

# Allured to Destruction—by the Serpent

Genesis 2:25 - 3:8

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## Introduction:

Today in our sermon series from Genesis, we come to one of the most significant events in the history of the world.

- In fact, you can't really make sense of the world until you understand this event.
  - It is the fall of the human race into rebellion against their Creator.
  - It happened very soon after Adam and Eve were created—before they had yet borne any children.
- If you have been with us so far in this sermon series, you will remember that God provided them with many excellent things when He created them.
  - He gave them a beautiful world and furnished it with many excellent and beautiful things for them to use and enjoy.
  - He even put them in a cultivated garden which He Himself planted for them.
  - He gave them dominion over all that He had made—they had mastery of the world and there were no storms or diseases or vicious animals.
  - He made them in His very own image so that they might be a reflection of His wisdom, power, and goodness—especially His love—on a creaturely level.
  - He gave them each other—male and female with the ability to bring forth many children.
  - He gave them a very interesting and engaging task—to fill the earth with people and to subdue it—to fill the earth with other image bearers like themselves.
  - He gave them communion with Himself and gave them the Sabbath, revealing to them His glory and His work and His will for them.
  - And you will remember that He also gave them a test of their loyalty...
    - He gave them one tree called *the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil* from which He told them not to eat.
      - It was not that there was anything wrong with the tree itself—it was a test of their loyalty to see if they were committed to doing His will.
        - There are many ideas about what the name of the tree means...and several of these ideas are true to the situation...
          - But I think the best way to understand it is this:
            - Eating from it would mean that they were putting themselves in the position that belongs to God alone—the position of being judge and lawgiver—of determining what is good and what is evil...
            - But we are not told—all we know is that God prohibited them eat of it and told that if they did, they would die.
              - It would somehow sever them from the life they now enjoyed in the Garden in communion with God.

- Along with that tree, He also gave them a special tree called *the Tree of Life* that stood for the promise of eternal life.
  - If they showed themselves to be obedient and willing to be governed by Him,
    - they would be established in eternal life—forever joined in happy unity with Him as their Creator and God.
- Here in Genesis 3, we have given to us by divine revelation, the account of how our first parents fell into sin and rebellion—
  - It is the account of their defiance against our Creator which brought them and their posterity after them under His displeasure.
    - We haven't the time this morning to go into detail about how God appointed them to represent and so act in behalf of the whole human race,
      - but suffice it to say that this is what the Almighty appointed—He did not appoint that each person would be individually tested in the Garden.
    - God has declared plainly in His word that *in Adam all die...that by one man sin entered into the world...*
      - And this is, of course, precisely what we see—we are born as sinners in a fallen cursed world where we all die.
        - The rebellion of Adam has passed to us all, and we can only be delivered from it and reconciled to God by the way that God has provided in Jesus Christ His Son.
    - Whoever wishes to complain about this arrangement will accomplish nothing but further judgement and hardness. Let it go!
      - It is far better to seek God's remedy than it is to complain about how we got into our condition...
      - Besides, being in the condition of sin, you are hardly in a position to make a sound judgement about the justice of how you got there!
        - It is much better to see what God has revealed about how we got there and then look to Him for the salvation that only He can provide.

So let us turn to our text and see how the human race fell into sinful defiance against our Creator.

- The LORD has revealed this to us so that we might see the horror of what we did in our first parents...
  - And that in seeing that, we might turn to Him for mercy and salvation...
  - And if we have come to Him already,
    - that we might be more equipped to guard ourselves against the temptation that daily assaults us and that we too often yield to as we await the glory that is promised to us at the last day.

Please give me your attention as I read to you from God's Word, beginning with Genesis 2:25.

- Remember that this is the very word of the living God, so listen with reverence and godly fear.

Genesis 2:25 – 3:7: And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. <sup>3:1</sup> Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’” <sup>2</sup> And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; <sup>3</sup> but of the fruit of the tree which *is* in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.’ ” <sup>4</sup> Then the serpent said to the

woman, “You will not surely die. <sup>5</sup> For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, that it *was* pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make *one* wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they *were* naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

May God bless to us the reading of His holy Word.

