



BACK from **EXILE**

The Story of Exile

Universally resonates

- **The beginning:** where relationships are perfect.
- **The exile:** where the subordinate is driven out.
- **The return:** where relationships are reconciled.



The Beginning

- Everything always starts out good in the beginning: no expectations
- Once God provided an expectation* and man rejects it “you shall surely die.”
Gen. 2:17
- But man did not die... he was exiled.
Gen. 3:24

** God's expectations are for our benefit, our good so we can be close to Him.*

The Exile

- Before exile there is always a heart, mind, soul departure by the exiled. **cp. Gen. 3:6**
- The “driving out” is an unwanted but necessary break in fellowship between God (his version of right/wrong) and man who has opposed it.

The Return

- The return represents “Good News”
 - You are sought. **Lk. 15**
 - You are waited upon to return. **Lk. 15**
 - You are beckoned – **Matt. 28:19; Rom. 10:15**
- The return signifies reconciliation.
 - There is a man’s heart to return.
 - There is God’s heart to forgive.

The End: Same, BUT BETTER!

(Gen 1-3) Rev. 22:1-5

- **The tree of life:** accessible again. V. 2
- **The curse:** no more. V. 3
- **Man reigns:** once again. V. 5b