

Birth of the Ego-Self in the Garden of Eden

- 1) Gen. 2:5–9. God creates the (hu)man and the Garden of Eden.
- 2) Gen. 2:10–14. God creates the river that runs out of Eden.
- 3) Gen. 2:15–17. God commands the man concerning the trees of the garden.
- 4) Gen. 2:18, 21–25. God creates the woman from the man’s rib.
- 5) Gen. 2:19–20. The man names the living creatures.
- 6) Gen. 3:1–7. The serpent, the woman, and the man.
- 7) Gen. 3:8–13. God plays detective with the man and the woman.
- 8) Gen. 3:14–15. God punishes the serpent.
- 9) Gen. 3:16. God punishes the woman.
- 10) Gen. 3:17–19. God punishes the man.
- 11) Gen. 3:20–21. The woman receives a name, God clothes the man and the woman, and God banishes them from the garden.

Genesis 3:10. Adam hid from himself and from God inside the fog of four I’s.

And he said, “I heard your sound in the garden and I was afraid, for I was naked, and I hid.”

בְּגֶן	שָׁמַעְתִּי	קוֹלְךָ	אֶת	וַיֹּאמֶר
in the garden	I heard	your voice	*	And he said

וַיִּחְבֵּא	אֲנֹכִי	עֵרֹם	כִּי	וַיִּירָא
<i>va-eychave</i>	<i>anochi</i>	<i>eyrom</i>	<i>ki</i>	<i>va-ira</i>
and I hid	1. I	1. naked	1. for	and I
	2. my ego	2. cunning	2. that	was
	3. God			afraid

Corresponding to the two meanings of *ki*, the two meanings of *eyrom*, and the three meanings of *anochi*, the three-word phrase *ki eyrom anochi* in Genesis 3:10 has the sense of any of the following twelve readings. Each illuminates a different facet of Adam’s state of mind at this breakthrough-moment of his life.

- 1) and I was afraid for I was naked, and I hid.
- 2) and I was afraid that I was naked, and I hid.
- 3) and I was afraid for my ego was naked, and I hid.
- 4) and I was afraid that my ego was naked, and I hid.
- 5) and I was afraid for God was naked, and I hid.
- 6) and I was afraid that God was naked, and I hid.
- 7) and I was afraid for I was cunning, and I hid.
- 8) and I was afraid that I was cunning, and I hid.
- 9) and I was afraid for my ego was cunning, and I hid.
- 10) and I was afraid that my ego was cunning, and I hid.
- 11) and I was afraid for God was cunning, and I hid.
- 12) and I was afraid that God was cunning, and I hid.