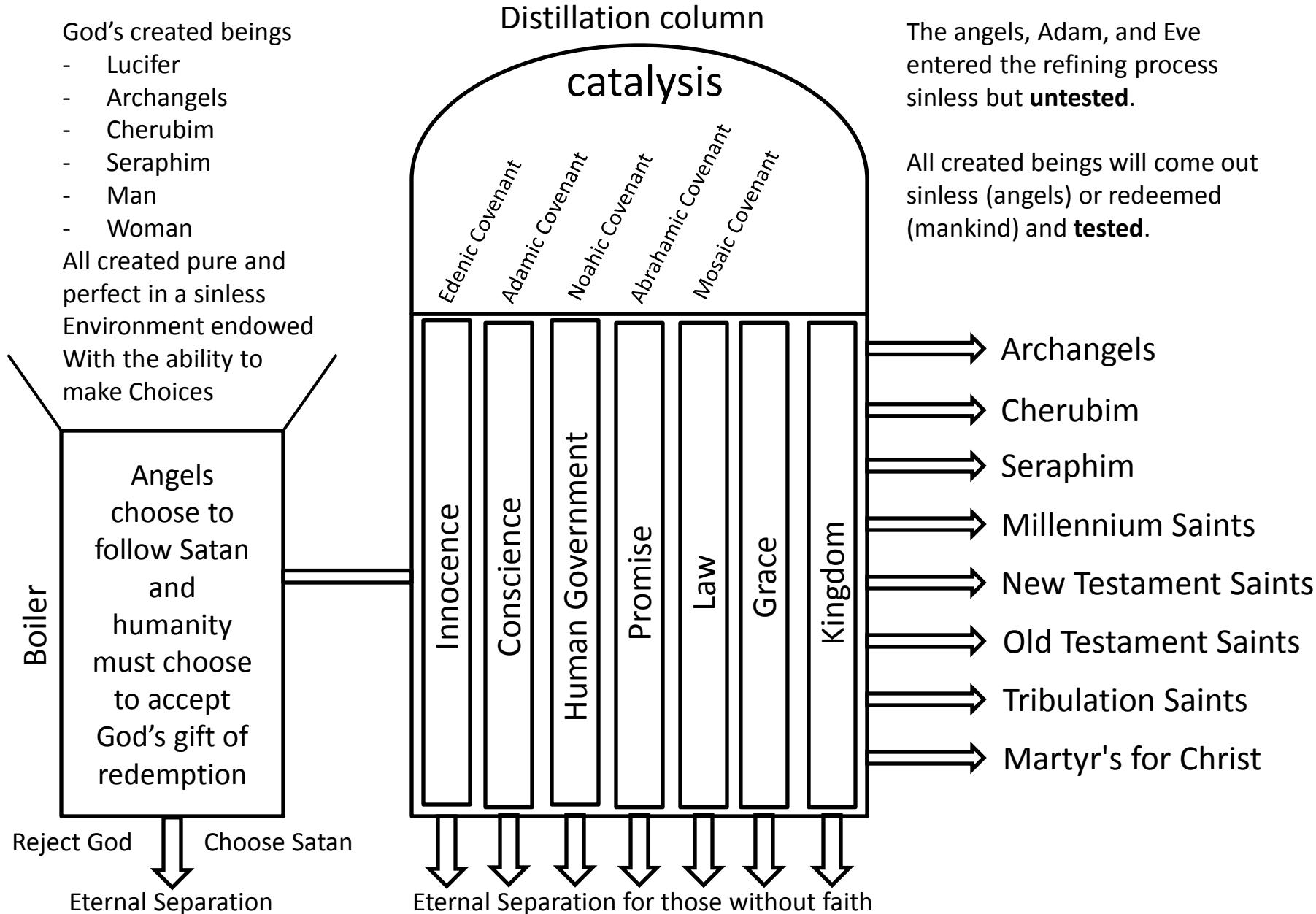


Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Revealed Plan of God from Eternity Past to Eternity Future



