

January 15, 2017

**THE JESUS-CENTERED LIFE**  
**IT WAS NOT SUPPOSED TO BE THIS WAY**  
**Genesis 1:26-31; 3:1-24**

**Paradise (perfection). Gen. 1:26-31; 2:7**

- Man became the reflection of God's **image**. Gen. 1:26-27; 2:7; John 4:24; Luke 24:3-9; 1 Pet. 1:6; Lev. 11:44; Matt. 5:48; Col. 1:28; 1 John 4:7-8; 4:16; John 1:1-5; Job 33:4
- Man became the **recipient** of God's blessing. Gen. 1:28-31; 2:15-17
  - **Procreation**. Gen. 1:27-28; 2:24, 18-25
  - **Position**. Gen. 1:28; Heb. 2:17-19; Gen. 2:15
  - **Possession**. Gen. 1:29-31

**Paradise lost. Gen. 3:1-24**

- The **cause** of the lost. Gen. 3:1-7
  - **Doubting** of God's Word. Gen. 3:1-3; 2:16-17; John 8:44; 2 Cor. 11:14; 1 Tim. 2:14; Rev. 22:18-19; Deut. 4:32; 12:32; Eph. 6:11
  - **Denying** of God's Word. Gen. 3:4-5; 2:16-17; Prov. 3:5-6; John 1:12; Phil. 4:6-7
  - **Delusions**. Gen. 3:4-5; 2:17
  - **Decision** to go for it. Gen. 3:6; 1 John 2:15-16; John 8:34; 2 Tim. 2:26
- The consequences of the **lost**. Gen. 3:8-24
  - Shame and **guilt**. Gen. 3:7-13; Ps. 104:2; Mark 9:23; Luke 7:37-51; John 4, 8; Ps. 44:21; Heb. 4:13
  - Suffering **blame**. Gen. 3:7-20; Ps. 72:9; 49:23; John 8:44; Rom. 5:10; 1 John 3:8, 10; John 16:21; 1 Thess. 5:3; Rev. 12:2; Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:21-22; 1 Tim. 2:14; Eph. 6:5; Col. 3:22
  - Separation and **salvation**. Gen. 3:21-24; Rom. 3:23; 6:23; John 1:12; 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 4:15; 7:26

**Why did God allow sin to enter the world?**

"In creating Adam free, God indirectly created the possibility of evil, while not creating evil itself. When Adam chose to disobey God, he made this possibility a reality. The same scenario had previously played out when Satan fell by failing to serve and obey God. So it turns out that evil is not a direct creation of God; rather, evil is the result of persons (both angelic and human) exercising their freedom wrongly."  
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"very good" ([Genesis 1:31](#)). Many Scriptures affirm that God is not the author of evil: "God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone" ([James 1:13](#)). "God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all" ([1 John 1:5](#)). "God is not the author of confusion" ([1 Corinthians 14:33](#)).

John MacArthur

"It is helpful, I think, to understand that sin is not itself a thing created. Sin is neither substance, being, spirit, nor matter. So it is technically not proper to think of sin as something that was created. Sin is simply a lack of moral perfection in a fallen creature."

John MacArthur