You will notice that in our reading today, I have included the last verse of chapter 2.

- I have done this because it forms what is called an inclusio with the last verse we read—verse 7 of chapter 3.
  - You see that they went from the condition of being naked and unashamed to the condition of being clothed and ashamed.
    - It is a great contrast.
    - And in between these two verses, we have the account of how this drastic change came about.
- So in looking at this passage today, I will proceed as follows...
  - First, we will look at what it meant to be naked and unashamed—our condition before the fall...
  - Second, we will look at the allurements—how we, the human race, were allured away from the happy condition...
  - Third, we will look at what it is to be clothed and ashamed—our fallen condition...
    - And of course I will not fail to show you the way God has provided for us to become properly clothed and unashamed.

TRANS> So let’s begin with the first point...

## **I. What it meant to be naked and unashamed**

A. This was a marvellous condition—you see it in verse 25:

- **Gen 2:25: And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.**
  1. Now of course this means very simply that they had no clothes on and they weren’t at all embarrassed about it.
    - They were perfectly comfortable and secure with each other and before God in the world.
  2. This statement, that they were naked and not ashamed, is made about them before the fall.

- They had just been created by the living God and they knew that He was very pleased with them.
    - He had pronounced them “very good.”
    - He had made them in His own image and He delighted in them.
      - They were shining forth with His wisdom, His love, His purity, His goodness, His truth, His power, His holiness.
      - There was no flaw in them—they were in every way pleasing.
  - His love and care for them was evident.
    - Not only had He made them in His image, but He had provided them with the garden and with all the things I mentioned before...
    - They had no reason to doubt His love for them.
      - He had made His intentions toward them clear.
      - Everything was open and comfortable and secure!
- It was all very wonderful and very marvellous.
3. It is clear from the context that their un-ashamedness was indeed before God.
- It is clear because after the fall, they try to cover themselves up and their focus is on covering themselves up before God—
    - He is the main one they want to hide from!
    - They are ashamed because they are naked and can be seen by Him and they know that now there is much to criticise.
  - The impulse to cover themselves up and hide was appropriate,
    - though their efforts at hiding themselves before God were pitifully inadequate and desperate....
    - But there was no need of covering up before the fall!
      - They were naked and they were not ashamed before God Himself!

B. What an extraordinary thing it is to be naked and unashamed before God!

1. Their boldness did not come about because they were mistaken about themselves.
- Our society is desperately trying to be naked and unashamed—we are trying to say that we have nothing to be ashamed about—
    - but we can only say that if we blind ourselves.
  - But Adam and Eve knew clearly and well what they were, and before the fall, they knew that there was truly nothing to criticise about them...
    - They did not have to listen to the flattery of the world, trying desperately to pretend that sin is not sin and to excuse it...
    - They did not have to hide and play games and pretend that they were something they were not...
      - Truly, there was nothing to criticise in them...they were pure and lovely inside and out.
      - There was no fear of such criticism, no need to prove anything, no need to try to measure up or meet someone’s expectations...

- They simply were meeting all of God's expectations (and each other's) all the time and they knew they were doing it—
    - They knew that they were pleasing to each other—perfectly so—and pleasing to God.
  - All their inmost thoughts could be broadcast and there was not one thing to be ashamed of.
    - How would you like it if all of your inmost thoughts and attitudes were to be published?
    - For them, that would have been just fine!
      - They were naked and they were not ashamed.
2. Neither did their boldness come about because they were mistaken about God.
- a. The way of false religion is to set up pretenses before God—and pretenses about God.
- People will pretend to find acceptance with Him in all sorts of bizarre ways—
    - 1) You have eastern religious philosophies that deny the holy, personal nature of God...some of them in their desperation even try to erase the distinction between good and evil!
      - Very sweet until your boss cheats you out of paycheck or your lover betrays you—
        - and it really does not give you true peace with God like Adam and Eve had either—it is just a way of avoiding Him...
    - 2) And then you have those false religions that try to pretend that God can be satisfied with a bunch of rituals—or works of some kind that will make up for our deficiencies...
      - There will be elaborate religious services with incense and sacrifices, or there will be good deeds that are done, or there will be fastings and deprivations of various kinds
        - all so you can pretend that God is pleased with you.
    - 3) And you have those false religions that simply say that God is okay with all the sin—that He understands it...
      - And that is most of what people call sin is not really sin...
        - that it is not wrong to kill your unborn child or to have sex with your boyfriend or with animals or with children or with someone of the same sex or with a group...
          - and of course because they are insecure with this, they get really offended when anyone reminds them that it is wrong...
          - It bursts the bubble of pretense....
      - People will also try to excuse their anger and their bitterness in similar ways...
        - That God is okay with it because the person who wronged them deserves it—
          - or because they have been so greatly abused all their life...

