

# BEGINNINGS

Goodness and Severity  
Genesis 3:16-19  
March 8, 2020

## I. GOD'S BASIS FOR JUDGEMENT

- We do not see sin as wicked as it is because we do not see God as Holy as He is.
- We have tended to create a God in our image (Psalm 50:19-23).
- We tend to desire therapy rather than redemption.
- Holiness is the cry of the angels for eternity (Revelation 4:8).
- Sin is a big deal. In the Bible it is compared to the smell of an open grave (Psalm 5:9); to a snake's poison (Psalm 140:3); to the vomit of a dog and the mire in which a sow wallows (2 Peter 2:22); the monthly impurity of a woman (Ezekiel 36:17), and to prostitution (Ezekiel 16:25, 33).
- God judges sin because his holiness cannot wink at it. His justice is a holy-justice.

## II. GOD'S BENEVOLENCE IN JUDGEMENT

- God's love is a holy-love... he only loves holy things.
- God does not destroy Adam and Eve but rather promises that one day their son will crush their enemy.
- They will both still be able to fulfill their creational mandate, but for both of them it will be with difficulty.
- Eve will have pains in childbearing but she will have children.
- Adam will have thorns and thistles, but he will eat.
- Both will die, but not without hope.
- God's world is beautifully broken and this is evidence of both his holiness and his love.
- Let the brokenness of the world remind you of God's gracious judgement and every blessing of God's grace.

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

#### Please Read Genesis 3:16-19

1. What was one thing that stood out to you from the sermon today?
2. How would you define holiness as it relates to God?
3. Why do so many have a hard time with God's holiness?
4. What are the ramifications of having a faulty view of God's holiness?
5. How is God's punishment of Adam and Eve gracious?
6. How is God's love holy? What dangers are there if we don't keep those things in harmony? Remember, they are not opposites.
7. What are some practical application points from this sermon?