

## Sin and Death Enter the Story

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Gen 3:8-24 and Mark 16:1-8

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### Synopsis:

The reason the world is in trouble, that evil is here, is that we chose and choose mastery over life, knowledge of good and evil, instead of knowledge of God. The result is disruption of creation, sin, and ultimately death.

But God deals with the trouble, sin and death, through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

**What's wrong?** We made and make bad choices

**What's the solution?** God deals with evil through Jesus

### I.

#### Crime

Gen 3:6 She took of its fruit and ate, and gave some to her husband

#### Dostoevsky and *Crime and Punishment* (1865-66)

-story written in the nihilism of Russia 19<sup>th</sup> cen

e.g. *Beyond Good and Evil* (Nietzsche), roots of our world

-make a choice and not suffer consequences because there is no right and wrong; we are masters of choice

-Raskolnikov kills a old woman, his life begins to unravel against the realities of God's good creation

#### Gen 3:1-7 and 8-24 = Crime and Punishment

##### **LAST WEEK: Reason For Evil**

we choose knowledge of good and evil (mastery) over knowledge of God (live as image bearing humans in creation)

#### What's Wrong? We chose and choose mastery against God

e.g. *Sorcerer's Apprentice* (Disney movie)

-Mickey making a mess!

We make a mess: "It's not supposed to be this way!"

### II.

#### Punishment

Gen 3:15 I will put enmity between you and the woman

#### **TODAY: Results of Evil**

Results/ punishment so to speak

READ Gen 3:7-24: Watch the slow unraveling of creation

Play off against Gen 2:4-24 = creation versus anti-creation

<b>Verse</b>	<b>Punish</b>	<b>Person/ Thing</b>
7	Shame	people to people
8-10	Fear	people to God
11-13	Blame	people to people to animals
14-15	Enmity/hostility	people to animals
16	Abuse/power	genders
16	Pain	generations
17-18	Cursing	people to earth
19	Death	Final result of creation
24	Exile	Where we are

Result: Unraveling of Creation

-Ever have your life fall apart?

-Ever feel any of these things?

-If you do, you are human

What's the solution?

-This text was written into a culture that offered alternatives

-Not just a story, but a *counter*-story

III.

**The Solution**

Mark 16:6 Jesus has been raised; he is not here

World View Questions:

1. Where are we? In good creation
2. Who are we? Image bearing humans
3. What's wrong? We chose and choose
4. What's the solution?

Various Solutions: I know I simplify!

1. Buddhist = evil world is an illusion = GET AWAY  
e.g Southwest Airlines
2. Hindu = evil, previous bad karma = YOU DESERVE IT  
e.g. Bad Dog!
3. Marxist = evil, growing pains of new order = BEAR IT  
e.g. No pain, no gain!
4. Muslim = evil, message not to all people = FORCE IT  
e.g Jihad! Allah Akbar!
5. Humanist = evil, what evil? = FIX IT/IGNORE IT?  
e.g. "Get the evildoers" (they aren't us) or "I have a plan" or "What me worry?"

What does Scripture teach for the solution to evil, sin, and death?

- Start next week with Abraham (Gen 12)
- God does something about evil, sin, and death
- God gets his hands dirty through working here with us
- Story culminates in Gospels: life, crucify, resurrect
- Gospels: In Jesus God shows up to deal with evil, sin, and death to bring about the renewal of the creation

\*Paul in 2 Cor 5:19

“God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself”

IV.

**Living the Solution**

Romans 16:4 We have been buried with him . . . raised from the dead . . . so we too might walk in the newness of life

Scripture teaching:

1. God has a solution in Jesus
2. We can begin to live the solution now, before the end

HOW? READ Romans 6:1-4

- You can now live the victory of Jesus over evil, sin, and death
- How? Die and Rise (Pattern)

Gen 3 Actions: Listen for the Holy Spirit to say “This is it”

<b>Punish</b>	<b>Live</b>
Shame	Forgive and move on
Fear	Trust God in one thing
Blame	Stop it and confess
Hostility	Animal husbandry
Abuse power	Give and take with genders
Pain	Reconcile with kids, parents
Thorns	Plant something, go green
Death	Give hope at death to someone
Exile	Restore your neighborhood

God has acted to deal with evil, sin, and death. By the Holy Spirit you can live dying and rising in Jesus.