- And the same kind of justifications are made about stealing or about lying or about cursing God...
- But when you are trying to justify yourself, you are really not naked and unashamed, are you?
  - You are just trying to be.
  - You know it is not true.

TRANS> But changing what is true about God really does not help you to be naked and unashamed before Him...not really—because it is not real—it is lie...

- b. But you see Adam and Eve, before they fell, were truly naked and unashamed.
  - Even before the true and living God who is pure and holy!
    - Even though they knew how righteous He is and how much He hates even the least sin—
      - they truly had nothing that could be criticised before Him!
  - It was such a marvellous, comfortable way to be!
    - And that was how they were when they came from His hand!
    - They were totally comfortable with God and with each other and with themselves!
      - There was nothing to apologize for...
      - There was nothing to fear...
      - There was nothing to regret...
      - There was nothing at all to be embarrassed about.
        - They were naked and they were not ashamed and they were not pretending!
        - They were able to completely place themselves in God's hands.
          - Wouldn't it be wonderful?

TRANS> But now I need to show you how all that came to an end.

## II. See how our first parents (and all of us in them) were lured into sin.

A. Genesis 3 opens by introducing us to a clever tempter...

1. You can tell that something is going to happen because having just been told that they were naked and unashamed, it now says:
  - **Gen 3:1: Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field with the LORD God had made.**
    - The Hebrew word that is translated *cunning* is a word that simply means *clever*—it could be used in a good or a bad sense...
      - The translators have used *cunning* because it is in a bad sense—and you can tell that by the contrast even before you move on...
        - *Now the serpent...* something is going to happen to threaten the happy state that Adam and Eve were in.
2. We know from the New Testament, that this *serpent* is in fact Satan.
  - Revelation 12:9 makes this very clear—identifying him with many of his different names:

- **Re 12:9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world;**
- So the identification is clear—it was Satan who was behind this...

3. But there is much that we don't know...

- a. We don't know how Satan was able to use the serpent—or the dragon...
  - Did he simply take the form of a serpent? or did he actually possess the serpent—and how could he do this before the fall?
- b. We don't know what the serpent looked like before he was forced to crawl—perhaps more like a dragon?
- c. We don't know how the serpent was able to talk—
  - but we do know that God enabled Balaam's donkey to talk—
  - Some of the Jews say that all of the animals in the Garden could talk—but we don't know because we are not told.
- d. We don't know how Satan himself fell into evil...though we are told from other scriptures that he did indeed fall from original purity...
  - And in Isaiah 14 in the passage about Lucifer, we are told that he wanted to be like the Most High.
- e. But the LORD has not seen fit to reveal all that we might want to know about the entrance of sin into the world...
  - But He has told us all that we need to know and so instead of complaining about what we cannot understand,
    - we need to pay careful attention to what He has revealed to us that we might understand and profit from it.
  - Part of our wickedness is that we want to throw up objections about matters that He has not revealed instead of concerning ourselves with the important things that have been revealed...
    - And what He has revealed is how we were allured...

B. So let's look at the allurements of the serpent...at the crafty working of Satan...

1. "Hath God said?"