God's Refining Process for His Created Beings



Refining a Creation for Eternity

God's Economies for Mankind

Overview



Edenic



Innocence

Adamic

Conscience



Noahic

Human Government



Abrahamic

Promise



Mosaic

Law



Postponed

Grace

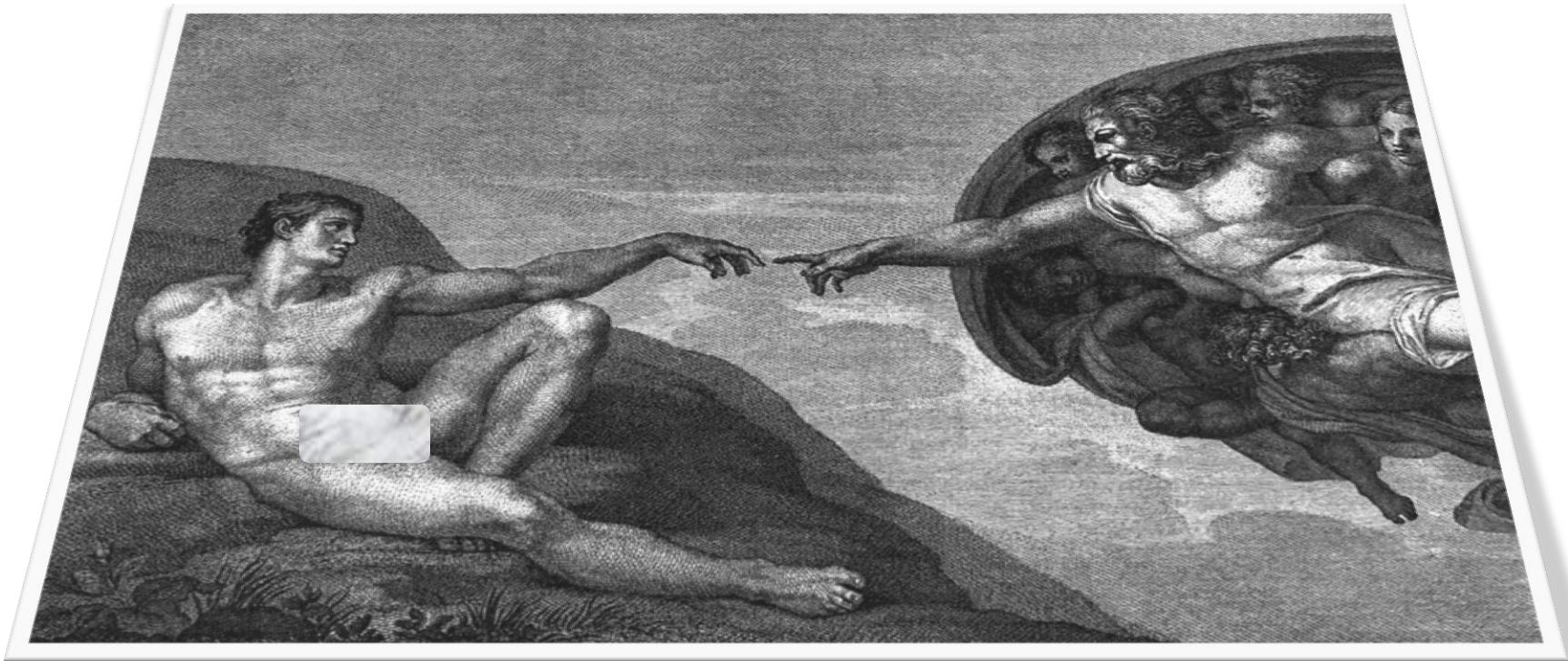


Fulfillment

Kingdom

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The First Economy



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Edenic Covenant (Gen 1:28-30; 2:15-17; Hos 6:7)

Parties to the Covenant

- God and Adam

Conditions of the Covenant

- Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth
- Subdue the Earth
- Rule over the animal kingdom
- Plants are for food (vegetarian)
- Defined roles
- Guard the garden
- Not eat from one tree
- Penalty for violating the commands is death

