

# New Clothes

## Genesis 3:20-4:2

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# One story:

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- ❖ Paradise (Genesis 1-2)
- ❖ Paradise Lost (Genesis 3 – Revelation 20)
- ❖ Paradise Regained (Revelation 21-22)

# Genesis 1-11

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- ❖ Creation (1)
- ❖ Creation (2)
- ❖ Fall (3)
- ❖ Cain and Abel (4)
- ❖ Genealogy (5)
- ❖ Flood (6-9)
- ❖ Genealogy (10)
- ❖ Tower of Babel (11)

# Genesis 1 application:

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- ❖ God created.
- ❖ His creation is good.
- ❖ His creation reflects his glory.
- ❖ Jesus reconciles us to God.
- ❖ We are to worship God and reflect his glory.

# Genesis 2:1-15 application:

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- ❖ Work is not bad.
- ❖ Work is not everything.
- ❖ Work is a gift from God.
- ❖ Work is an opportunity to worship God.
- ❖ We need rest.
- ❖ Jesus gives us ultimate rest.

# GOOD or not?

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## GOOD:

- ❖ Light (1:4)
- ❖ Land and seas (1:10)
- ❖ Plants and trees (1:12)
- ❖ Day and night (1:18)
- ❖ Fish and birds (1:21)
- ❖ Land animals (1:25)
- ❖ Humanity! (1:31)

# Good or NOT?

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**NOT:**

- ❖ For man to be alone (2:18)



# Genesis 2:15-25

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- ❖ We need relationships.
  - ❖ With God
  - ❖ With people
    - ❖ Like us
    - ❖ Different from us
- ❖ Jesus took our shame so we can be unashamed.



# Lies of the Deceiver:

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- ❖ You can be the judge.
- ❖ You cannot trust the goodness of God.
- ❖ You can save yourself.

# Bad News ...

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- ❖ Our common disease = sin/evil
  - ❖ Alienation from God
  - ❖ Alienation from ourselves/shame
  - ❖ Alienation from each other
  - ❖ Struggle with nature

## ... Good News

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- ❖ The healer king is coming.
- ❖ We are his ambassadors.



## Genesis 3:24

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After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

# Cherubim in the Bible:

- ❖ Four-winged, four-faced living creatures (Ezekiel 1:4-28; 10:1-22)
- ❖ The LORD rides a cherub through the heavens (1 Samuel 22:11; Psalm 18:10)
- ❖ They flank or support God's throne (Psalm 80:1; 99:1; 2 Kings 19:15; Isaiah 37:16)

# **Cherubim images in the tabernacle:**

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- ❖ **On top of the mercy seat covering the ark of the covenant**
- ❖ **Woven into the fabric of the veil**
- ❖ **Carved into the panels**
- ❖ **Placed in the holy of holies**

## Genesis 3:22-23

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And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.