- I use the old version because nothing says it so well!
- a. That is Satan's primary line of attack—"Hath God said?"—
  - 1) If he can get us to question God's word, to doubt what He has said, to distort its meaning, to question His veracity or His intentions...
    - He already has us!
      - Once we are in the position where we do not acknowledge that God is speaking to us in the place that He is speaking to us,
        - We have lost our way.
  - 2) Do you not see all the ways that Satan does this today?
    - a) In modern times, first there was liberalism that began to attack the historical faithfulness of the scriptures—

- To make us think it was not God’s word—
    - But the more research that has been done, the more reliable we actually find the scriptures to be...
  - Archeologists continue to dig up cities that were not supposed to exist according to the Bible’s detractors...
    - and they continue to find documents of kings or governors that were not supposed to be in office when they Bible says they were.
- b) And there is the silly theory of evolution that suggests that life came about through random processes without God—not as God has said... “Hath God said?”
- Yet, the theory of evolution is found to be more and more incredible as science advances—
    - Darwin thought we would find missing links—we have not.
    - Darwin thought cells were nothing but blobs of gel—now we see how incredibly complex they are.
    - And just the absurdity of supposing that something like an eye could form—no matter how many millions of years you have—by random processes!
  - But you see, the world believed this silly theory because they wanted to question the word of God.
    - Satan knew we would be gullible enough to buy into it—and we were!
- c) Another method he employs is to distract us from the Bible...
- Hypocrites have all sorts of rituals and things that God never commanded and they seem to be the most religious people of all...
    - but they ignore the plain and simple commandments and teachings of scripture.
    - In this way, people are left without the word that gives life, yet they feel that they are close to God.
- d) Another method he uses is to get people to despise the word of God... to take offense at the doctrines or the commandments...
- to say, “We don’t like that” and to suppose that they can question it or dismiss it because they don’t like it.
  - People do that with Hell—of course you don’t like the Bible’s teaching about Hell—but that does not make it false—that does not give you the right to question it...
  - People do not like the Bible’s teaching that Christ is the only way of salvation—but that is what God says in His word—and it makes perfect sense.
  - People do not like the Bible’s moral teachings about sexual purity or about covetousness, or honouring parents—but that does not make it untrue.



- b. Now notice what Satan does with Eve here...
    - She was having no problem with the fact that the LORD had forbidden them to eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil...
      - God was their Creator and He was the one who gave them all the wonderful trees in the garden, and if He wanted to forbid that one should be eaten, what was that to her?
    - But Satan comes and says, “Hath God said?”
      - **Gen 3:1: Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden’?**
    - He draws her into to his trap with a question that might be just mere curiosity, but we know that it is much more than that...
      - He is challenging God—
      - He is saying that it is absurd for God to make a prohibition like that.
        - There was nothing wrong with that tree...Why be deprived of its fruit and its goodness?
      - Sound familiar?
        - Why can’t you do whatever you want with your body—sex outside of marriage, abortion, drugs, drunkenness?
        - Who is God to deprive you?
    - Do you see how completely twisted that thinking is?
      - He is God! That is who He is!
      - He is your Creator!
      - You are under His authority!
      - The question is not, who is He to deprive you,
        - but who are you to question Him?
        - Who are you to reject His commandments?
2. Look at what happens next—Eve begins to take Satan’s bait...
- There are two things that she does that indicate trouble...
  - a. First, she adds to what God has said—she says, that He not only said not to eat of the tree, but also not to touch it...
    - This is what religious people do to protect themselves sometimes.
      - God says not to get drunk and they say, “we are not to drink at all and anyone who does is sinning”
      - God says not to commit fornication and they say, “if a person is really godly, they will refrain from marriage too.”
      - God says to keep the Sabbath holy and they say, “we are not to feast on the Sabbath or we are not to help someone in need.”
  - b. Second, she says that God said not to do it “lest we die.”
    - She softens what He said—He said, “you shall surely die,” but she says, “lest we die...” in other words—we might die.
    - This is what you hear all the time in our day about Hell—

