

The Simple Truth Series #21

Original Sin



and the Fall of Mankind

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'And expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.' Acts 18:26.

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1.

Introduction.

In Genesis chapter 1, after each new part of Creation was completed, we are told, ***'God saw that it was good.'*** The reason *why*, the Lord pronounced everything He had created to be ***'good,'*** (and even ***'very good,'*** on the 6th day), was because it was the fulfilment of the Plan of God. That great Plan that He had in His mind, when He was alone in Eternity, was being fulfilled, and every part of it was perfect.

But, shortly after this, there was an event which happened in the Garden of Eden, that changed the course of this world forever. It caused every sorrow, every sickness, every heartache, and every death. It is known as the Original Sin. It was different from every other sin that has ever followed it, because it was the origin of them all.

Most 'Churches' will tell you Adam and Eve ate fruit from a tree that they were forbidden to touch, and that's what they call Original Sin. But, if Adam and Eve had only disobeyed the Lord, by eating forbidden fruit, they would not have to die for it, and nor would we.

The Original Sin was not eating forbidden fruit, it was creating something that was outside the Plan of God, because once that happened, the earth was polluted, it was defiled, and it was no longer the Plan of God. So, a sentence of death had to be passed upon all creation, for a reason.

That sentence of death affected everything on earth. It not only affected those who were guilty, but it affected the innocent as well. Trees, flowers, animals, insects, even grasses, none of them were guilty; but they all suffer from sicknesses, they all starve, and they all die, because we are *all* under the curse of death, because of the Original Sin.

In this booklet we will study the events leading up to, and the cause of, the Original Sin, and see *why* it was so devastating. We must always keep the 'Bigger Picture' in view, including, the *past* and *future* Eternities, to understand *why* certain events were ever *allowed* to happen in the first place.

The Serpent's 'Seed' (descendants), of Genesis 3:15, beginning with Cain, were not meant to be on this earth, which was created for the Lord's Elect. Anyone who does not see the two bloodlines, will make the Lord into a monster, when He says things such as, ***"Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated,"*** when neither had been born, nor done any good nor evil. Jacob was the Lords, Esau was not. The Lord is not some Nazi Officer who would choose random people out of a line-up to be shot. No-one is chosen by chance or luck, if their name was not ***'written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world'*** (Revelation 17:8), they cannot be saved.

2.

The Plan of God, hatched in Eternity.

Long ago, before there was an Angel, before there was a star, before there was even one speck of dust, I AM dwelled alone in Eternity. He was the self-existent One, He who always was; and everything else, apart from Him, was created *by* Him.

He was a Spirit (John 4:24), the Holy Spirit; and He lived with a desire. His desire was to create other beings, to share His existence with. Would they be as tall as skyscrapers, or as short as mice? He hadn't decided, because it was as yet a blank slate. He wanted more than a companion. He would make creatures in His own image, so He could converse with them, and relate to them. Creatures who would be able to feel intense joy, and sorrow, and love, just as He could; and also, be able to express them, just as He could.

The plan was developed and refined, until it filled the heart of I AM with such joy that even *He* could barely contain it. He would create a people for Himself, to share Eternity with. They would be a family, His family, and the love of His life. They would be His sons and daughters, and He would be their Father.

He designed them all, and not just six or seven, but many millions, and every one a masterpiece. He chose their hair colour, their eye colour, their skin colour, their height, their build, and their temperament, individually, and personally. He chose everything with more care, than a Goldsmith exerts, when choosing the jewels for the finest crown. Then, He chose a name for each one that suited their personality, and He softly spoke each name to Himself, as He wrote the names in the Lamb's Book of Life. When He did that, each one of them became a part of the Plan of God. And the Plan of God will not be complete until every one of them is sharing Eternity with *Him*.

The Plan of God is everything that I AM chose to do, when he was alone in Eternity. The fulfilment of that Plan, is everything He has done since creation and time began.

