**Week of September 30, 2018**

**Genesis 3:8-17 20-24**

8 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

10 He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

11 And he said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”

12 The man said, “The woman you put here with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it.”

13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

14 So the Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this,

“Cursed are you above all livestock

 and all wild animals!

You will crawl on your belly

 and you will eat dust

 all the days of your life.

15

And I will put enmity

 between you and the woman,

 and between your offspring[a] and hers;

he will crush[b] your head,

 and you will strike his heel.”

16 To the woman he said,

“I will make your pains in childbearing very severe;

 with painful labor you will give birth to children.

Your desire will be for your husband,

 and he will rule over you.”

17 To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’

“Cursed is the ground because of you;

 through painful toil you will eat food from it

 all the days of your life.

20 Adam[a] named his wife Eve,[b] because she would become the mother of all the living.

21 The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. 22 And the Lord God said, “The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat and live forever.” 23 So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken. 24 After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side[c] of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

**Understanding of the Scripture**

In this week’s scripture we are dealing with the consequences of sin and how it came about. What is sin? Sin is described in the Bible as transgression of the law of God and rebellion against God. Satan brought sin to humans in the Garden of Eden, where he tempted Adam and Eve with the enticement, “you shall be like God.” Which describes Adam and Eve’s rebellion against God and against His command. Man, which includes Adam and Eve were the crown jewels on earth as a part of God’s creation. God had given Adam great knowledge as one of his first task was to give names for all the living creatures on earth. One can even look at Adam’s vast knowledge as he described the process in which God created the woman. So, the question becomes, why would someone who has been give such great knowledge and understanding want more? Satan’s sole purpose is to have us rebell against God and he succeeded, and this is where the scripture picks up. God, whom had fellowship both Adam and Eve, went looking for them but they had hidden themselves from him. After calling for both, Adam finally answered God by telling him they were afraid because they were naked. This was a term that God had not introduced to them nor was it a behavior of shame that was not introduced. Only when they chose to rebel was the guilt and shame set forth. Another action that became apparent once they rebelled against God was the nonexistence of accountability. Adam blamed God because he gave him the woman (Eve) and he blamed the woman. Eve blamed the serpent. God judgement on Adam and Eve was tied to their disobedience to a direct command from God to them. This disobedience is known as the fall of man. Although Serpent received Judgement, Man chose to sin, and Man must face the consequences of his actions. God through his love has given Man the opportunity to be reconciled back with God. All he must do is confess with his mouth the that Jesus is Lord and believe in heart that God has raised him from the dead the he will be saved. Why on Jesus? The scripture tells us that “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

