Paradise Lost
PART IV
Genesis 3:9-13

Main Thought Paradise is lost in this tragedy: TEMPTER (1a), TEMPTATION (1b-5), SIN (6), CONSEQUENCES (7-8), JUDGMENT (9-19), and EPILOGUE (20-24).

"Whereas his previous actions revealed him as the Creator and Benefactor, this narrative demonstrates him to be a compassionate Judge of sinners." ROSS

THE JUDGMENT (9-19).

In a series of questions the compassionate Judge interrogates Adam and Eve to gain their confession – I ATE. The righteous judge always investigates before judgment – Cain (WHERE and WHAT [4:9-10]) and Sodom and Gomorrah (18:20-21).

INTERROGATION OF ADAM (9-12).

WHERE?

- God continued his gracious daily walk with man in spite of alienation. He initiates salvation (Luke 15:4; 19:10; Rom. 5:8); no one seeks God (Rom. 3:10-11).
- This is a rhetorical question – God already knows (Psa. 139:7).
- He responds: I HEARD – all have heard and are without excuse (Rom. 1:20); I WAS AFRAID – (18:15; John 14:27), I WAS NAKED (2 Cor. 5:2-5), I HID (1 Cor. 4:5).
- Where you are spiritually is the crucial question (John 5:24; Rev. 3:15-18).

WHO?

- Here the LORD God answers his own WHO question. The sentence order (HEB): The TREE (placed first) I commanded you not to eat HAVE YOU EATEN?
- Adam first blames God for giving him woman but God cannot be blamed (Jam. 1:13). Adam secondly blames the woman and not his own choice (Jam. 1:14-15). Alas, he confesses – I ATE (Psa. 32:5; 1 John 1:9).

INTERROGATION OF EVE (13).

WHAT?

- Eve answers by blaming the serpent (implied?: “that you created”). While true and offers explanation, it is no excuse (Jam. 1:14-15).
- Alas, she confesses – I ATE. With these two confessions it is time for God’s gracious judgment. One day all will CONFESS (Rom. 14:11-12).

"An excuse is the skin of a reason stuffed with a lie." BILLY SUNDAY (1862-1935)