

Genesis 3:7-9

1. Satan promised Eve that her “eyes would be opened” and she would then “be like God” knowing good and evil. Half of his promise came true, her eyes were opened but this was not a moment of enlightenment but one of a startling discovery! What do you think it was like for Adam and Eve to see ugliness, pain, rebellion and disobedience for the first time?
2. Derek Kidner says, “Shame is the proper fruit of sin.” Adam and Eve tried to cover up their nakedness by sewing fig leaves together. Suddenly they were no longer comfortable in their own skin or with each other. Instantly relational alienation has arrived the cover up has begun. What “fig leaves” do you try to sew in your life to cover up your shame? How does it create walls in your relationships with others?
3. In verse eight the second reaction to sin takes place when Adam and Eve run and hide from God. They were embarrassed and fearful. Like small children running out of the room when mom’s good vase get’s broken they pin their hopes on getting away from the scene of the crime and the arrival of their parents. Where do you go to run and hide when you know you’ve disobeyed God?
4. What does it say about Adam and Eve’s marred character that they now fear God? How has their disobedience led to an immediate misunderstanding of God’s love and compassion? Another way to ask this is what do you think God thinks of you when you sin? Are you basing your answer on what scripture says about his character or on your sin-filled emotions?
5. God’s initial reaction to Adam and Eve is to ask a poignant question, “Where are you?” What do you think was God’s tone of voice? How do you think he asked the question? Why did he ask the question? Many of us probably hear a voice of condemnation or disappointment. However, we may be too quick to put God in our human box. Could God be big enough to hate what Adam and Eve did but still love them? Could he be big enough to hate your sin but pursue you with compassion and grace?

Tom