Token of the Covenant

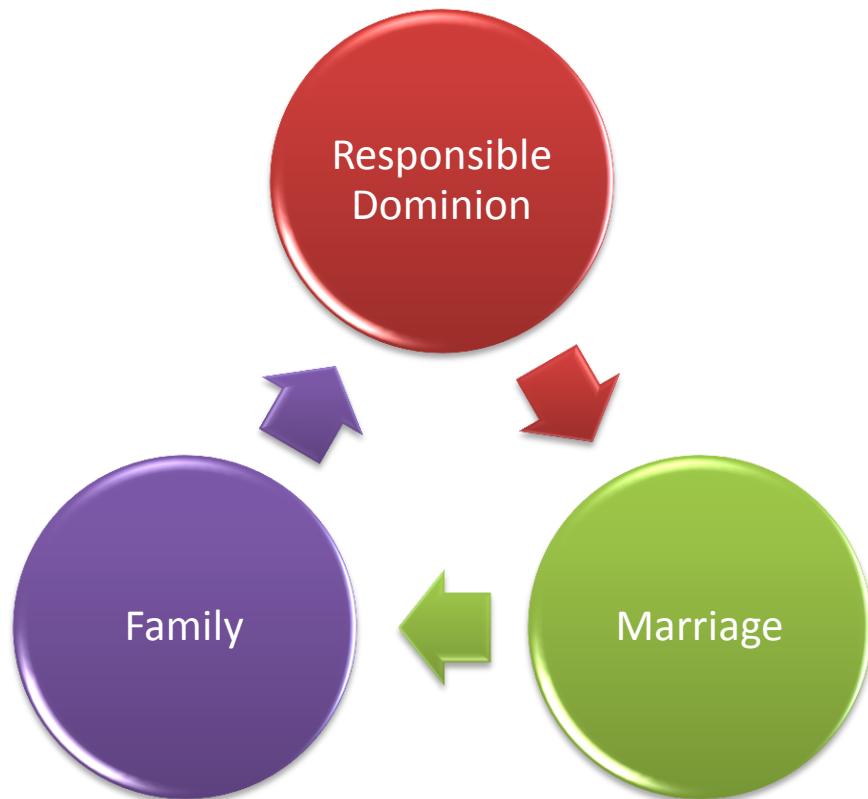
- Tree of Life



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Review of past lessons

The Divine Institutions



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Dispensation of Innocence

Man's Responsibilities

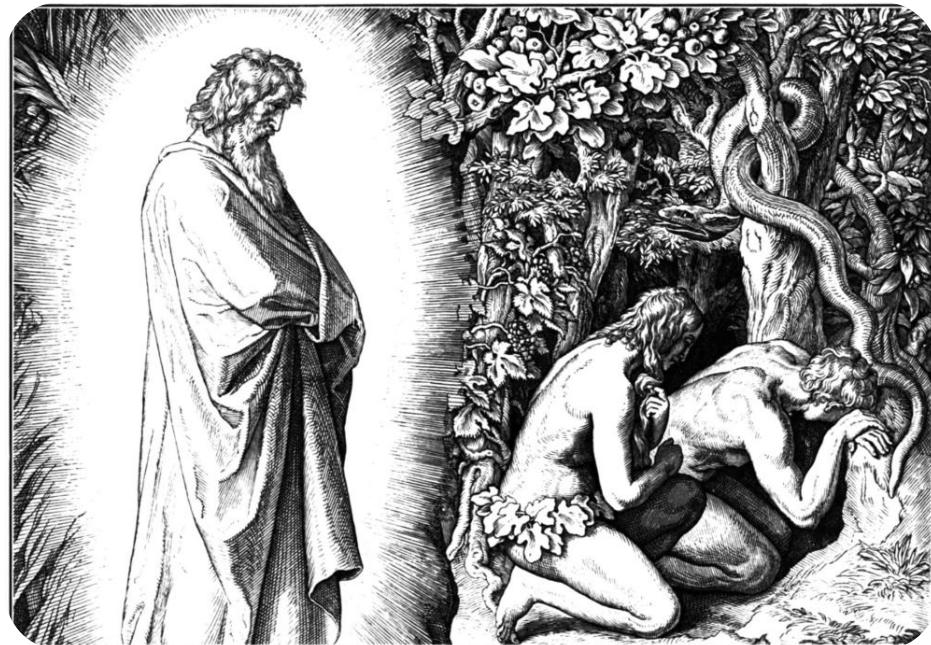
- Man's responsibilities in the garden were to fulfill the Edenic Covenant, essentially to multiply and fill the Earth and subdue it. Mankind was forbidden to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Man's Failures

- Man's failure was to eat of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. It is important to note that while the woman was deceived, the man made a conscious decision to disobey God.

The Resulting Judgment

- Pain in childbirth, Authority struggle, Earth antagonistic to man, Man irresponsible to animals, Plants of the field for food, Expelled from Eden, Spiritual and physical death



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

The Problem of Human Redemption

Since the human family in the person of Adam sinned, as we learn in Romans 5:12 (*Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned*) what could God do to retrieve the situation? How could He act in regard to the situation that had developed?

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The First Economy

Dispensation of Innocence

The Problem of Human Redemption

1. The loss must be retrieved on the human level and in the realm of the will.

Under God's moral government the losses sustained by man must and can be retrieved only on the human level and within the realm of the will. Since Adam and Eve on the human level frittered away their high position, the losses sustained must, under the divine moral government, be retrieved on the same plane.

