

Stephens, GregGod, The Covenant and the Contradiction

8. God's Covenant With Adam

Copeland opens with a story: early in his ministry he owed \$5,000 he couldn't pay, stood on Scripture as 'covenant talk,' believed he received, and two weeks later a woman gave \$10,000. He uses this to teach the Adam covenant—God's first blood covenant with fallen man. After Adam and Eve sinned, God pronounced judgment but hid inside it the promise of a coming Redeemer, then shed animal blood to clothe them.

Key takeaways

- Faith is our part of covenant; God always does His and is never late. Faith works the same whether the need is five cents or five million.
- Adam and Eve died spiritually the moment they sinned; fig leaves (self-effort) couldn't cover their shame.
- God's question 'Where art thou?' meant 'Why are you there and not with Me?'—an offer to repent. Instead all three blamed someone else.
- Genesis 3:15 is the hidden Adam covenant: the promise of the Seed (Jesus), born of a virgin, who would crush the serpent's head.

- God shed animal blood to clothe them—the first blood covenant. Blood alone can cover the cost of a life; animal sacrifice only atoned (covered) sin until Jesus' blood remitted (erased) it.
- The covenant's seals were the animal skins and Adam and Eve's faith in the promised Seed.
- God couldn't intervene before the Fall without breaking His own word: He had already given Adam dominion to subdue the serpent (Genesis 1:28). He cannot lie or break covenant.
- The 'Go Deeper' section contrasts the two Adams: the first failed and reproduced sin; the Second (Jesus) fulfilled and gives life. Jesus cursing the fig tree declared the era of covering sin was over.

Passages worth keeping

“Grant, grant, grant, grant. That was covenant talk!”

Frames the whole chapter—recognizing covenant language in Scripture is what lets faith work.

“God's Love says, 'I choose to continue loving and caring for you.'”

The heart of the Adam covenant: God pursues His family even after they reject Him.

How it connects

The judgment in Eden is really the first step of redemption—every later blood covenant traces back to this promise of the Seed, fulfilled in Christ, the Second Adam who finished what the first failed.

Scripture referenced

- **Mark 11:23-24** -- Believe you receive when you pray—the faith basis for the \$5,000 story
- **Genesis 3:15** -- The core Adam-covenant promise: the Seed who bruises the serpent's head
- **Genesis 3:21** -- God clothes them in skins—the first blood shed, first blood covenant
- **Leviticus 17:11** -- The life is in the blood; blood makes atonement
- **Genesis 1:28** -- Dominion given to Adam—why God couldn't step in before the Fall
- **Romans 5:15-19** -- The two Adams: grace greater than the first Adam's sin