

The Fall (Faith in Fig Leaves)

	Description	Characteristics	Good	Symbol	Scripture
Kingdom of God	Life in communion	Faith (trust), relationship, peace	God	Tree of life	Gen. 1:31; 2:25 Luke 18:19 1 John 4:8
	* God is a community of persons (Trinity). * Reality is by nature communal. * Being human is good.	* Trust and truth (honesty) are the essential elements of relationships. * Wholeness is found in communion (shalom).	* In God is all reality and goodness. * There is no other good besides God.	* Path (tree) to life is union with God. * Life is found in union with God (which also implies union with reality).	* Creation very good. * Naked & <u>unashamed</u> (complete through communion). * Only God is good. * God is love.
Mistrust	Withdrawal from communion	Doubt, self-preservation, isolation	Not God	Serpent	Gen. 3:1,4-5
	* Without confidence (trust), relationship is impossible.	* Doubting God is doubting reality. * Trust requires a risk of personal survival. * Loneliness is rejection of relationship.	* Mistrust in God implies that good is found somewhere else other than in God. * God is opposed to my ultimate good.	* Satan works by introducing doubt about God's character (accusation). * Mistrust starts from concern about being cheated out of something.	* Did God say??? (accusation). * You will not die (autonomy works). * God knows you would become like Him (God is hiding something & cheating you).
Fractured reality	Life distorted	Compartmentalization (secular/sacred)	Confused	Tree of the knowledge of good and evil	Gen. 3:6
	* If God can't be trusted, then there is no truth. * Life is irrational.	* Truth of heaven is different than truth of earth. * Spirituality (the meaningful) is divorced from truth.	* With no absolute, good is relative. * Good is subjective.	* Path (tree) to knowledge of good and evil is death. * Good and evil can't be understood apart from God. * Evil is anti-relational.	* Woman <u>saw</u> tree (path) was good for food (nourishment/life). * <u>Delight</u> to eyes (her view, not truth). * <u>Desirable</u> to make one wise (sufficient).
Inadequacy	Wholeness lost	Fear, worry, anger	Absent	Nakedness	Gen. 3:7a
	* Autonomy is incompleteness.	* Inability to insure wholeness breeds insecurity and demand.	* Mankind is finite, vulnerable, and fallible. Not "good".	* Human frailty is weakness. * Being human is shameful.	* Their eyes were opened (they swallowed the lie). * They knew they were naked (humanity unprotected by communion).
Self-righteousness	Adequacy manufactured	Pride, ambition, power	Artificial	Fig leaves	Gen. 3:7b Eccl. 1:9
	* Use any means to look and feel adequate.	* Boast in talents. * Don't admit lack. * Compete with others. * Dominate others.	* Someone is always better. * Success is fleeting. * Others get hurt.	* Mask true self. * Image more important than truth. * Lies & hiddenness.	* Made themselves coverings. * Nothing new under the sun.