- Compromising men who are falling into Satan’s trap will say, “We do not know if there is really a Hell.”
  - Satan has gotten to these men...
    - They suppose that God will not really punish people the way He said He would—“Hath God said!”
    - In their arrogance, they suppose that God will not do anything unless it meets with their approval...
      - If they don’t like Hell, then there can’t really be a hell...
      - Rob Bell says, “Would God really do that to a person?”
  - The prophets had to contend with this in the Old Testament...
    - They would preach God’s judgements, and the people would say, “God would not do that to us. We are His people.”
    - But the people were always wrong when they said that.
- So Satan, seeing that he is making progress, moves forward...
3. Now he directly challenges what God has said.
- a. He baldly states, **v. 4: “You shall not surely die!”**
- That is a direct contradiction of God’s Word.
  - In fact, it is even more blatant in the Hebrew—he puts the ‘not’ in front of what God said—he says “NOT—you shall surely die.”
  - He challenges the veracity of God, that God will do what He says...
- b. Then he questions the goodness of God and the authority of God and presents Him as if He is envious of puny little man!
- **v. 5: “For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”**
- 1) Do you see the implication here?
- God is keeping you back from what is best for you—
    - not just an experience—but something that will bring you to a much higher and better position!
    - Satan says to you, “You will not be all that you can be if you listen to God and follow His restrictions.”
- 2) In this way, Satan intoxicates us with ambition—and with pride.
- Does he ever do that to you?
    - Do you ever feel that you are missing out because you are serving God and doing His will?
    - That God is keeping back what would make you happy?
      - Do you young people feel that way?
  - You need to know that it is a lie from the pit of Hell.
    - You cannot go beyond what God offers to you...you cannot get more than what He gives you.
    - And if you try to do so, you will end up with far less.
    - Trying to find happiness by having sex with your girlfriend might be pleasant for a time, but in the long run, you will lose.

- 3) Satan says, you shall be like God, knowing good and evil,
  - But why would Eve want to be like God in that way?
    - Does she really want the responsibility of determining what is best for her when she has her Creator to tell her good and evil?
    - Are we really capable of deciding what is best for us?
  - By the fall,
    - we become like the miserable two-year-old who runs a house...
    - The parents cater to whatever the child wants, and the child is miserable and full of whining and complaining and dissatisfaction.
      - The child makes all sorts of unreasonable demands.
    - A child grows and develops best when a child knows his place—not as the ruler of the home, but as a child who is to obey his parents.
4. And now finally, we see how both Adam and Eve take the plunge into ruin and destruction...
  - a. The narrative moves very rapidly at this point with one verb after another to show their descent into the abyss of sin and death...
    - Look at the verbs—she saw, she took, she ate, she gave, he ate...
    - Ambition has driven them mad!
      - They could no longer bear to be inferior to God.
      - They must rise, as they suppose, to His seat!
      - They must no longer be under Him.
        - They dive headlong into rebellion against their gracious Creator.
  - b. This is the condition of the whole human race now...
    - We come from the womb challenging our Maker.
    - We come, questioning instead of depending upon His goodness.
    - We come rejecting His authority to rule over us.
    - We take, we eat, and we give to others what He has forbidden!
  - c. Who in the world do you think you are to challenge the authority of God?
    - To doubt His word, to question His goodness, to reject His commands?

TRANS> We know that this is wrong...

- So now instead of being naked and unashamed...

### III. We are, in our fallen estate, clothed and ashamed.

- A. Adam and Eve's immediate impulse after they fell was to hide themselves—to cover themselves up.
  - **Gen 3:7: Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.**
1. They are ashamed, and rightly so, of what they have become.
  - They are no longer free and open with God.
  - They know that they are in a place that they do not belong and they are embarrassed for Him to see them there.

- Everything is out of place and they are full of guilt and shame and they want to cover themselves.
  - They were shameful and degraded and they did need a covering—desperately so...
- 2. Their impulse was totally right—but the fig leaves they sewed together were completely inadequate.
  - Fig leaves—our foolish excuses for our unbelief—for our failure to do God’s will, for our disobedience...
    - Our pretences that we have done our duty when we have not...
    - Our denial of the corruption and malice that is in our hearts...
    - Our religious works and our charitable works...
    - Our silly philosophies and books and doctrines...
      - All just fig leaves!
- 3. Do you not see that you are without covering before God?
  - Do you really believe all the lies you tell yourself and others about that?
  - Surely you know the wickedness that is in your own heart!
  - Surely you know that things are not right with you and God.
  - Surely you know that you need to be covered...
    - You want to deny that you need to do that, but you know that you do.
    - You sense a need to justify yourself—to prove yourself—to excuse yourself—do you not?