3.

The Plan of God, created in time.

With the Plan complete, He began the *work* of creation, and with the very *first* act of creation, much was changed. I AM was the self-existent One, who had no beginning. He was Eternal. Nothing had ever *begun* to exist before this. So, with the very first creative act, something existed, which had never existed *before*, and the clock started ticking. Time began with *that* act, because time is a measure of *existence*.

'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth,' is the bold statement which begins the Book of God, just as it began the work of creation. There is no questioning His existence, there are no Theological ramblings, and no room for the sceptic to

express his doubts. It begins by stating, *this is what happened, 'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth!'*

He began the work at the farthest extremities, the heavens and the vastness of the universe, and then worked His way in, toward the centre, the earth; the future home of those whom He would create last, after He had everything else prepared for them.

When it came to the earth itself, it was enveloped in darkness, perhaps similar to the *'darkness which may be felt,'* which was one of the plagues upon Egypt, at a later time? But, *'The Spirit of God moved upon the waters, and God said, Let there be light. And there was light.'* The darkness was banished, and the home was revealed. Dry land appeared. Then seas. Then vegetation. Then swimming creatures, flying creatures, walking creatures, and creeping creatures.

Then on the sixth day, the final day of creation, came the Magnum Opus of all that had gone before. The Man. *'The LORD God formed man from the dust of the earth, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul.'*

The man, Adam, stood to his feet, as he looked around in awe at his surroundings. Then, his eyes met those of I AM, and the desire that had begun all of this, became a reality, I AM had become God, the Father, and before Him stood, *'Adam, which was the son of God.'* (Luke 3:38).

4.

The very first Man, Adam.

Adam, he had been hand-made by the Lord, from the most common element there was, *'the dust of the earth.'* St Paul knows the humility of this fact, as he reminds the Corinthian Church, *'But we have this treasure in earthen vessels.'* (2 Corinthians 4:7). Yes, the highest pinnacle of creation, was made from the very dust they would later walk upon. Earthen vessels. And we are very *fragile* vessels. We must be careful not to fall too far, or land too hard, or break any bones, or tear our strong but delicate muscles. We protect our eyes, and our skin, and we tire at the end of our days labour. Why weren't we made from rock, or steel? Perhaps, it's because the Great Shepherd of the Flock wished to care for us Himself, and lead us, and protect us, and provide for us, as He has so often promised in His Book?

'Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noon-day.

A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee.' (Psalm 91:5-7).

It was no mistake being made from the dust, because the Maker pronounced our day of creation to be *"very good."* We are what we are, for a reason.

Adam was hand-made by the Lord, from the dust of the earth. Then the Lord took a part of Adam's flesh and bone, and He made an image of the man from it. Then He took the feminine part of Adam's spirit and placed it within this body, and she became his wife, as St Paul wrote in his first letter to the Corinthians, ***'Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.'*** (1 Corinthians 11:9).

Then the Lord was going to create Abel's body, from the dust of the earth, and take a part of Abel's flesh and bone, to make an Eve for Abel from it. Then He would do the same with Seth, and so on. He was going to do that with every one of us. We would all be hand made by the Lord personally, and we would all live with Him in the Garden of Eden for Eternity. This was the Plan of God being fulfilled. The Sons and Daughters whom He had designed, being brought to life in flesh, so He could fellowship with them.

5.

The very first Woman, Eve.

And so, He created the Garden of Eden, as the place where He would fellowship, with those whom He had begun to create. And there He placed Adam to live, and to tend it. They spent days, weeks, months, maybe even years together there, the Father and the son. That they must have talked is obvious, for who could stand in the Presence of the Creator without saying something to Him? Even just to thank Him for life, would suffice. But no man knows what the two talked about? Maybe I can ask him, when I retire from this earthly tabernacle, and step into the heavens, and meet Adam myself? I will, if the question is still relevant to me? But then, maybe I will be so over-awed by the beauty of Heaven, that I will not want to remember anything of this fallen world?

