Asherahs. Judg 3:7*

Another Choice

- *And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the Lord. Gen 4:23*
- When we sin like Adam and Eve, when we don't get our way and pout like Cain, when we get frustrated, shamed, disillusioned, deceived, etc.
- God is still there!
- We can forget, ignore, but He is still there!
- We must call on His name after all these...

Living in His Presence - Jas 4:8

- **Enoch** walked with God and was not for God took him Gen 5:24
- **Noah** found favor in His sight Gen 6:8
- **Abraham** My friend Isa 41:8; Jas 2:23
- **Daniel**— You are greatly beloved Dan 10:11
- **Job**- None like him in all the earth Job 1:8
- **Moses** is faithful in all My house Num12:7-8
- speaks as a man to his friend Ex 33: 11
- **David** a man after God's own heart. 1 Sam 13:14
- Do these things create desire & excitement?

God wants Us in His Presence

- It is Painful for us to Live in His presence:
- *Walk humbly with your God. Mic 6:6-8*
- *The LORD is near them that are of a broken heart and contrite spirit. Ps 34:18*
- *I dwell with him that is of a humble and contrite spirit. Isa 57:15*
- *To this man will I look; to him that is poor and has a contrite spirit and that trembles at my word Isa 66:2*
- *If we confess our sins he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us of all unrighteousness. 1 Jn 1:8*

How Joshua Lived IN His Presence

- Joshua Josh 1:5-9
 - Jehovah is with you where ever you go.
 - Be strong and Courageous
 - Do according to all the law
 - Not depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night make way prosperous and have success.

God is Not Ashamed to be Called...

- *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. 15 And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them. Heb 11:13-16*

God's Exhortation to All

- *Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.*

James 4:8-9

- *Pray without ceasing*
- *In everything give thanks*
- *If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive*
- *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves*

A Life Worth Living

- *Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil. 8 It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones. Prov 3:5-8*
- *He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God? Mic 6:8*

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