



Judgment & Promise  
Genesis 3:14-15  
March 1, 2020

“...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. THE SERPENT’S JUDGMENT

A - The sin of Adam (vv. 9-11)

B - The sin of Eve (v. 12)

C - The sin of the serpent (v. 13)

C<sup>1</sup> - The judgment on the serpent (vv. 14-15)

B<sup>1</sup> - The judgment on Eve (v. 16)

A<sup>1</sup> - The judgment on Adam (vv. 17-19)

- Each curse involves a life function and a relationship. For the serpent, his function of movement is affected as well as his relationship to the woman and her seed (vv. 14-15).
- The serpent is to be subjugated. His “food” will be dust, that which now represents death (v. 14; 3:19; Ps. 72:9; Isa. 49:23; Micah 7:17; Rom. 16:20; Col. 2:13-15).

## II. THE LORD’S PROMISE

- Enmity is “put” between the woman and the serpent, his offspring and hers (v. 15; Gen. 4:6; Ex. 1:8-16; Ex. 14; Joshua-Nehemiah; Esther 3; Rev. 12:1-17).
- Who is the seed of the serpent? Collectively, likely all those aligned against the people of God. Singularly and collectively, possibly Antichrist (John 8:39-47; 1 John 2:18, 22, 4:3; 2 John 1:7).
- Who is the seed of the woman? Likely the people of God collectively, and Messiah singularly (Gal. 3:16; Rom. 16:20).
- He (Messiah) will bruise the serpent’s head. Salvation through judgment: the skull crushing seed (Num. 24:17-19; 1 Sam. 17; Jer. 23 [see esp. v. 19]; Matt. 3:7-10; Luke 10:17-19, 1 Cor. 15:25).
- “You” (Satan) will bruise his heel (Isa. 53; Matt. 27:46).
- The “*protevangelium*.” The first glimmer of gospel news.

**KNOW:** A great drama begins in Genesis 3:14-15. Satan’s interference in the relationship between God and his people brings brutal consequences, and unimaginable hope.

**DO:** Trust in Jesus, the great serpent crusher.

### Suggested Reading:

*The Skull Crushing Seed of the Woman: Inner-Biblical Interpretation of Genesis 3:15* by James Hamilton Jr. SBJT 10/2 (Summer 2006).  
Access online.

### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

#### Please Read Genesis 3:14-15

1. Why does God curse the serpent?
2. Who is the serpent? A reptile, Satan, or both?
3. What is the serpent’s curse/judgment and how will it be played out over time?
4. Why, do you think, does God “put” enmity between the woman and the serpent, her offspring and his?
5. Where is the hope/promise in this passage?
6. How does Jesus ultimately fulfill this promise, both in the incarnation and presently in us?
7. How, if at all, did the message challenge and encourage you?