

Christmas Themes 2023

Various Passages

December 3, 2023

The Original Problem – Sin

- On the day you eat of it, you will surely die. – Genesis 2:16-17
- The woman and the man ate it. – Genesis 3:6-7

Our Solution to the Problem of Sin –

- Cover-up – “They sewed fig leaves together” 3:7
- Denial – “They hid from the LORD God” 3:8
- Justifying – “I heard you in the garden and I was afraid” 3:10
- Blame game – “The woman you put here.” 3:12
- Problem: None of these options work!

Immediate Consequences for Sin / Lingering Consequences

- Separation from presence of God – Genesis 3:23-24; Isaiah 59:2
- Suffering & Sorrow – Genesis 3:16-19; Romans 6:16; Hebrews 2:14-15
- Death – Genesis 3:19; Romans 5:12; Colossians 2:13; Ephesians 2:1

The 1st Covenant – Law Deuteronomy 4:6, 9-10

- Sacrifice of Blood – Leviticus 17:11; Hebrews 9:22
- Genesis 3:21 – Garments of skin.

The Problem with the 1st Covenant

- Continually repeated – Hebrews 10:11
- Inadequate – Hebrews 9:9-10,13
- Obsolete - Hebrews 8:7, 13

Question: Why wait so many years before sending Jesus?

- Because we are stubborn and slow to learn – Isaiah 48:4
- We needed to learn that the problem is greater than we can manage!
 - If we needed more information, God would have sent an educator.
 - If we needed more resources, God would have sent a financier.
 - If we needed more courtesy, God would have sent Miss Manners.
 - If we only needed better clothing, God would have sent a fashion designer.

The solution – Jesus Christ!

- Who would save us from our sin? – Matthew 1:21

Application: Which solution will you choose? Your own or God’s?