

GRADE 8 CRE

CREATION

Origin of sin and its consequences

(Gen: 3-11)

What is sin?

Sin is the intentional, willful or knowledgeable violation of a norm.

It is a thought, word or action which is shameful or harmful to oneself, others or to God.

It destroys the relationship between human beings and even God.

Introduction

Man and woman fell from the Garden of Eden. This experience is explained in genesis chapter 3 verse 4; chapter 6 verse 9 and chapter 11. In these verses, the Bible is teaching about sin, which made Adam and Eve fall.

Sin is defined as iniquity, and guilt. It is to miss a mark, to transgress. Sin is a rebellion or an offence against God. Sin originated with the disobedience of Adam and Eve. They had been commanded not to eat of the fruits of the tree of knowledge of good and evil – the tree in the middle of the Garden of Eden. But Adam and Eve ate the fruit after being deceived by the serpent.

Man had the power to resist temptation but instead he yielded. Genesis Chapter 3 verse 6 states that man wanted to be wise and thought how wonderful it would be to become wise...” hence sin arises from the lack of knowledge of God, from the denial of trust of God.

The consequences of sin

After sinning, we the human race and sinners:

- 1) Replaced friendship with God with fear of God.
 - 2) Lost innocence. What had been innocent and good became shameful. Adam and Eve became ashamed of their nakedness, something they had never felt before they sinned against God.
 - 3) Lost good relationship with God. The good relationship between God and man was betrayed. Human beings – were alienated from God. “The Lord God sent him out of the Garden of Eden...”
 - 4) Damaged the perfect relationship between man and woman. The Lord said to the woman “You will have desire for your husband, yet you will be subject to him”.
 - 5) Pain became part of human experience. “I will greatly multiply your pain in child bearing”.
 - 6) Man began toiling and struggling to meet his needs... “You will have to work hard and sweat to make the soil produce anything”
 - 7) The home of man, and the earth itself was placed under a curse. “Cursed is the ground because of you.”
- Enmity between man and wild animals emerged.
- 9) Man began to die. Death sentence is passed upon all men. “You will return to the ground... you are dust”
 - 10) Man began to hate. Man developed murderous feelings in his heart, for example Cain killed Abel, his younger brother.
 - 11) Man changed and became prone to sin.
 - 12) Life span of man was reduced (see Gen. 6:3) “I will not allow people to live forever, they will live no longer than 120 years”
 - 13) Man’s language was confused by God after the flood (read Gen.11: 7)
 - 14) Sin led to embarrassment, mistrust, suffering, pain, pride, arrogance and death.

Summary

Disobedience of God by Adam and Eve brought serious sin consequences to human beings. Sin brings sadness and suffering to man even today.