



LIFE FROM CHAOS: GENESIS

STUDY 3: WORLD IN CHAOS

Genesis 3:1-24



Key Idea

The world is broken and in Genesis 3 we see the reason why. In today's study we explore the first sin and why God had to do something about it.



Listen

This study is written to be used together with the sermon preached at Trinity Church which you can find on our church website.

www.trinitybay.church/sermon-archive/



Talk About

1. Think of some examples of times when something terrible or tragic has happened in the world. What sort of reactions do different people have when these sorts of things happen? What answers would different people give about why bad things happen?

Reminder:

If you are at all familiar with the early chapters of Genesis, one thing you'll know is that this part of the bible can bring up lots of questions and debates. I (Matt) think it's sort of true that 'no question is a bad question', but it's also true that with many questions there's a danger of letting less important things distract us from more important things.

For this series I'm encouraging groups to keep a "park it" list. Don't be afraid to discuss questions as they come up, but it may be that you decided a question needs to be "parked" so that it doesn't distract from what's more important. You might get a chance to come back to these questions later, and you're welcome to feed your questions back to me too. I'll be trying to collect people's questions through the series and have a go at answering them at various points.

Explore

Read Genesis 3:1-5

2. Compare what the serpent says here with Genesis 2:16-17. How does he twist God's words? What lies does the serpent tell?

3. Compare what Eve says in these verses with Genesis 2:16-17 (again), how does Eve twist God's words? What picture of God does Eve seem to be communicating?

Read Genesis 3:6-13

4. What happens immediately after Adam and Eve eat the fruit?

5. What changes can you pick up in terms of how Adam and Eve relate to each other and to God?



Read Genesis 3:14-24

6. List some of the consequences of sin from the curses.

7. Do you think this is a good picture of what the world is like today? Think about specifics: Is this a good picture of what our relationships are like? Is this a good picture of what our work is like?

8. God is the one who gives the curses. What does this tell us about God's character? Are you glad this is what God is like?

9. Are there any hints of hope in the passage?

+ A Little Bit Extra

What is Sin?

The story of humanity's first sin gives us good insight into what sin is. It can be easy to think of sin as "wrong things that we do", but the first sin wasn't so much Adam and Eve doing something that was inherently evil. After all is there anything inherently evil about eating fruit? It's not as if they murdered someone or cheated someone or anything like that.

What the story shows is that sin at a deeper level is about 'not wanting to do things God's way'. Adam and Eve bought the lies of the serpent and thought that choosing "their own path" rather than trusting God would be better. How wrong they were! I think at its very core sin is relational - it's about a lack of trust that God's way is the best way for us.



Action

10. How might the truths in Genesis 3 affect how you speak about hard situations with those who don't believe?

11. Does having an explanation for why the world is the way that it is change the way you feel about brokenness and evil?

Read John 11:25. It's good to remember that while God is a god of justice and a god who does something about evil, he's also a god who would die so that we wouldn't have to face punishment for evil. You might like to pray about these things in response.