TRANS> Well let me tell you what our gracious God has done!

B. Our gracious God has provided clothes of true righteousness for His people!

1. Only He can cover us, and this is how He has done it...
  - Two thousand years ago He sent His Son, His only Son, who had been with Him for all eternity...
    - He sent Him to become one of us, truly and really, to come as a man, and of course you know Him as Jesus.
  - He appointed Him to represent His covenant people, those to whom He had promised redemption and the forgiveness of sin.
    - And Jesus came and lived a life in which there was nothing to ashamed.
    - He never sinned—not even once—not in the least matter.
    - He never had to hide or apologize or make excuses—never.
  - And so Jesus had perfect righteousness—He was everything that God is pleased with, everything that is good and noble and upright and pure and delightful.
    - And then He did something for us.
    - He went to procure a righteous garment that could truly cover our sins.
    - He did not need such a garment because He was pure and righteous, but He set out to make a garment for us.
  - And you know what He did—He went to the cross to make a covering for our sins—an atoning sacrifice.

- He paid the penalty for our sins so that they could be cancelled, pardoned, taken away forever!
  - God the Father sent Him to do this and He did it because of His great love, even though He had to suffer the pains of Hell for our sins.
  - And now He covers us with that garment of righteousness if only we believe!
- So all of God's people who trust in Him for that garment are covered!
  - They can come to God without guilt.
  - They are known by the fact that they have come to see and admit their need to be clothed with His righteousness...
    - They see clearly that they have no righteousness of their own...
    - And so they come to Him for mercy and forgiveness and He imputes to them, or credits them, with Christ's righteousness—with the garment He procured for them.
- If you are trusting in Jesus, that means that now you are clothed with His perfect righteousness and are no longer under God's condemnation.
  - No one can bring a charge against you because God Himself has justified you through the righteousness of His Son.
  - You are able to come to God through His sacrifice and obedience.
    - It hardly seems fair, but this is what God has graciously provided.

TRANS> You are now covered and you do not need to be ashamed.

- But there is more that He does.
    - Perhaps you recognize that the rebellion in you is deep and that even though you might be pardoned and justified by Christ,
      - you doubt that you would ever be able to live faithfully under the rule and authority of God.
    - It is one thing to be covered, but it is another thing to live a pure and holy life.
      - You are still full of pride and independence that keeps you from submitting to Him.
      - Well I say secondly, just as He only can clothe us with righteousness, so:
2. Only God can restore us to our proper place under His benevolent rule, and this is how He does that:
- He sends His word to us to show us how we have gone wrong and to show us what a wretched condition we are in,
    - and He sends His Holy Spirit, along with His word, to convince us of our these things.
  - By the working of His Spirit, we see that we need Jesus and we turn to Him to be clothed with His righteousness,
    - but we also come to Him to be changed by His power and grace so that we will submit to God.
    - There is a radical turning point when we come to be forgiven and reconciled—and we are set on a new path of life as Jesus's disciples.

- He daily gives us His Spirit to enable us to submit to His rule, and though we are not yet perfected,
  - we are promised that we will be brought to perfection at last.
  - And so we rest in the righteous covering that He has provided for us as we go on seeking to live in obedience.
- So have you come to Jesus?
  - Are you clothed in His righteousness?
  - Are you, with His help, living under the rule of God again?
- If not, then do you not see your wretched condition?
  - I don't know what you might be doing to clothe yourself—what kind of fig leaves you may be hiding under and what kind of deception...
    - but you need to give it up—it is not something to trifle with and you need to see it for what it is...
  - Give it up and come to Jesus
    - Only He can clothe you with righteousness...
    - Only He can bring you back to the place you belong under the rule of God.
  - You do not reach fullness by rebellion...
    - That is Satan's lie.
    - That is the pathway to death...
  - You reach fullness by coming to Christ.
    - He is the one God provided to bring us out of the wretched condition into which we are fallen.
    - In Him, we are clothed and not ashamed.