

Human Suffering, Injustice and the Christian Response

Genesis 3:1-7

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A. What we see in our world

The Signs of a Dying Culture

1. Social decay

- Increase in lawlessness: crime, judicial misconduct/politicization
- Loss of economic discipline and restraint: debt – personal, national
- Rising government control and bureaucracy

2. Cultural decay

- Decline in the quality and relevance of education
- Weakening of cultural foundations: challenging authority
- Loss of respect for tradition: product of the Enlightenment

3. Moral decay

- Rise of immorality: sexually, morally in politics, workplace, family
- Abandonment of God in all of societal institutions (relativism)
- Devaluing of human life: abortions and the elderly

B. Why we see social, cultural, moral decay in our world: Alienation from God

1. The Garden of Eden: Pre-fall relationship with God

1st Dialogue with His choice creation
Genesis 1:26-31

2nd Dialogue with His choice creation
Genesis 2:15-24

2. The Garden of Eden: Post-fall and God's curse

3rd dialogue between God and His choice creation
Genesis 3:8-19