SERMON: WHERE ARE YOU?

Genesis 3:8-9

(8) And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden. (9) And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

Introduction

From the very beginning, God transferred His thoughts to the mind of humans by asking them questions. Almost at every great crisis in the history of His ancient people, some pointed questions were posed. What better way to make people think? In Jeremiah 32:27 He asked, "Is there anything too hard for Me?" In Ezekiel 37:3 God asked, "Can these bones live?" In Exodus 4:2 He asked Moses, "What is in thine hand?" In Isaiah 6:6, He asked, "Who will go for Us?"

Our text is the first question recorded in the Bible. After Adam and Eve had sinned by eating the forbidden fruit, their beautiful fellowship with God, their Creator, was severed. They hid themselves among the trees of the garden out of guilt, shame, and fear.

God is a seeker; He came seeking them. God came seeking in a two-fold manner. He came as a judge to execute punishment. He also came as a disappointed father who wanted to demonstrate grace and restore the relationship with His children. He accomplished these two goals by asking Adam this question, "Where art thou?" Of course, God knew where Adam was. This question was posed not for God's sake, but to elicit a response from Adam. This is a question we should constantly ask ourselves. "Where am I?" We need to constantly check our bearing. "Where am I in my spiritual walk with God?" "Where am I in the path of duty and responsibility?" Ancient mariners constantly used trigonometry to determine their locations. It is difficult, if not impossible, to reach your destination if you don't know your present location. This, of course, has many more important implications than our physical, geographical locations.

Exposition

1. Some People Are Where They Ought To Be.

(Jesus Was At The Temple At An Early Age- Luke 2:46.)

2. Some People Are Where They Should Not Be.

(The Prodigal Son Found Himself In The Pig Pen – Luke 15:16.) (Saul/Paul Was Present When They Stoned Stephen – Acts 7:58.) (If The Truth Be Told, We All Have Been In The Wrong Place.)

3. Some People Don't Know Where They Are.

(They Are Lost Spiritually, Chronologically.) (The Elder Brother Was Lost At Home - Luke 15:28.)

4. No One Is Where God Cannot Find You.

(We Cannot Hide From God, But We Can Hide In God.) (Psalm 139:7-10; Psalm 17:8; Psalm 27:5.)

5. The Best Place To Be Is In The Shadow Of The Cross.

(Galatians 6:14; Colossians 1:20.) (Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross.)

Closing Thoughts

I remember reading an article about quarterbacks. I was on a Delta flight from New Jersey. The article said the ideal quarterback has exceptional peripheral vision and can scan the whole field in less than a second. For a particular play, he knows where every receiver should be and where every receiver actually is at any given moment. When a route is clear and the receiver has created enough separation from his opponent, he will throw him the ball. I took this article from the magazine provided by Delta and made a spiritual application. God knows exactly where we are and He knows where we should be at any given time in our lives. If we are in the right place at the right time on the "field of life" and have created enough separation from our opponent, the devil, He will pass the "spiritual football" to us and we can make a "spiritual touchdown." I don't need to tell you the spiritual football is a metaphor for an amazing blessing. Always be where you can receive your amazing blessing from the Lord. Give God Glory! Give God All the Glory!

Related Scripture

Genesis 3:1-24

End Note

When reading the entire third chapter of Genesis, many great spiritual truths come to mind. The truth that stood out to me this time is how inadequate we are without God's redeeming grace. They ran from God, when they should have run toward Him with a repenting spirit. Their clothes were inadequate; the aprons of fig leaves were not sufficient. God gave them coats instead. Their hiding place was inadequate; God knew exactly where they were. Their excuses were inadequate; they played the blame game, but were still guilty. Only the grace of God and the blood of Jesus are sufficient. God's grace is sufficient! If you didn't shout off the sermon, you can definitely shout off of this.

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