But they spent time together, and I would think that would be sufficient for Adam; to walk and talk with his Creator all day long? But the Creator did not think it was enough. He decided, ***"It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help-meet for him."*** (Genesis 2:18). A helper who was flesh and blood, as he was.

'And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field, and every fowl of the air; and brought them unto Adam to see what he would call them: and whatsoever Adam called every living creature, that was the name thereof.' (Genesis 2:19).

There were myriads of them, of every shape, and size, and kind. But none of them were suitable as a help-meet for the man; because the Lord knew he did not just need a dog, to faithfully follow him around, or a horse he could ride. No, as Adam was made in the image and likeness of God, he would desire what God desired, when *He* was *alone*; which was love, affection, and friendship.

He knew exactly what Adam needed, although Adam himself had no idea at all, only that it would not be four-footed, or hairy; it would surprise him. So, a rib, a living part

of the man's flesh and bone, was taken from his side, and from it another body was made, in the likeness of Adam's. Then, the feminine part of the man's spirit was also taken from within him, and placed within this other body, and it also became a *'living soul,'* as he was. At the sight of her, Adam proclaimed, ***"This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."*** (Genesis 2:23).

Woman. She was not made, *"In our image, after our likeness,"* as Adam had been made, in the likeness of God, *for* God. Instead, she was, ***"Bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh,"*** made in the image and likeness of Adam, *for* Adam.

Together now, they looked after the fruit trees, and talked about those things that lovers talk about. I can't imagine they were that very much different than any of us today? After all, we *are* their descendants. And there, they fellowshiped with their Creator, among the trees. They walked with Him, and questioned eagerly. "Why is this like this?" He had created it all, so He knew *all* the answers. But it was so very new to them, because they had been created as adults, and thrown into it head-first; without the luxury of having grown into it from childhood. It was all such a learning curve. Did they tell jokes? We don't know. But time with the Lord is never boring, and I'm sure they never parted from Him easily.

6.

The very first Sin.

It probably happened on a morning just like every other morning before it, as these things so often do. There is no portent of danger about, and no-one has prepared for it. There was nothing different in the way the sun had risen, a golden orange orb, that poked its yellow fingers through the mist that still veiled everything from the night. First the great trees, then the smaller and smaller creations, down to the tiniest resting insects, all came more and more into focus, as the light poured in, and chased the skulking shadows from the garden.

The woman. She had been made, *'for the man,'* his *'helper fit,'* the *'weaker vessel.'* But where was *he* now? The Book doesn't tell us. All we know is that he had left her alone, and unprotected. Not that the creatures would harm her. No, they flocked to her for her feminine touch. Affection. She patted and scratched, and combed her slim gentle fingers through thick warm fur, and hair, and feathers. They were all her friends. The lion still lay down with the lamb. The whole of creation was still bathed in innocence. There was no sickness, no sorrow. Not a broken feather, nor a dead leaf, nor the sound of disagreement anywhere. All was as perfect as it was on that day when its Creator had pronounced it to be ***"very good."*** But all that would soon change, as the follow-on from the events of this tragic day.

The man, Adam, he is strangely absent from the side of his wife on this morning. What

we do know, is that another creature came to speak with the woman, in the absence of her husband. The Serpent.

‘Now the Serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made.’ (Genesis 3:1). It doesn’t say, *‘The Serpent was more subtil than any of the other beasts...’* It says, *‘It was more subtil than any of the beasts.’*

The Serpent wasn’t one of the animals. It was the ‘missing link’ between mankind and the animal kingdom. The Serpent was the most beautiful of all the walking creatures, for it did walk, on two legs. It was more Man than the apes, but perhaps more ape than the Man. And none other was clothed in such a mosaic of beautiful colours, and majestic patterns, as he. The Serpent had talked with the man before, as it *could* talk, the only other creature that did. But it was ‘subtil,’ meaning cunning, or scheming. It had kept to the fringes of the Garden until now, but seeing the woman alone, it was emboldened to walk ***‘in the midst of the Garden.’***

“Yea, hath God said?” With the man absent, and the Lord absent, it began the conversation by questioning what the Lord had spoken.