## Genesis 3:4-5

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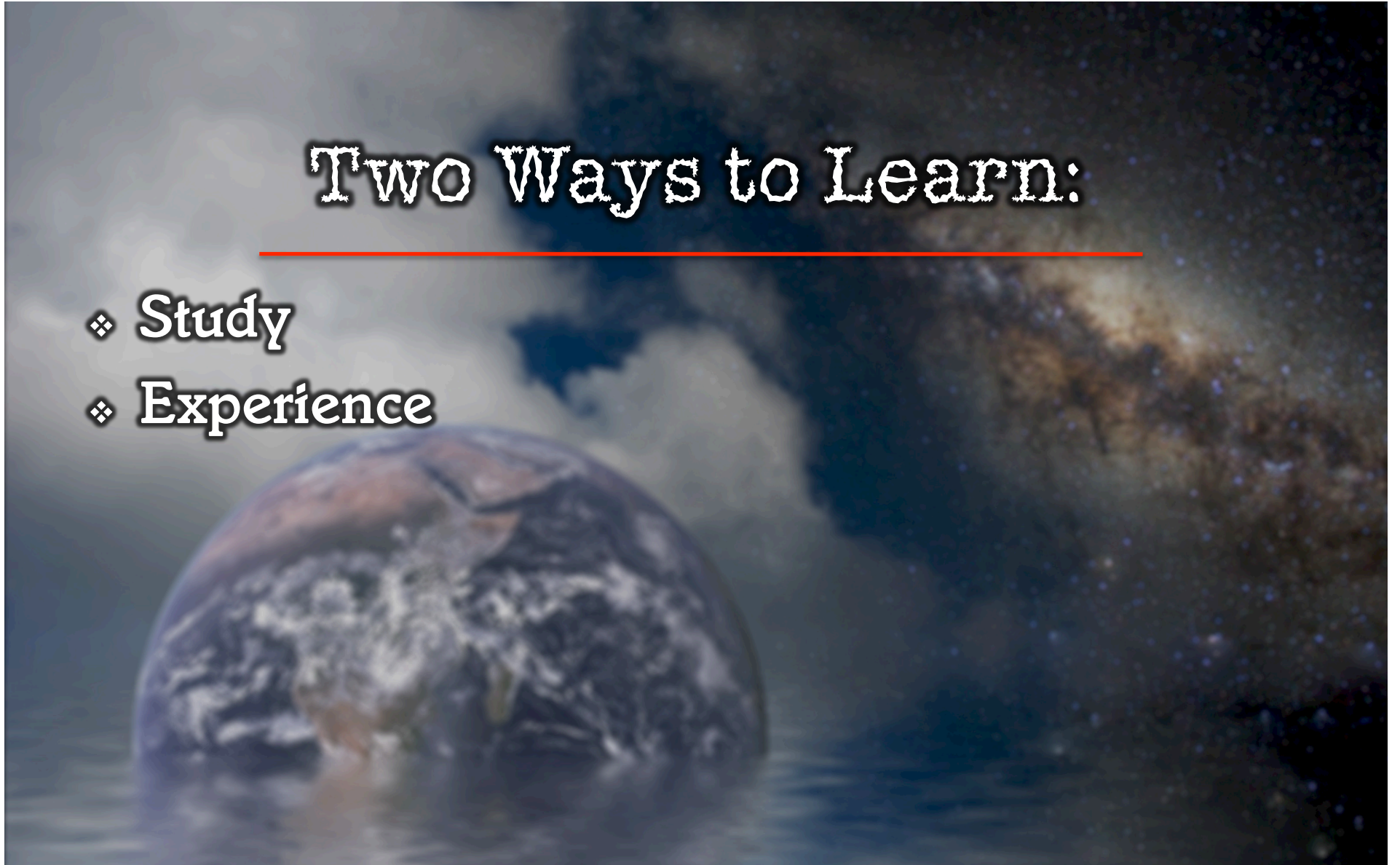
**“You will not certainly die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”**



# Two Ways to Learn:

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- ❖ Study
- ❖ Experience



# Voltaire:

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Man is a stranger to his own research;  
He knows not whence he comes, nor whither goes.  
Tormented atoms in a bed of mud,  
Devoured by death, a mockery of fate.

# Dylan Thomas:

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Do not go gentle into that good night,  
Old age should burn and rave at close of day;  
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

# Genesis 3:21

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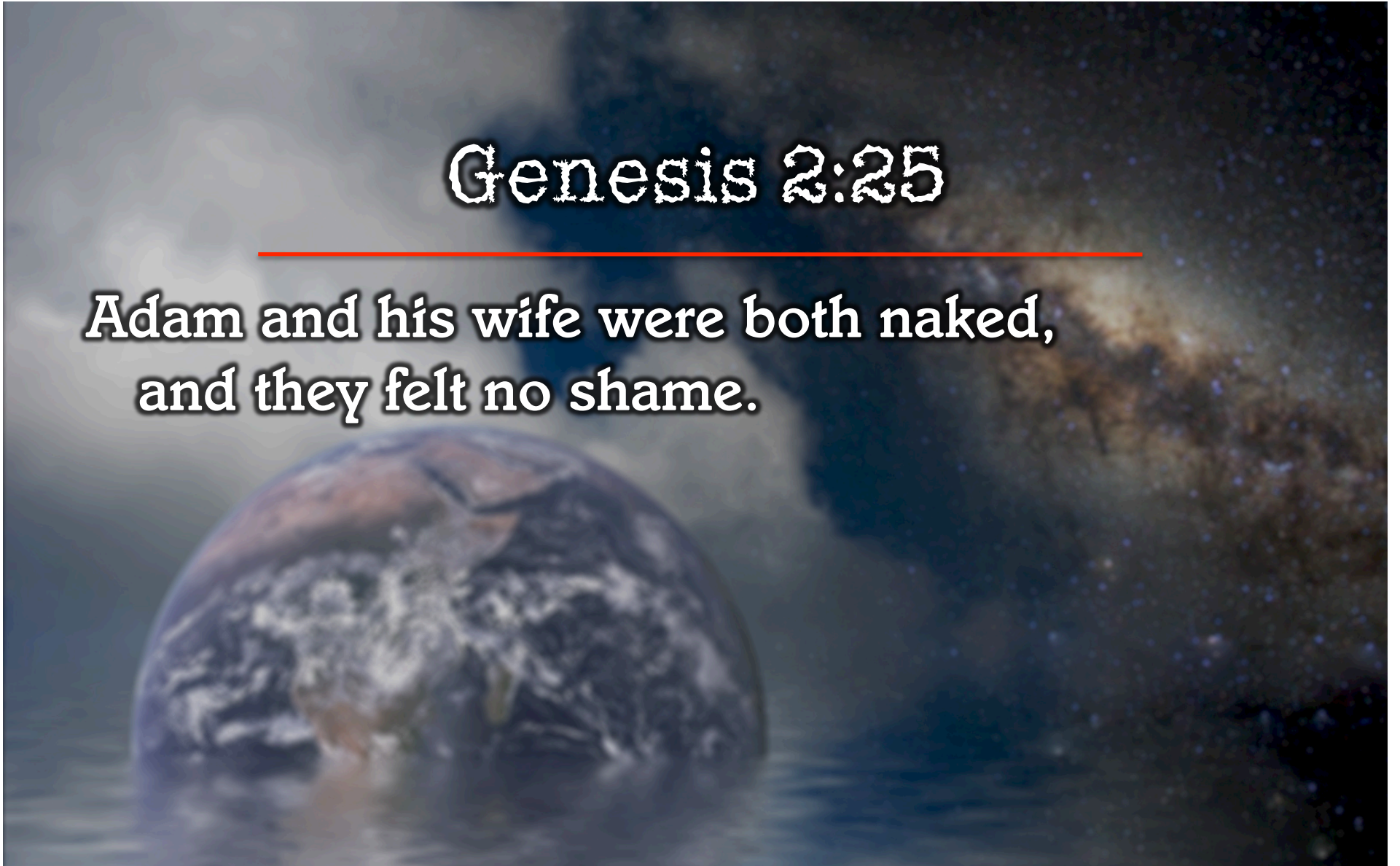
The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.



