

## GENESIS –Lesson 14

Learn: He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. John 1:11-13

Read: Genesis 3: 14-24

Though the curse was outwardly pronounced on the serpent, its real thrust was against that evil spirit controlling its body, “that old serpent called the Devil” (Revelation 12:9). The earth had originally been placed under man’s dominion. By persuading them to follow his word instead of God’s word, Satan and his evil angels now gained a power that they did not have before.

1. What position had Satan gained when Adam and Eve rebelled? II Corinthians 4:3, 4

The woman, who was to bear the earth’s future children, now seemed under Satan’s control, for she had listened to him rather than to God. But the Lord can never be thwarted by Satan.

2. In verse 15 The Lord makes His first promise of the coming Savior. What did He tell the serpent, as well as us?

“There will come One who will not be of man’s seed, and who therefore will not be under your dominion Satan. He will uniquely be the Seed of the woman, miraculously conceived and virgin-born. Though you Satan will succeed in grievously injuring Him, He will completely crush you and destroy your power forever.”

Genesis 3:15 has long been known as the “first gospel”, promising the ultimate coming and victory of the Redeemer. It obviously entails far more than a trivial reference to the physical enmity or hatred between men and snakes. The prophecy clearly looks forward to the time when Satan will be completely crushed beneath the feet of the woman’s triumphant Seed.

Mankind, from earliest ages, has recorded its hope that some day a Savior would come who would destroy the devil and reconcile man to God. Though in many ways man’s understanding of who the Savior is has been distorted.

But who, or what is meant by the “seed”—both the “seed of the serpent” and the “seed of the woman”? The term “seed” of course has a biological connotation, but this is not strictly possible here. Neither Satan, who is a spirit, nor the woman would be able to produce actual seed; only the man was created physically to do this. These two seeds, therefore, must refer primarily to spiritual progeny (children).

THE GENESIS RECORD pp 120-121 Dr. Henry Morris

3. Who are the spiritual children (“the seed of”) Satan? John 8:44; Ephesians 2:2, 3; I John 3:8, 10

4. Who are the “seed of the woman”? Matthew 13:37-40; I John 3:8-12; Revelation 12:17; John 3:3-5

There is obviously another meaning as well, in addition to the above plural and corporate meaning of the two seeds. There is one primary seed of the serpent and one primary seed of the woman.

5. Who is the primary seed of the serpent? II Thessalonians 2:3, 8, 9; Revelation 13:2-8

6. Who is the primary seed of the woman? Galatians 3:16

7. What do the following verses tell about the fulfillment of Genesis 3:15?  
Hebrews 2:9-16

Revelation 20:10

Isaiah 53:5

I Corinthians 15:20-22

The promised Seed would one day be born of a human woman, but the Lord did not say to which woman and at what time. Although God's grace was shown in this particular way toward woman—despite her being the vehicle through which Satan gained control over the world—she was nevertheless to be the subject of special judgment, though even this would be for the ultimate good of humanity. Eve shared in the curse on Adam, since she was also “of the man”; but in addition a special burden was placed on her in connection with the experience of conception and childbirth, the pain and sorrow of which would be “greatly multiplied.” -Dr. Henry Morris

8. What name did Adam give his wife and why? v20
9. The entrance of her children into the world would be marked by unique suffering, serving as a perpetual reminder of the dread effects of sin. This was the result of Eve's “lust” for withheld knowledge. What does James 1:15 tell us?
  
10. The special curse on woman associated with child-bearing can, in fact, be turned to a blessing for a woman yielded to the will of God. What does John 16:21 tell us?

God placed the curse on man and on his whole environment, thus forcing him to recognize the seriousness of his sin, as well as his helplessness to save himself and his dominion from eventual destruction. The necessity of laboring merely to keep alive would force him to realize that Satan's tempting promises had been nothing but lies. This condition would encourage man to a state of repentance toward God, and a desire for God to provide deliverance from the evil state upon which he had fallen.

11. The entire “creation was made subject to vanity” (futility). How do the following passages explain the condition of the creation?  
Hebrews 1:10-12

I Peter 1:24

The law of decay and death is so universal that it was formalized about a hundred years ago into a fundamental scientific law. It is called the Second Law of Thermodynamics. This law states that all systems, if left to themselves, tend to become degraded or disordered.

Instead of all things being “made”- that is, organized into complex systems- as they were in Creation Week, they are now being “unmade,” becoming disorganized and simple. Instead of life and growth, there comes decay and death; instead of evolution, there is degeneration. – Dr. Henry Morris

12. Can you give an example of this law of decay and breakdown?

Herein is the secret of all that is wrong with the world. Man is a sinner and has brought God’s curse on the earth.

13. But there is hope. What is our only hope?

Galatians 3:13

Isaiah 53:3

Isaiah 53:5; Mark 15:17

Hebrews 5:7-9; Luke 22:44

Psalms 22:15

I Corinthians 15:51-57

Therefore, because He bore all the curse Himself for us, once again the dwelling of God shall someday be with men and “there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying,

neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away” (Revelation 21:4). “And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it: and his servants shall serve him” (Revelation 22:3).