

The Kingdom of Sin

Introduction

Initial Sin (cf. Genesis 2:25 and Genesis 3:7)

At the culmination of the creation story, at the end of chapter 2, we read the following:

*"... the man and his wife, both of them, were naked [עָרוּמִים], and they were not ashamed"
(Genesis 2:25)*

So, Adam and Eve are innocent, have no shame, and are in an intimate relationship; however, after their rebellion against Yahweh the first thing we read is this:

"... the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked [עָרוּמִים]. And they sewed together fig leaves and they made for themselves coverings." (Genesis 3:7)

Finally, at the end of Genesis 3, we read...

"... the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life." (Genesis 3:23-24)

Sin in Community — Exodus 3:14

Later on in the biblical story, when God reveals himself to Moses on Mt. Sinai, Yahweh says this:

"Yahweh! ... I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin. But I do not excuse the guilty. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children and grandchildren; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations." (Exodus 3:14)

Epigenetics and the Holocaust

Dr. Rachel Yehuda concludes that:

"One person's life experience can affect subsequent generations." — Rachel Yehuda

The New Testament and the Kingdom of Sin

Paul says in the letter to the Colossians:

"He [God] has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son." (Colossians 1:13)

"If we say we have fellowship with him [God] while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin." (1 John 1:6-7)

"If we say that we do not have sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, so that he will forgive us our sins and will cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:8-9)

James says in his letter:

"... confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." (James 5:15-17)

Application