

## Are You Trying to Play with God

“And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself”, Genesis 3:8-10.

Many people, from the time of Adam to the present day, have treated the worship of God as a game of Monopoly.

You start at ‘Go’, and depending upon which square you land on you receive a gift or pay a penalty. As a acknowledgement for navigating the board successfully you will be given a prize!

The game closes with the bank holding the greatest number of properties, and it’s vaults filled with the players ‘money’.

There are, if, for a few moments we place God as the bank, and many ‘Christians’ as the players, who will not be in God’s Presence throughout eternity!

There is nothing wrong with a group of children playing ‘church’, for it is quite natural for children to mimic the adults around them.

There is, however, something seriously wrong when adults ‘play church’.

If we return to our opening Scripture, it was not long before a serious event took place when Adam and Eve tried to turn their sin into a game with God.

That game came to an abrupt halt when God evicted them from a domain of authority to a domain of subjection.

They lost their authority to control the thorns and thistles which would bring discomfort to their skin, and many herbs would lose their sweetness and become bitter.

“Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field”, Genesis 3:18.

Two sons were born to Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel. Cain would bring grief to Adam and Eve by killing his younger brother Abel.

Cain still awaits his day of judgement. Abel, I believe, was led by the Lord into His Father’s presence on the day Jesus took the keys of death and hell from Satan, Revelation 1:18.

Friend, you will be required to make one of two responses when you hear the gift of the Father, you will either accept the title of ‘Christian, or retain the title apostate.

There are many between the ‘post’s’ of ‘Christian and apostate. The Apostle John, in his first Epistle that there are some that will claim to be Christians, but their sincerity will be questionable, “They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us”, 1 John 2:19.

The Apostle John is speaking of ‘shop window christians’. People who dressed in appropriate ‘church gear’. They use a particular church name.

They made a point of being baptised by immersion. They will tell you that they support all the local churches!

Apostasy is not a matter of hiding your acts under a cloak of actions. It is not a game of hide-and-seek.

God sees it as a game of monopoly where the banker calls the tune.

“...Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord”, Romans 12:19.

The major question at this point is “If God is not playing, WHO IS MY OPPONENT?”