Today's MESSAGE

GENESIS: GRACE FROM THE BEGINNING

DOWNFALL AND DELIVERANCE

Genesis 3:1-24

Without a doubt, this is the saddest chapter in the history of mankind—our "fall from grace"—because of the disobedience of our first parents. With that fall came a sinful nature that makes us add our own sins to the original sin, which in turn make us doubly condemned. The Bible rightly says, "There is no one righteous, not even one" (Romans 3:10).

But God always wins, and our fall from grace became the showcase of a grace that is greater than all our sins. Note the four movements in this story that show this truth:

1. THE DECEPTION (vv. 1-7)

a. The Deceiver, v. 1

Where did he come from? (Ezekiel 28:12-17; Isaiah 14:12-14)

b. The Deceived, vv. 2-5

What made them fall? Surprisingly, the root of most sins is unbelief—a failure to trust God. Even today, we struggle with the same deception: "Did God really say...?" Questioning the Word of God can lead you to fail the will of God.

2. THE DISOBEDIENCE (vv. 6-7)

- Our first parents disobeyed and fell into sin, and with them, all of us (Romans 5:12)
- While Eve was deceived first (1 Timothy 2:14), Adam could never claim innocence because he was there all the time. He was passive when he should have been leading. He alone received God's original warning. Leadership always demands greater accountability.

3. THE DISASTER (vv. 8-19)

- a. The Discovery, vv. 8-13
 - Verse 9: It is God who seeks us first, because we will not seek Him on

our own (Romans 3:11). He continues to seek His people today (John 4:23).

- b. The Disaster, vv. 14-19
 - The Curse on the serpent, vv. 14-15

In the midst of such horrific failure was Grace from the Beginning—the Rise of the Savior (v. 15). This promise would be fulfilled to the utmost in Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 5:21).

- The Curse on the woman, v. 16
- The Curse on the man, vv. 17-19

4. THE DOWNFALL (vv. 20-25)

- a. The Driving Out, v. 20, 22-24
- b. The Deliverance, v. 21
 - Despite such a fall from grace, there had always been Grace from the Beginning—the Foreshadowing of Jesus, our Sin Offering (Hebrews 10:1-7).

Final Thoughts:

God always wins, and our fall from grace became the showcase of a grace that is greater than all our sins. "Therefore, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through...His body, and since we have a great Priest over the house of God—let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful" (Hebrews 10:19-23).

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come Let this blest assurance control That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate And hath shed His own blood for my soul

It is well with my soul, it is well with my soul It is well, it is well with my soul!

- Atty. Horatio G. Spafford, It is Well with My Soul