

The Best Laid Plans

I. I come to the garden alone (Gen 3:1-11, 23-24)

- A. Why do we choose to do the things we are told not to?
 - 1. We don't trust what we are being told
 - 2. We want to make our own decisions to control our own destiny
- B. Why did God stop Adam and Eve from eating from the eternal tree?
 - 1. We would be like Sisyphus, never to find rest (he was a jerk though)
 - 2. It would be an endless struggle for dominance of different ideals as it is today (James 4:1-3)
- C. Alone
 - 1. When you put your fate into your own hands it is difficult to truly work together in unity
 - 2. So what about simply working in the unity of shared ideals?

II. The Impossible (Gen 11:1-9)

- A. United under one purpose: Self approval
 - 1. We want to be heard and accepted
 - 2. We are drawn to conflict, but we are also drawn to community and peace.
 - 3. We yearn for shared values, hopes and dreams
- B. Why does God confuse their languages?
 - 1. United they will be able to do whatever is in their hearts
 - 2. The Hebrew word is "bawtsar". Inaccessible, withheld, cut off. Ironic because they cut off God

III. What are we to do?

- A. We feel angry, helpless, insignificant, unheard, lonely, controlled, abused, exhausted.
 - 1. We want to lash out and stick it to whomever comes along. (Make your mark)
 - 2. Please don't (Prov 12:15-16, 14:12)
- B. If you want to take control, take what God gives
 - 1. God gives rest and support (Matt 11:28-30)
 - 2. God gives wisdom (James 1:2-8)
 - 3. God gives us a true family that we should fight for (Eph 4:1-5)