# Genesis 2:25

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Adam and his wife were both naked,  
and they felt no shame.



## Genesis 3:7

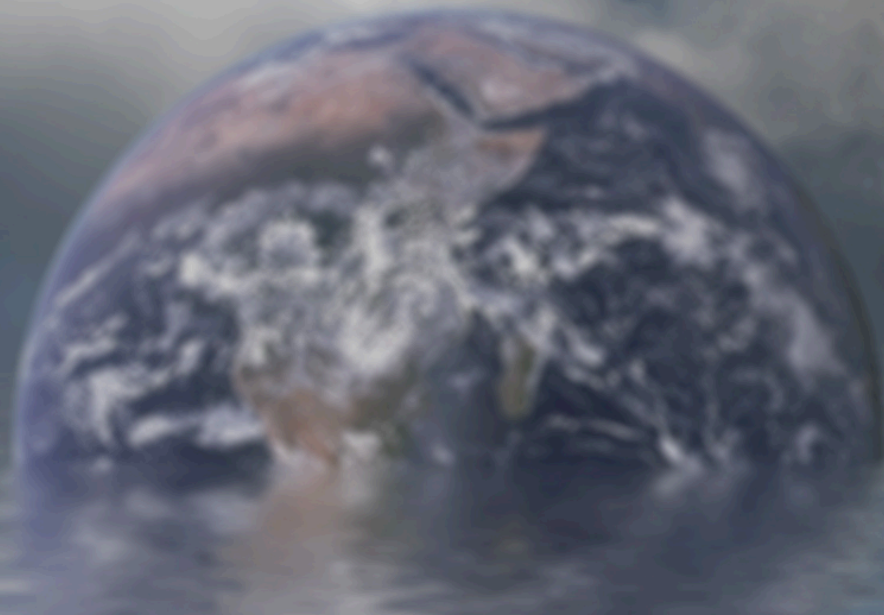
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Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

# Genesis 3:10

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He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."



# Fig leaves/idols?

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- ❖ Perfectionism
- ❖ Relationships
- ❖ Religiosity
- ❖ Need for approval
- ❖ Addiction
- ❖ Plastic surgery
- ❖ Comfort



## David Foster Wallace:

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“In the day-to-day trenches of adult life, there is actually no such thing as atheism. There is no such thing as not worshipping. Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship.”

## David Foster Wallace:

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“ ... anything else you worship will eat you alive. If you worship money and things — if they are where you tap real meaning in life — then you will never have enough.

## David Foster Wallace:

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**“Worship your own body and beauty and sexual allure and you will always feel ugly, and when time and age start showing, you will die a million deaths before they finally plant you.”**

# Job 29:14

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I put on righteousness as my clothing;  
justice was my robe and my turban.



## Isaiah 64:6

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All of us have become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags;  
we all shrivel up like a leaf,  
and like the wind our sins sweep us away.

