

Early Shadows
The Conquering Offspring
Genesis 3:14-15
November 30, 2014

“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” - **Genesis 3:15**

I. PARADISE LOST

- The “Fall” occurs when:
 - *Satan questions the truth and accuracy of God’s word (3:1-3).
 - *Eve changes the precision of God’s word (3:3).
 - *Satan denies the truth of God’s word (3:4).
 - *Satan lies about God’s motives (3:5).
 - *Eve gives in to the appeal of her senses and invites her husband to join with her (3:6).
 - *Adam submits to the sin and eats the forbidden fruit (3:6).
- The aftermath of sin is alienation, shame, casting blame on others - and ultimately death (3:7-13).

II. THE BATTLE OF GOOD VS. EVIL

- The first sin leads to a perpetual struggle between “seeds”: the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent (vs. 15; Matt. 3:7).
- The struggle began in the deep past, was played out in the garden, and continues until the consummation of the ages (Rev. 12).

III. THE GOSPEL IN PARADISE JUST LOST

- The seed of the woman, Jesus Christ, would be bruised, but in doing so would deliver a death blow to Satan, sin, and death (vs. 15; Rom. 16:20; Gal. 3:16).
- Our victory over sin is realized in the descendant (seed) of the woman, who came to destroy the work of the devil (Heb. 2:14-15; 1 John 3:8).

KNOW: The “protoevangelium” or “first gospel” is announced in the story of the first sin. Victory over sin and death for us comes through the ultimate descendant of Eve - Jesus Christ, the child of the first advent.

DO: Respond to the first gospel and know victory.

Suggested Reading:

Far as the Curse is Found, by Michael D. Williams
God’s Big Picture, by Vaughn Roberts

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please read Genesis 3:14-15

1. Consider Satan’s temptation of Eve that led to the curse oration of Genesis 3:14-16. How did Satan approach Eve, and how did he lead her toward sin? Does he still tempt like this today?
2. What changed for Adam and Eve after they ate from the tree? In what ways do we still deal with these fundamental realizations about ourselves today?
3. What “enmity” do you see today between the offspring of the woman, Jesus, and the offspring of the serpent, those who reject Christ? How is it played out in the 21st century?
4. Take a quick look at Numbers 21:4-9. What correlations do you see between the serpent on the pole, Jesus Christ, and the curse of Genesis 3:14-15? How does Jesus tie these events together in John 3:14-15?
5. In what ways does Satan still attempt to “bruise” Jesus?
6. In what ways has the gospel, first revealed here in Genesis 3:15, impacted you and your life? What has changed for you since you came to believe and put your hope in the gospel?