

The Extent of Mercy's Reach

“Before sin entered, mercy was there.”

Genesis 3:6ff

“Mercy never began to be, but from eternity was; so it will never cease to be. Forever His mercy stands, a boundless, overwhelming immensity of divine pity and compassion.”

A.W. Tozer

Genesis 3:6

When the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes, and the tree was desirable to make one wise, she took from its fruit and she ate. And she gave it also to her husband with her, and he ate.

Mercy's Preemptive Work

7. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed together fig leaves and they made for themselves coverings.

- God's mercy always preempts our sin and our failure.

- Our shame and guilt point to our need for God and His mercy.

Mercy's Pursuit

9. So the Lord God called out to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

- God's mercy is not passive;
it always pursues us.

Mercy's Promise

15. I will put hostility between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed.

He will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel.

- God's seed always bears a seed of promise.

Mercy's Provision

21. The Lord God made clothing out of skins for Adam and his wife, and He clothed them.

- Mercy's provision covers us from sin and its effects.

Mercy's Protection

22. And the Lord God said, “The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever.”

- Mercy protects us from what we don't know that we don't know.

- Mercy always protects us by assuring our future through what Christ accomplished.