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**THE SURE WORD** by Jonnie Hutchison

**“NAKED AND OPEN”**

In Genesis chapter three the devil tempts Eve to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil of which God had said, “In the day that you eat thereof you shall surely die.” The devil lied, saying, “You shall NOT surely die. Eve believed this lie and ate of the fruit and gave it to Adam who also ate it. The result is described in Genesis 3:7-8. Their eyes were opened. They knew they had sinned. When they heard the presence of God in the garden, they tried to hide from Him. However, they quickly found out they could not hide from the presence of God who confronted Adam with his sin.

Jonah was called by God to go to the great city of Nineveh and cry out against it because their wickedness had come up before God (Jonah 1:1). Jonah did not want to go to Nineveh, so he attempted to run from God. But Jonah found out that it is impossible to escape the presence of God. After being tossed overboard from the ship on which he was attempting to flee, being swallowed by a great fish and after three days and three nights, spit up on dry ground, Jonah went to Nineveh and preached the message God gave him to preach. Jonah could not run away or hide from God.

There is nothing any of us can do to hide our sins from God. There is nothing that God does not know or see. “The eyes of the Lord are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good” (Proverbs 15:3). Based on this passage a song writer wrote these words, “All along on the road to the soul’s true abode, there’s an Eye watching you; Every step that you take this great Eye is awake, there’s an Eye watching you.” The Psalmist asked the question, “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? and then, in essence answered there is nowhere (Psalms 139:7ff). Like the little boy said when the man offered him a dime if he could tell him where God was — “Mister, I’ll give you a dollar if you’ll tell me where He ain’t.”

Rather than making a futile attempt to hide our sins we should repent of them and seek God’s forgiveness through the blood of Jesus (Rom. 5:8-9) As the Bible says, “And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are **naked and open** to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account” ( Hebrews 4:13)