

Broken: A Broken World

Genesis 3; Various Texts

Something's Wrong

- When we look at the world around us, it is obvious that things are not the way they ought to be
 - Disease, Natural Disasters, Injustice, Immorality...
- Something is wrong with the world we live in
 - It seems broken

The Design

- When we look at Scripture, we see that when God created the world it was not like this
 - On the first 5 days of Creation, God declares what He created to be good (Gen. 1:10, 12, 18, 21, 25)
 - And on the 6th day, after He created humans, He declared that it was all very good (Gen. 1:31a)
- God even created a caretaker for the world He made (Gen. 2:15)
- When God placed Adam in the garden, He gave him everything to enjoy (Gen. 2:16)
 - With one stipulation (Gen. 2:17)
- And He gave Adam a partner to share it all with (Gen. 2:18)
- So, what went wrong?

The Rebellion (Gen. 3:1-7)

- God had NOT given Adam & Eve a complex moral system
- He had asked them to trust Him
 - And had given them one prohibition: Don't eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good & Evil
- When the serpent appeared, he tempted them to trust themselves (and him) more than God
- When they ate, they immediately felt shame for the first time
 - And they tried to cover it up
 - And they tried to hide from God
 - And when confronted, they tried to blame others

The Consequences (Gen. 3:14-19)

- Because of their rebellion, God cursed all those involved
 - Curse= To remove God's protection
- The serpent & humanity will be in ongoing conflict with one another
- Mothers will experience pain as they bring life into the world
- Wives & husbands will be in a power struggle rather than a partnership
- The Earth which humanity was made to care for will struggle
- Humanity will now toil to survive rather than enjoy the gifts of God as they worked alongside Him
- We will all die

- Nothing will be as is meant to be
 - The world was broken
- Because of this brokenness
 - The world around us experiences disease, decay, and death
 - Jesus told us that this is how our broken world works (see Matt. 24:6-8)
 - Our relationships are broken
 - We are broken

Hope in Brokenness

- But notice that even in the midst of God explaining the consequences of their rebellion, He gives hope (Gen. 3:15)
- One would arise
 - The offspring of a woman (not a man)
 - He would contend with the serpent and destroy his power
 - Even while being wounded
 - And He will heal that which is broken
- Jesus is the answer to the brokenness in our world
 - He began the healing process with death & resurrection
 - He continues it through the Spirit's work in us
 - He will finish it with His return

So What?

- Do we understand that our world is broken and that only Jesus can fix it?
- Are we looking to Him as our hope?
- Are we pointing others to Him too?

Meditation Verse: *Genesis 3:15*