# Genesis 3:21

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**The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.**



## Genesis 3:24

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After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

# Reconciliation with God:

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- ❖ Garments of skin – sacrifice
- ❖ Sword – justice

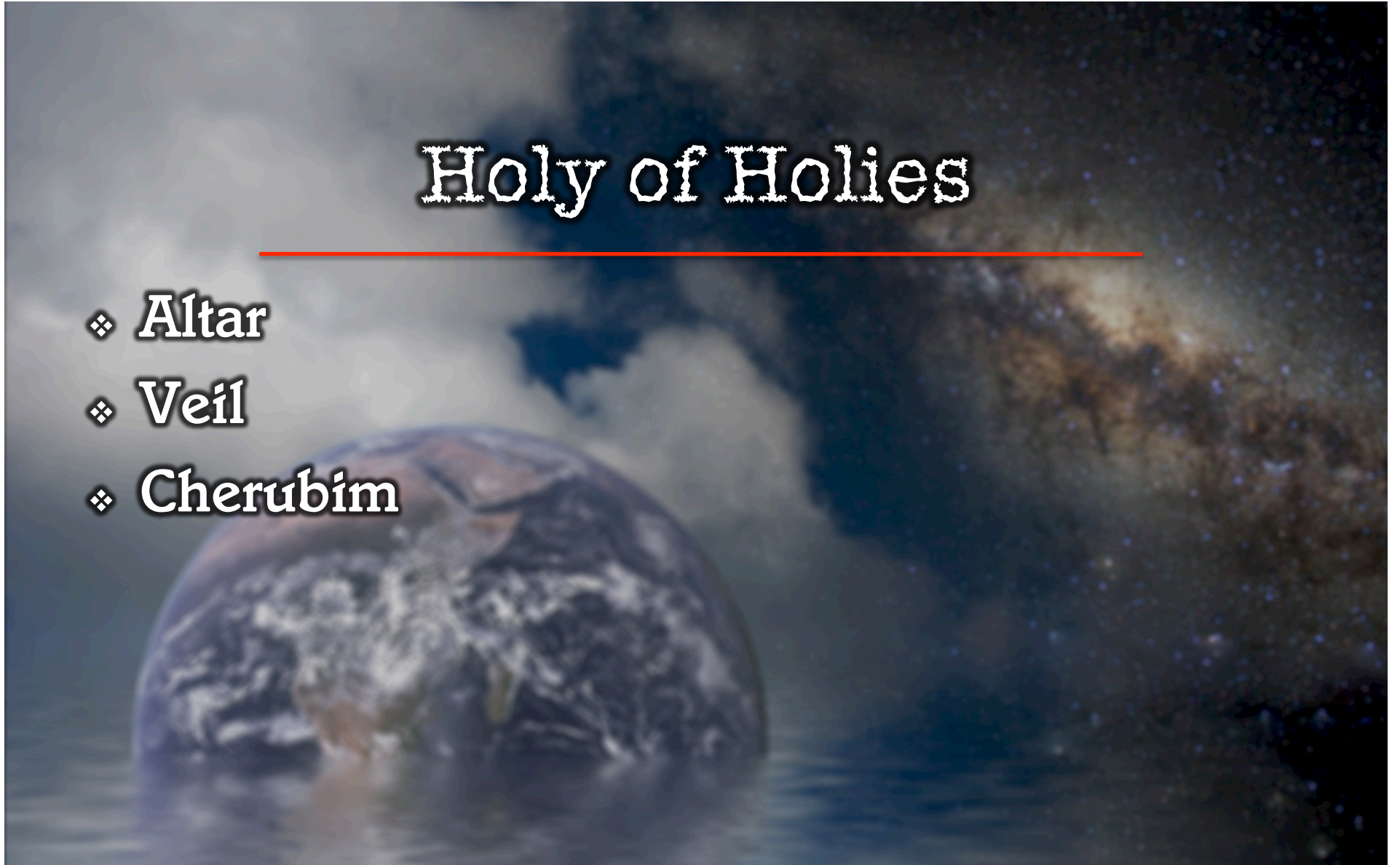




# Holy of Holies

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- ❖ Altar
- ❖ Veil
- ❖ Cherubim



## Matthew 27:50-51

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And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split.

## Hebrews 10:19-21

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Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

## Hebrews 10:22

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... let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

## Galatians 3:26-27

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So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

## Job 5:12

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He thwarts the plans of the crafty,  
so that their hands achieve no success.



## Luke 10:20

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[Jesus to disciples]: “However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

# The Gospel:

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- ❖ Sin separates us from God.
- ❖ How will you cope?
  - ❖ Turn to God, and he will cover you.
  - ❖ Hide from God, and life will destroy your fig leaves.



# Questions for self-discovery:

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- ❖ How do you react to your own mistakes?
- ❖ How do you react to the mistakes of others?
- ❖ Are you desperately afraid of conflict?
- ❖ Can you recognize your own fig leaves?



# Are you being called?

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- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the LORD's Supper