“We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.” (Genesis 3:2-3). With her man gone, the woman was standing protected behind the warning she had been given.

But we will just go back and read what the Lord actually *said*. He said, ***“Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat of it: For in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.”***

So, the Lord said, ***“You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”***

What is fruit? It’s what something bears, or brings forth. When Mary was pregnant with Jesus, Elizabeth said, ***“Blessed is the fruit of thy womb.”***

An orange tree brings forth oranges, they are its fruit. The Serpent was called the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, because that was his fruit. Knowledge of good *and* evil.

Adam and Eve were born in innocence, they were naked and didn’t know it. Babies are born innocent. A toddler is happy to walk around naked all day long. You have to tell them to put clothes on. Adam and Eve were unaware of good and evil.

But the Serpent was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, because he knew the difference between good and evil. He knew what was true, and he knew what was false, and Satan had stepped into him, to destroy the perfect Plan of God.

He offered Eve his fruit. He promised, ***“Ye shall be as gods knowing good and evil.”*** (Genesis 3:5).

“But?...But God hath said...we will die?” She pleaded.

But the Serpent was subtil, deceitful. ***“Ye shall not surely die...”*** he lied.

‘She took of the fruit and did eat.’ When the Lord questioned Eve about that morning, she replied, ***“The Serpent beguiled me, and I did eat.”*** (Genesis 3:13).

Beguile is not a word we use very often these days, but it perfectly sums up the events that changed this world forever. It means to lead astray, to delude, or to seduce. It means to *intentionally* deceive someone, so there are *always* lies involved. Eve never knew the Serpent was lying to her. The Serpent, cunning and scheming, seduced her, and she **'ate.'**

When the wise King Solomon described a woman committing adultery, in one of his Proverbs, he said, **'Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness.'** (Proverbs 30:20). The adulterous woman **'eateth,'** when she committed adultery, just as Eve **'ate'** with the Serpent.

'And gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat.' (Genesis 3:6).

Adam returned from wherever it was that had absorbed him, to be seduced by his wife, the way she had been seduced by the Serpent. She did not know it yet, not knowing the ways of the body she inhabited, but she had conceived twice, and she was now pregnant with twins, one from the Serpent, and one from her husband.

Adam and Eve had the *ability* within their bodies to create children by sexual means, but they had not been told about that, because they did not have the *authority* to do it. The Lord was creating mankind for Himself, so, He wanted them to be perfect. He didn't want a hair of anyone's head to be missing. He didn't want a mole, or a scar, or a birthmark, marring His creation. So, He was going to form each one of them Himself, by hand, exactly as He had designed them in Eternity. Each one would be the apple of His eye, each one a masterpiece.

But when Eve conceived, first from the Serpent, and then from Adam; that was done outside the Plan of God, and now, they were outside the Will of God, and they began scheming, just like the Serpent. Perhaps they thought, "what the eye doesn't see, the heart won't grieve for?" They decided to cover up the evidence of their sin. **'And they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.'** (Genesis 3:7). The aprons may have covered the place of their sin, but it couldn't stretch to cover their conscience. **"I heard thy Voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."** (Genesis 3:10). The aprons, the bushes, Adam's words, they all failed to hide their sin, and they were found out. They had sinned, and that sin must be punished.

7.

The Original Sin.

In St Paul's first letter to Timothy, he tells us that, **'Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.'**

The Lord was going to form each one of Adam's children from **'the dust of the earth.'** Adam and Eve had the *ability* to make the children themselves, by sex, but they did not have the *authority* to do it. So, when they created Abel, they did what the Lord was

supposed to do, so they were out of the *Will* of God.

