

## The Church – From the Garden and Back...God Desires Presence

### I. God Desires Presence and Participation

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” – Genesis 3:8-10

#### *A. God brought Adam to the Garden, the place of His presence.*

“The LORD God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed.” - Genesis 2:8

“Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.” – Genesis 2:15

“...heard the sound of the LORD God walking...” – Genesis 3:8

#### *B. Adam was placed in the Garden to cultivate and keep the garden.*

“Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it.” – Genesis 2:15

But you are a chosen race, *a royal priesthood*, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. – 1 Peter 2:9

#### *3. Adam sinned, but God didn't leave the Garden because God seeks sinners!*

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him,

“Where are you?” And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” – Genesis 3:8-10

And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. – Genesis 3:21

## II. God Has Not Given Up on His Desire for Presence and Participation

1. Give much grace to others, because God has given so much grace to you.
2. God doesn't invite you near the house, or around the house. He invites you in the house!
3. You have a role in the house.

*Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place<sup>[a]</sup> of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people,<sup>[b]</sup> and God himself will be with them as their God.<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>4</sup> He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”*

*<sup>5</sup> And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup> And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. – Revelation 21: 1-6*

**22** *Then the angel<sup>[a]</sup> showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb<sup>2</sup> through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life<sup>[a]</sup> with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup> No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. <sup>4</sup> They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.*

<sup>6</sup> *And he said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place."*

<sup>7</sup> *"And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book." – Revelation 22:1-7*

<sup>20</sup> *He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!*

<sup>21</sup> *The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all.<sup>[a]</sup> Amen. – Revelation 22:20-21*