

What was lost in the fall?

- **Image Bearing Distorted**

- In terms of the royal aspect related to image bearing: “There is no indication that human dominion over the creation has been rescinded, but there is every indication that humans will exercise it badly—exploiting and damaging the creation and using it to exploit and damage other people.” (Collins, Gen 1-4, 165)
- See Genesis 9:6 which still understands mankind as the image of God
 - See also in the New Testament James 3:9
- Francis Schaeffer once said, “[w]e are glorious because we were created by God for the noble purpose of being His image bearers; yet we are ruins because sin has marred the divine image we were designed to display”
 - Think back if you have ever visited ruins, there is still a glimpse of the glory that one was, yet it now stands in ruin. So it is with humanity.

- **Glory Lost**

- Psalm 8 reflecting on the creation account speaks of God crowning man with glory:
 - “What is man that you are mindful of him...you have made him a little bit lower from God and with glory and majesty crowned him.”
- “Glory” is closely tied to “image bearing.” Thus see how Paul interweaves the two concepts in 2 Cor. 3:18:
 - “And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.
- In a reference back to Genesis 1-3 Paul writes that we have all fall short of the glory God intended for us.
 - Rom. 3:23 – “For all sinned, and they came short of the glory of God”
- Jewish literature outside of the Bible (sometimes referred to as “extrabiblical”), the man forfeited his glory by sinning in the garden.
 - Extrabiblical commentary on loss of glory:

- Gen. Rab. 12:6
 - “Adam did not retain his glory for a night. What is the proof? *But Adam passeth not the night in glory* (Ps. XLIX, 13). The Rabbis maintain: He passed the night in his glory, but at the termination of the Sabbath He deprived him of his splendour and expelled him from the Garden of Eden, as it is written, *‘Thou changest his countenance, and sendest him away.’* (Job XIV,20)
- Even though glory was lost, the biblical story looks forward to the day when it is regained.
 - N.T. Wright comments: “In Jewish literature of the period, losing God’s glory is closely associated with the fall of Adam, just as the sense of regaining glory is one of the key features of the expected redemption.” (Wright, Romans, 470)
 - On future hope of regaining glory:
 - 1QS 4:23 (Dead Sea Scrolls-The Community Rule)
 - “God has ordained an end for injustice, and at the time of the visitation He will destroy it forever. Then truth, which has wallowed in the ways of wickedness during the dominion of injustice until the appointed time of judgment, shall arise in the world for ever. God will then purify every deed of man with His truth; He will refine for Himself the human frame by rooting out all spirit of injustice from the bounds of his flesh. He will cleanse him of all wicked deeds with the spirit of holiness; like purifying waters He will shed upon him the spirit of truth (to cleanse him) of all abomination and injustice. And he shall be plunged into the spirit of purification, that he may instruct the upright in the knowledge of the Most High and teach the wisdom of the sons of heaven to the perfect of way. **For God has chosen them for an everlasting Covenant and all the glory of Adam shall be**

theirs. There shall be no more lies and all the works of injustice shall be put to shame.”

- CD 3:20 (Dead Sea Scrolls – The Damascus Document)
 - “Those who hold fast to it are destined to live forever and all the glory of Adam shall be theirs.”
 - Because of the work of Christ and empowering presence of His Spirit, this is being fulfilled in our chapter of the story!
 - “And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.” (2 Corinthians 3:18 ESV)
 - What does this mean practically?
 - It means our spirit our being reconnected with God’s spirit (more on this just below) to have new life breathed into us so that in all that we can reflect the splendor and goodness of God in the whole of our lives – relationships, attitudes, words, hobbies, encounters, careers, chores, etc.
 - Our place as rulers over creation and ability to exercise godly dominion that administers blessing to others is being restored.
- **4-fold Relationship Damaged**
 - We have said that in Genesis we are made for a four-fold relationship –
 - With God
 - With others
 - With creation
 - With self
 - When all four of these relationships are operating in harmony, this is when we experience *shalom* (“peace”) from being whole and completely integrated.
 - All four of these relationships become marred by sin (dis-integrated) and *shalom* was ruptured by the fall of man from glory in the garden.
 - Relationship with God – Before eating they communed with God inwardly through their spirit, and externally they met Him in His

works in creation. After eating they become estranged from God hiding from His presence in shame and fear. What must Adam think (wrongly) about God's character at this point that he hides in fear and then chooses to blame his wife instead of taking ownership and confessing when God inquires of him what had happened.

- Further, God has to approach the couple externally from the outside. God had personally breathed spirit into the man establishing a connection – presumably God's Spirit and man's spirit were connected – something has now disrupted that connection that God must approach man in the garden from afar, versus approaching man in his spirit.
- Relationship with Others – Adam blames his wife for the incident instead of taking ownership. This is the beginning of the rupture in human relationships. Note the resulting struggle between man and woman in Genesis 3:16.
- Relationship with Creation – As we'll soon see, something changes in man's relationship to properly relate to and rule over creation – especially as they couple is moved outside of the garden to struggle against thorns and thistles.
- Relationship with Self – when Adam blames God and his wife, he is unaware of the storm brewing in his own heart.
- All four of these become the focus of God's saving grace and redemption as God works to restore *shalom*.
 - Note the Old Testament Peace Offering:
 - In the Hebrew the Peace Offering is the *shelamim* (you can hear the connection with *shalom* – both from the same root *sh-l-m*)
 - The Peace Offering is a celebration of restored harmony and peace and serves as the primary interpretive backcloth for the Passover sacrifice in the Old Testament and the Lord's Supper in the New Testament.
 - Also John 20:19-22 and the connection between the resurrected Jesus saying "Peace to you" and "breathing into them" and saying "Receive the Holy Spirit." The Greek word for "breathed into" is

the same Greek word used in the LXX to translate Genesis 2:7 (:
“and God formed the from dust from the earth and *breathed* into
the face of him the breath of life.”

- **Spiritual Death Resulting in Enslavement and Bodily Death**
 - All life is a result of God’s Spirit. As the human spirit stands in direct causal relationship to God’s, a breach in the connection leads to a spiritual death in which ultimately ends in bodily death of the human creature.
 - In between spiritual death and bodily death, the soul becomes more closely linked to the body so that the ruling power becomes that of external desires – so much so that “soul” can be used in reference to “thirst”, “craving,” and “appetite” (Is. 29:8; Is. 32:6; Prov. 6:30). We become enslaved to our sensual appetites. Only in God is there true freedom of will and power.