

*Naked before God's Grace*

**Genesis 3:7-11**

23-Dec-2018 · Hopewell ARP · Culleoka, TN

Introduction: **The blessing of being confronted** with the guiltiness of our sin and the uselessness of our efforts to cover it.

1. **The Impossibility of Hiding from God**—the uselessness of all our efforts to do so
2. **The Mercy of God's Rebukes**—though they immediately died spiritually, they did not immediately die physically and perish in their sin. Not only was God's engagement itself mercy that they did not deserve, it was also the beginning of grace, as it prepared them to rejoice and rest upon the gospel.
3. **The Necessity of Being Confronted with Our Sin**—part of our sinful condition is our capacity to convince ourselves that we are better than we are, and that we are better off than we are.
4. **The Relational Nature of the Fall**—"of which I commanded you"; every one of our sins is a personal offense against God. That's why the nakedness was so alarming.

Conclusion: **The relational nature of the Gospel.** God mercifully engages you, not merely to make you feel bad about yourself—but to get you to abandon all hope in yourself. Not only that, but He personally came and supplied our righteousness. He personally bore our sin. He personally gives life to believe. And when we believe, He personally joins Himself to us, covering us once-for all in Himself, and clothing us until perfect with His own character!