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The First Economy

Dispensation of Innocence

The Problem of Human Redemption

2. Could God have created another man to redeem man?

Had the Lord created another Adam, He would have made a duplicate, a precise copy of the first man, who, as a human being was perfect. God would not create an imperfect creature Hence the man whom He would have created would have been exactly like the first Adam. Being like him, he would have yielded to temptation as Adam had done.

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The First Economy

Dispensation of Innocence

The Problem of Human Redemption

3. Could one of Adams descendants redeem the race?

After the Fall Adam begat sons and daughters in his likeness in the likeness of his fallen nature. Man's nature was contaminated by the poison of resistance against the divine will. Man has transmitted his fallen nature to all his descendants. (Jer 17:9; Titus 3:2-5; Eph 2:1-3) Every man stands condemned at the bar of his own conscience. Having the fallen nature, he is utterly unable to keep the law of God in holiness and truth... Admittedly every creature produces after its own kind. This is an unvarying law. Water cannot seek a level higher than that at which it stands, by and in virtue of its own power. Man cannot lift himself by his own bootstraps. No man, therefore, is able to redeem his brother, himself, or anyone else. (Ps 49:6-9)

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The First Economy

Dispensation of Innocence

The Problem of Human Redemption

4. Could a celestial creature redeem the race?

Had it been possible under God's ethical regime for such a celestial being to champion man's cause, this one could not have won the fight; for Satan, his adversary, who is the wisest and most powerful of all creatures (Ezek. 28:11-19), would have tricked him. (Jude 9) Should a cherub, one of the highest order of the heavenly hosts, come into the human realm by virgin birth to champion man's cause ... could have passed into Sheol. But there he would have remained, because he would not have had the power to take the keys of death and Hades from Satan, who is the minister of death.

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The First Economy

Dispensation of Innocence

The Problem of Human Redemption

5. Could God create another being powerful enough to redeem man?

In Ezekiel 28:12b we have these words: "Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty." What do these words mean? Concerning the anointed cherub, God declared that he sealed up the sum, or, as the marginal reading of the Revised Version states, "sealed up the pattern." God, figuratively speaking, had a pattern, according to which He created this anointed cherub. This pattern included the sum of all perfections which could be possessed by a created being.

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The First Economy

Dispensation of Innocence

The Problem of Human Redemption

6. The God-man

Since another Adam created perfect by the hand of God would have failed, since no man born by natural generation could redeem his brother, since no celestial being could bring deliverance, since God could not create a being that could bring deliverance, and since man must be redeemed upon the human plane and in the realm of the will, there was, under God's great moral government, left open to Him only one avenue of redeeming the race: This was for some being to come to earth, to enter the human realm, who could absolutely meet the demands of the broken law, who could do the will of God perfectly with reference to the problem of sin, and who could withstand the connivings and onslaughts of the devil.

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The First Economy

Dispensation of Innocence

The Problem of Human Redemption

6. The God-man (cont.)

Such a one would of necessity have to enter the human realm, not by natural generation, but in such a manner that He would not be tainted by the least trace of sin and be affected by it, so that He could fulfill the demands of the law of God perfectly. Since man begets his progeny in the likeness of his own fallen nature, the Redeemer of man cannot have a human father. But since He is to fight redemption's battle on the human level, He must be born of a woman. These facts indicate most positively that the only way for God to redeem the human family was by His bringing into the world a Savior by miraculous conception—as opposed to natural generation—and by virgin birth.

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The First Economy

Life in the Garden

How did mankind approach God

Genesis 3:8-10

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. Then the LORD God **called** to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” He said, “I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself.”

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The First Economy

Promise of Redemption

Death comes to Earth

After purposely disobeying God with eating the fruit, they “sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings” Gen 3:7. They experienced shame and by man’s work, they made man’s covering. God however, rejected man’s work and by His grace provided the covering. In providing the covering, a death had to occur. Adam displayed his faith in God’s promise of a redeemer and it was thru this faith that God provided temporary covering of their sin. Their faith was in the redeemer that would completely remove their sin.

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The First Economy

Promise of Redemption

Protevangelium (The First Gospel)

Genesis 3:14-15

The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, Cursed are you more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you will go, And dust you will eat All the days of your life; And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.”

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The First Economy

Promise of Redemption

Protevangelium (The First Gospel)

The woman does not carry the seed therefore, a supernatural birth is necessary. The bruise on the head is a fatal wound whereas the bruise on the heel is minor.

Gen 3:20 – “Now the man called his wife’s name **Eve**”

2332 חַוָּה [Chavvah /khav·vaw/] n pr f. Causatively from 2331; GK 2558; Two occurrences; AV translates as “Eve” twice. 1 the first woman, wife of Adam. Additional Information: Eve = “life” or “living”.

