

God's Plan of Salvation:

1. Hear - Romans 10:17
2. Believe - Mark 16:16
3. Repent - Acts 2:38
4. Confess - Romans 10:10
5. Be baptized - Acts 22:16
6. Live faithfully - Revelation 2:10

Announcements:

Sick: Ms. Dannels, Mr. Dowling (test results), Mr. Hadley, Ms. Kim (Ashley Law's mother), Lamar Mathis, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Newsome, Mrs. Owens, Mr. Swindell, Ms. Sowder, Ms. Ward, Mr. Winns.

If you would be interested in any of the following ways to study the Bible, feel free to let us know:

- Home Bible Study - We will come into your home or other place you feel comfortable and study the Bible with you. Bible questions are welcome in these studies and we will seek to give a Bible answer.
- Correspondence courses - We will be glad to mail you a correspondence lesson that you can fill out and mail back to us and we will send you the next lesson.
- Call us with your Bible question - #503-707-6014.
- Visit our website: www.oakgrovechurchofchristjenningsflorida.com
- Come and visit - We always strive to have good, practical Bible instruction at each of our assemblies.

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“Where Are You?”

By Derek Long

After Adam and Eve ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 3:6), which God commanded them not to eat of (Genesis 2:16-17), God is walking in the garden and they hide from God (Genesis 3:8). God asks Adam the question, “Where are you?” (Genesis 3:9, NKJV). Let's examine some lessons we can learn from this question God asks Adam.

- God does not ask the question because He is in need of information. God is giving Adam the opportunity to own up and acknowledge his guilt. God wants us to acknowledge our transgressions just like He wanted Adam to acknowledge his wrongdoing. Proverbs 28:13 says, “He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy” (NKJV). 1 John 1:9 says, “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (NKJV).
- All of us need to consider the question, “where are you?” Are we living in the flesh or in the Spirit (Romans 8:8-9; Galatians 5:16-25)? Are we living in the light or in the darkness (Ephesians 5:8-14; 1 Thessalonians 5:4-5; 1 John 1:5-7)? Are we in sin or in righteousness (Romans 6:16-18)?

Are we drawing near to God or are we separating ourselves from Him (James 4:8; Hebrews 10:22; Isaiah 59:1-2)? Honest self-examination to discover where we stand in relationship with God is important (2 Corinthians 13:5). When we read about God asking Adam, “Where are you?” we need to take the opportunity to ask ourselves where we are at spiritually.

- God asks Adam, “where are you?” while Adam and Eve are seeking to hide from the presence of God (Genesis 3:7-10). The Bible tells of people who sought to hide from God but always failed. One of the most well-known Bible characters who attempted to hide from God was Jonah. God tells Jonah to go and preach to the city of Nineveh. Jonah does not want to do what God told him to do and so, “Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord” (Jonah 1:3, NKJV). Jonah was not able to flee from the Lord. The Lord sent a storm to where the ship was (Jonah 1:4). During the storm notice where Jonah was, “Jonah had gone down into the lowest parts of the ship, had lain down, and was fast asleep” (Jonah 1:5, NKJV). When the sailors eventually throw Jonah overboard at the urging of Jonah, he had not escaped from God because, “the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah” (Jonah 1:17, NKJV). The book of Jonah teaches us it is impossible to hide from God. Proverbs 15:3 tells us it is impossible to hide either the good or the evil from God. Hebrews 4:13 says, “There is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account” (NKJV). God through rhetorical questions reminds His people they cannot hide from Him in Jeremiah 23:23-24. Psalm 139:1-16

speaks about how it was impossible to escape from the presence of God. Psalm 139:1-16 says, “O Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O Lord, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it. Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me. If I say, ‘Surely the darkness shall fall on me,’ even the night shall be light about me; indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to You. For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them” (NKJV). The Psalmist could take delight in the fact he was in God’s presence because he was pleasing to God. Are we glad to be in the presence of God where He sees all we are doing or are we like Adam and Eve attempting to hide the things we are doing from God?