But, when Eve and the Serpent formed Cain, they formed something that was never meant to exist. It was outside of the *Plan* of God, because there was a whole new creation here, whose name was not in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Adam had only done something that was outside of the Will of God. Eve had done something that was outside of the Plan of God. That great Plan, that creation was all about, was now polluted with a person who was not meant to be a part of it, because he was not predestined to be alive.

The Garden of Eden was meant to be Heaven on earth, but now it was polluted, because there was a child inside Eve's womb who was not a part of God's great Plan. So, what happened? Adam and Eve were shown the door? No, they were driven out. They were pushed out, because the Garden was marred by Cain's presence.

Everything that had been created by the Lord was **'Good,'** or even, **'Very good.'** It was perfection. But now it was marred by something that wasn't a part of it.

So, what was Cain like? Later in life, he went to worship the Lord, and when his offering was rejected, **'his countenance fell,'** as we are told. He got *angry*. And he started giving Abel the evil eye, until they were alone one day and, **'Cain rose up against Abel his brother and slew him.'**

He murdered him, then he hid the body, and when the Lord asked where Abel was, Cain replied, **"I don't know. Am I my brother's keeper?"** Cain got angry, he murdered Abel, he hid the body, and he lied.

God's creation was made perfect. But, now that someone was living on earth, who was outside of that Plan, creation went from anger, to scheming, to murder, to lying.

St Paul informed us, **'The woman being deceived was in the transgression.'** (1 Timothy 2:14). Transgression means, 'violation.' Eve had violated something. So, what was the violation? It was the Original Sin. It was creating something that violated the Plan of God. Once that was done, creation was defiled. The earth was polluted. The Garden of Eden was polluted. Eve was guilty of it, the Serpent was guilty of it, but Adam was not.

When the Lord found out about it, He could have just nuked the Serpent and Eve, and that would be the end of the matter. But He couldn't harm Eve, without harming Adam, because Eve was a part of Adam. So, the best thing He could do was to punish the Serpent and Eve for what they had done.

8.

The very first Judgements.

The first thing the Lord did when He found out what had happened, was to curse the Serpent for seducing Eve, and creating something outside of His Plan.

"Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly thou shalt go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life."
(Genesis 3:14).

The Serpent may have swaggered about the Garden, flaunting its beauty before the world, but now it was cursed to lose its arms and legs and go on its belly. It would slither about in the dust forever. It would still retain something of its former glory in the magnificence of the colours and patterns of its skin, but never again would it have the chance to *'beguile'* the woman.

As St Paul told us, *'Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.'* Eve was deceived by the Serpent. She believed what she was doing was right. But Adam knew differently. He knew it was wrong, because it was in contradiction to what they had been told by the Lord.

The Serpent and Eve were cursed with enmity between them, the deceiver and the deceived, because they were both guilty –

"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." (Genesis 3:15).

Enmity. It comes from the word enemy, and means contention, dislike, distrust, and hatred. Those at enmity would always remain enemies. So, the LORD cursed the Serpent and the woman with enmity between *them*, and with enmity between their *'seed,'* their descendants. That was His judgement on the sinners, they would be enemies, and their descendants would always be in contention. The enmity began with Cain the son of the Serpent, and Abel the son of Adam. They were enemies, until the day that Cain, *'rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.'* The dominoes began falling when Eve was left alone in the Garden, and the world fell from innocence, to being beguiled, to lying, to murder, in a very short space of time.

Then Eve was cursed for her personal part in the Fall.

"Unto the woman He said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee." (Genesis 3:16). Eve's judgement was all to do with childbearing. Why was that? Because that was her sin. And all, forever after, who would bring forth children as she did, in place of the Lord creating them, would bear the same punishment. Sorrow.

Adam had known what they were going to do was wrong. But it is hard for a man to say no to the one he loves so intensely. So, he listened while Eve told him how good the *'fruit'* was, and he went with her.