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The First Economy

Promise of Redemption

Death comes to Earth

1

Isaiah 61:10

I will rejoice greatly in the LORD, My soul will exult in my God; For He has clothed me with garments of salvation, He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness, As a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

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The First Economy

Angelic Conflict

Satan scored a tactical victory and gained control of earth. He attacked man's volition which is the focal point of the entire angelic conflict. In winning the victory, Satan lost the war and opened up the opportunity that allows God to demonstrate far beyond anything imaginable how great His love is.

1 Tim 3:16; 5:21; 4:9; 1 Pet 1:12

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The Second Economy



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The Second Economy

Adamic Covenant (Gen 3:14 – 3:21)

Parties to the Covenant

God and Adam as the representative for mankind

Curses that modify the Edenic Covenant

Transformation of the animal kingdom

Protevangelium (first gospel) and promise of Satan's defeat

Woman cursed in area of assigned duties

Man cursed in area of assigned duties

Physical death (return to ground)

Man remains a vegetarian

Token of the Covenant

Spiritual death

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The Second Economy

Adamic Covenant (Gen 3:14 – 3:21)

Edenic responsibility

Be fruitful and multiply

Women to help man

Subdue harmonious Earth

Rule over animals

Every plant for food

Serve God and guard Eden

Not to eat of tree

The curse for unbelief

Pain in childbirth

Authority struggle

Earth antagonistic to man

Man irresponsible to animals

Plants of field for food

Expelled from Eden

Spiritual death to physical death

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The Second Economy

Dispensation of Conscience (Gen 3:9 to Gen 8:14)

Man's Responsibilities

Man's responsibilities, having been ejected from the garden, was to fulfill the Adamic Covenant, essentially to multiply and fill the Earth. Adam lost the responsibility to subdue the Earth at the fall, when Satan usurped control over it. Mankind was to respond to God through the prompting of his conscience and as evidence of his faith in the promised seed, to bring an acceptable blood sacrifice as God had instructed them to do.

9

Genesis 3:23-24

therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden, to cultivate the ground from which he was taken. So He drove the man out; and at the beast of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim and the flaming sword which turned every direction to guard the way to the tree of life.

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Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Second Economy

Dispensation of Conscience (Gen 3:9 to Gen 8:14)

Man's Failures

Mankind, having been given the ability, through their conscience, to desire a relationship with God and the provision, through blood sacrifices, to approach God, failed to do so and instead followed after their own evil lusts. The wickedness and evil became so great and widespread, God decided to let mankind start anew.

Genesis 6:5-6

Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. The LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Second Economy

Dispensation of Conscience (Gen 3:9 to Gen 8:14)

The Resulting Judgment

God, being true to His word, spared the only faithful humans and a small remnant of air breathing creatures and started over in order to fulfill his promise of redemption



Genesis 7:21-23

All flesh that moved on the earth perished, birds and cattle and beasts and every swarming thing that swarms upon the earth, and all mankind; of all that was on the dry land, all in whose nostrils was the breath of the spirit of life, died. Thus He blotted out every living thing that was upon the face of the land, from man to animals to creeping things and to birds of the sky, and they were blotted out from the earth; and only Noah was left, together with those that were with him in the ark.



Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Second Economy

Life Among Thorns

Man enters into the second dispensation with the knowledge of good and evil. He has a conscience. With this knowledge or faculty, the test then becomes “with a conscience, guided by that conscience, will man choose to do good and approach God by means of sacrifice as the example of the sacrifice by God indicated”.



Genesis 4:3-5

So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the LORD of the fruit of the ground. Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering; but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell.

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The Second Economy

Life Among Thorns

Cain's offering reveals:

1. He had religion, evidenced by bringing the offering, but not salvation
2. Believes in his own works for salvation by offering up the fruit of the ground
3. Cain's offering was plain disobedience. Cain knew to approach God by blood sacrifice rather than from his own sowing.

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The Second Economy

Life Among Thorns



Genesis 6:2-5

that the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves, whomever they chose. Then the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.” The Nephilim were on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men, and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown. Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Second Economy

Dispensation of Conscience (Gen 3:9 to Gen 8:14)

Life Among Thorns

Sons of God in Genesis Six Persons

Angelic Creatures

Fallen angels
cohabit with
beautiful women

Apostate Sethites

Ungodly Sethites
marry depraved
Cainites

Demon Possession

Demons
indwelling the
bodies of the
human race