



Did God say?

Brighton Presbyterian Church

Dr. Bill Morehouse

Sunday, November 17, 2019 – 9:15 am

5 Generations in a Century



Adapted from James Choung
Real Life Continuum

Generations

What's it all about?

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, **“Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?”**

And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but **God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’**” **But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”** So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden.

Genesis 3

The Crafty Serpent

God said

1. You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall make no idols.
3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
4. Keep the Sabbath day holy.
5. Honor your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
10. You shall not covet.

But the serpent said

1. I know more than God; listen to me and make up your own mind.
2. No limits! Celebrate diversity!
3. Curse all you want; it's spicy and underscores your point.
4. Don't waste your free time on religion.
5. Tell it like it is: Your parents need to earn your respect.
6. Baby in the way? Get rid of it.
7. Sex = pleasure; just do it!
8. Stolen fruit tastes sweeter.
9. Get those bigots and haters any way you can.
10. But it's the basis of our economy!

The Big 10

Commandments or old suggestions?

The Problem and the Solution

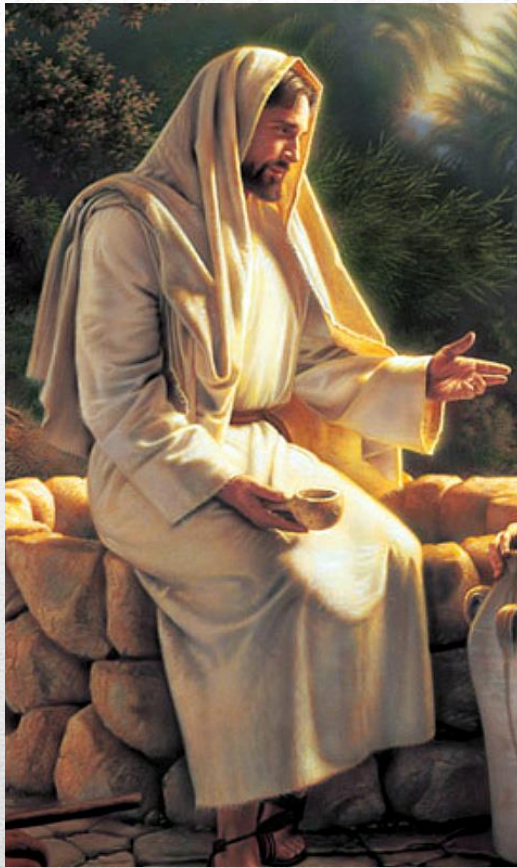
*For he finds fault with them when he says: Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish **A NEW COVENANT** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt.*

For they did not continue in my covenant**, and so I showed no concern for them, declares the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: **I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Hebrews 8:8-12

The New Covenant

Authority internal, not external



At the start of His ministry*

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Matthew 3:2

and to Nicodemus he said,

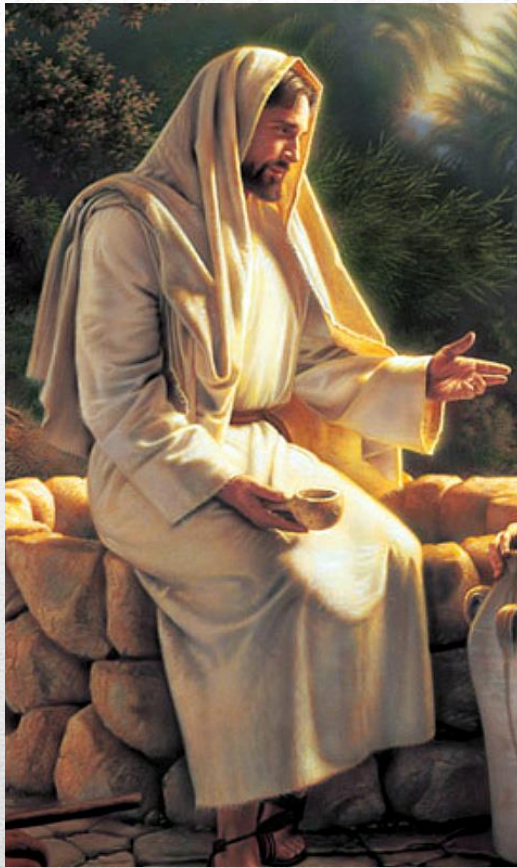
"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

John 3:3

**and 99 (31+ 68) times after that...*

The Kingdom of God

Seeing the complete solution



Nicodemus said to him,

“How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”

Jesus answered,

“Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’”

John 3:4-7

New Birth

The only entrance into the Kingdom

The Kingdom of God

The Kingdom of God is His kingship, His rule, His authority. We must “seek first His kingdom and His righteousness” – His sway, His rule, His reign in our lives. When we pray, “Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven” this prayer is a petition for God to reign, to manifest His kingly sovereignty and power, to put to flight every enemy of righteousness and of His divine rule, that God alone may be King over all the world.

George Eldon Ladd

How it Grows

A vision for divine governance of all mankind, empowered by the Holy Spirit, that grows like seeds in a field, yeast in a loaf...

The Kingdom

Destined to grow in our midst



The *Ekklesia*

All who are “*called out*” into new birth

The Calling and Sending of the *Ekklesia*

I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

John 17:15-18

The Bible is clear that the world's inhabitants are either under the influence of this cosmos with its cunning, deception and spell; or they are in Christ and under the direction of the Spirit of God. There is no neutral ground. The lines are drawn by the Bible.

Billy Graham

Our Calling

We're “*in*” the world but not “*of*” it

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Being Living Letters in the world

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

You are a letter of Christ, cared for by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

2 Corinthians 3:2-3

Our Purpose

Why have we been sent?

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Letting go of the old

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ... in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith — that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

Philippians 3:7-12

Pressing On

to take hold of the new

Moving in His Strength

He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2 Corinthians 12:9

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

Galatians 6:9-10

Finishing strong

Don't grow weary in well doing

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The Parable of the Wheat and the Tares

Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, "Gather the tares first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."

Matthew 13:24-30

Wheat and Tares

What kind are you?

Thanks!

Prayer is available up front

ANY QUESTIONS?

Fellowship with us in Wallace Hall and then
come to class at 11

You can also find me online at
www.hiskingdom.us or www.wmorehouse.com