'And unto Adam He said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.' (Genesis 3:17-19).

The Lord did not curse Adam, He cursed the ground. The curse was to do with

providing food. The Creator who had freely provided all that he had needed previously, was telling him, “Now that you have taken it upon yourself to create your children, instead of Me, you are cursed to toil to create the food to feed them, by the sweat of your brow.”

The life-giving soil that had always been watered when *‘a mist went up from the face of the earth,’* would now be watered with the sweat of those who laboured to produce their food from it. His punishment was also to *‘sorrow.’*

9.

Outside the Presence of God.

The man and the woman were *driven* out from the ‘Garden of God.’ Not merely shown the door, but pushed out into the hostile land outside the presence of God. Nothing would ever be the same again. The Paradise would be a mere memory to the sinners separated from it. Never again would Adam walk hand-in-hand with his Creator, speaking lip to ear together. From this day forward he would, *‘see through a glass darkly,’* as St Paul knowingly puts it. From henceforth, they would not only have to labour for their food, but there would be thorns and thistles at enmity with them, marring the soil. And there would come sorrow, and sickness, and then death itself.

The man and his wife could not comprehend what that was yet, death; but they would soon learn, with the tragedy of their son Abel, being murdered by Cain. This would be when they found out how monumental their sin really was. *“Where is Abel thy brother?”* the Lord had demanded. The man and his wife would ask themselves the same question often, as they would never see him again, this side of Eternity.

They didn’t notice where the Serpent slithered to, but it knew it wouldn’t be safe around them any longer, now that there was enmity between them. Instead of the proud beast that had strutted before all in the Garden, it would now make the caves and holes its den, and spend its life in hiding. But it would always be *‘subtil.’*

10.

Outside the Plan of God.

So, Eve bore twins within her womb now. Cain the son of the Serpent, and Abel the son of Adam, and they are cursed to be enemies. As we know, the Lamb’s Book of Life contained the names of *all* who were a part of the Plan of God. But Cain was born outside of that Plan, so he, and his descendants would always be a separate people, with no part in that great Plan, and no way to become a part of it. They would always be a *‘thorn in the flesh,’* to the Lord’s Elect.

The Lord had created the earth as the trysting place, where He would spend eternity

with those whom He had chosen to create. But now, there were two separate races of people on the earth, the righteous line, and the unrighteous line, instead of just the one. But one day, there will be a great Judgement, and the Serpent's descendants will be separated forever, from those whose names are recorded in the Book. But until that time comes, St Paul informs us, in his letter to the Romans, that the Creator, ***'endured with much long-suffering, the vessels of wrath, fitted to destruction.'*** (Romans 9:22).

11.

'Forever with the Lord.'

From that day of the Fall in the Garden, there is also a great gulf called sin, that separated those whose names are in the Lamb's Book of Life, from the One who had written their names in there Himself. A gulf they could not cross. Now, those whom He had so tenderly designed, and cherished the names of, as He spoke and thought of them, would never touch His hand, as Adam had, nor would they talk with Him, as Adam had, nor walk with Him, as Adam had. He had lost them.

It would be 4000 years, before the Creator Himself, would cross the chasm, between Himself and His Creation, to don a pair of dusty sandals, and a workman's robe, as ***'the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us.'*** He would live here as ***'one who serves,'*** until He was arrested, and bound, and marched to Golgotha, ***'the place of the Skull,'*** where He was crucified by His own creation. ***'God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself,'*** St Paul informed those who doubted. (2 Corinthians 5:19).

When He cried, ***"It is finished!"*** on the cross, the terrible price of that single morning in the Garden of God was paid in full, and the process of healing, and redemption, and restoration, had begun.

With that, a door, wide and welcoming, was opened in Heaven; waiting for those, ***'whose names were written in the Book of Life from the foundation of the world.'***

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