

Sermon Notes

Providence Community Church

11-18-18 Ken Carlton

Title: CLOSING EDEN'S DOOR

Main Text: Genesis 3:20-24

Aim: TO INFORM THE HEARER AS TO THE SIGNIFICANCE OF EVENTS IN EDEN VIA THE GREATER TESTIMONY OF SCRIPTURE...

Sermon Description: Though the final chapter of paradise closes with notes of devastating sadness and the seal of judgement forever barring unassisted reentry – there are hopeful signs as well. The meaning of these symbol laden historical events is profound, albeit foreign to the untransformed mind, even appearing ridiculous and absurd to the Godless sceptic. The greater revelation of scripture, however, provides keys to a richer understanding of these final moments in Eden. Not only are they profound, they have everything to do with the gospel – God's redemptive plan yet to be revealed in Christ. One helpful point of perspective on the closing of Eden's door comes from the great commentator Matthew Henry. He says: “God revealed this to Adam, not to drive him to despair, but to quicken him to look for life and happiness in the promised seed by whom a new and living way into the holiest is laid open for us.” Using Henry's insightful categories summarizing the close of Genesis 3, it becomes apparent that all of history since Eden has been marked by the quest for life and happiness of those looking to the Messiah and those who look for life and happiness elsewhere in this fallen realm. The preferred path always comes up ultimately short, falling on the flaming sword that guards the premises of Eden from unauthorized invasion. There is only one way back to reconciliation with a Holy God. No one comes to the Father except through Jesus Christ His Son and this way, though narrow, difficult, and unpopular, leads assuredly to glorious life eternal!

Heading: ...EDEN'S DOOR CLOSES WITH EVENTS SIGNIFYING...

1. REDEMPTIVE HOPE (Gen 3:20-21)

a. Adam names Eve (Luke 1:35-38)

b. Garments of skins (Ezek 28:13-17, II Cor 5:1-5)

2. COVENANT SANCITONS (3:22-23)

a. Guarding the tree (Rev 22:11-15)

b. Eden Banishment (Rev 21:3-4)

3. BARRIERS OF RE-ENTRY (3:23)

a. Placing cherubim (Ezek 10, John 20:12)

b. Flaming sword (Ezek 21, Rev 19:11-16, Is 53:5-8)

FAMILY WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:	Theme:
Naming Eve	Garments of skins	Tree guarded	Eden banishment	Placing cherubim	Flaming sword
Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:	Verses:
Gen 3:20, Luk 1:35-38	3:21, II Cpr 5:1-5	3:22, Rev 22:11-15	3:23, Rev 21:3-4	3:24, Ezek 10	3:24, Is 53:5-8

FURTHER STUDY: see 'Excerpts' posted weekly at providencecrosslake.com

NEXT WEEK: *Genesis 4:1-16 ...Cain & Abel*