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Genesis 3:15 - Promises, Promises (HE Said What HE Said)

Introductory Statement: “The New Testament is in the Old, Contained; the Old Testament is in the New, Explained” are words shared from a Bishop in the Lord’s church who has since transitioned to be with Jesus eternally. “Get to know the Old Testament; discover her secrets” is another nugget that he shared with us in our local congregation. He placed a strong emphasis on utilizing God’s Word, the Holy Bible, to interpret the meaning of the scriptures within its pages. For our study today we will seek to discover the revelation of our Lord Jesus, within the context of Genesis 3:15 and related passages.

Summary Points:

- What is enmity?
- Does God’s pronouncement of this curse mean that people and snakes will always be at odds against each other?
- Who are the offspring of the serpent?
- Is there a winner if both parties (seed of the woman, seed of serpent) are inflicting harm upon one another?
- How does any of this relate to Jesus? Protoevangelium (Good News)

Objectives: As a result of our time of study today each Believer in JESUS will better grasp the intention of this scripture passage and understand ways to personally apply these truths in daily living.



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THE TEXT

Genesis 3:14-15 (NRSV)

¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; He will strike your head, and you will strike His heel.”

1. There are consequences to disobedience

a. Genesis 2:16-17 (NRSV)

^{2:16} And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

b. Romans 6:23 (NRSV)

^{6:23} For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

i. The FATHER’s free gift in Eden was eternal life.

ii. The action of disobedience displaced Adam and Eve from the provision of eternal life. – Genesis 2:8-9; 3:22-23

^{2:8} And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹ Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

^{3:22} Then the LORD God said, “See, the humans have become like one of us, knowing good and evil, and now they might reach out their hands and take also from the tree of life and eat and live forever”— ²³ therefore the LORD God sent them forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from which they were taken.

c. The Serpent (animal) was cursed

d. The spirit persuading the serpent (satan personified) was cursed



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2. An immediate enmity was produced between the serpent (satan personified) and the woman, and their seed
 - a. Enmity - Hebrew ebah (ay-baw'); deep rooted hatred, intense hostility often resulting in murder; enemy
 - i. Numbers 35:20-21 (NRSV)

^{35:20} Likewise, if someone pushes another from hatred or hurls something at another, lying in wait, and death ensues, ²¹ or in enmity strikes another with the hand, and death ensues, then the one who struck the blow shall be put to death; that person is a murderer; the avenger of blood shall put the murderer to death when they meet..
 - b. Enmity is described as friendship with the world (system)
 - i. James 4:4 (NRSV)

⁴ Adulterers! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.
 - c. Enmity is seen in the carnal, unregenerated mindset

Romans 8:7 (NRSV)

^{8:7} For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot

Galatians 5:17-21 (NRSV)

^{5:17} For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.
3. The offspring/seed of the woman includes those who will be born through her immediately and in future generations...all humanity



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Genesis 3:20 (NRSV)

^{3:20} The man named his wife Eve because she was the mother of all living.

- a. The tense of the mentioned seed is singular and, in most translations, the extended pronoun reference is capitalized (He, His).
4. The offspring/seed of the devil (serpent) is characterized by those who follow the influence of satan

John 8:44 (NRSV)

⁴⁴ You are from your father the devil, and you choose to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

5. The scenario of the garden was repeated in the lives of their children/descendants
Genesis 4:1-12 (NRSV)

^{4:1} Now the man knew his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have produced a man with the help of the LORD." ² Next, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. ³ In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, ⁴ and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, ⁵ but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So, Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. ⁶ The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? ⁷ If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it." ⁸ Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let us go out to the field." And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. ⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" ¹⁰ And the LORD said, "What have you done? Listen, your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground! ¹¹ And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹² When you till the ground, it will no longer yield to you its strength; you will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth."

Genesis 9:1-3,18-25 (NRSV)

9 God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth." ² The fear and dread of you shall rest on every animal of the earth and on every bird of the air, on everything that creeps on the ground and on all the fish of



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the sea; into your hand they are delivered. ³ Every moving thing that lives shall be food for you, and just as I gave you the green plants, I give you everything. ¹⁸ The sons of Noah who went out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Ham was the father of Canaan. ¹⁹ These three were the sons of Noah, and from these the whole earth was peopled. ²⁰ Noah, a man of the soil, was the first to plant a vineyard. ²¹ He drank some of the wine and became drunk, and he lay uncovered in his tent. ²² And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw the nakedness of his father and told his two brothers outside. ²³ Then Shem and Japheth took a garment, laid it on both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered the nakedness of their father; their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father's nakedness. ²⁴ When Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, ²⁵ he said, "Cursed be Canaan; lowest of slaves shall he be to his brothers."

6. There will be an ongoing battle (striking) between the seed of the two
 - a. Hebrew – Shuph (shoof); to strike or bruise; snap at
 - b. God Declared that the woman's Seed would strike the devil's head

Genesis 4:25 (NRSV)

- ²⁵ Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another child (seed) instead of Abel, because Cain killed him."

 - c. God Declared that the devil's (serpent) seed would strike the heel of the woman's seed
 - d. Throughout the OT and into the NT we see the continuous struggle
 - i. Israel vs Other Nations
 - ii. Pharaoh's decree to kill the male babies upon birth
 - iii. Herod's decree to kill the male babies under a certain age (attempt to kill Jesus)

7. Good News about the SEED of the woman (ProtoEvangelium)
 - a. The scripture did not state seed of Adam. Men were the bearers of seed. Jesus is the seed of woman.



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Galatians 4:4

⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children.

Matthew 1:18-23 (NLT)

¹⁸ This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly. ²⁰ As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. “Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹ And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord’s message through his prophet: ²³ “Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, which means ‘God is with us.’”

b. Jesus was bruised (stricken) for the transgressions of mankind Isaiah 53: 4-5 (NRSV)

Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases, yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with affliction. When you make his life an offering for sin, he shall see his offspring and shall prolong his days; through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.

Hebrews 2:14-16

¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in



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slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham.

- c. As with the serpent, satan entered Judas Iscariot to betray (strike) Jesus
Luke 22:1-6 (NRSV)

22 Now the Festival of Unleavened Bread, which is called the Passover, was near. ² The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to put Jesus to death, for they were afraid of the people. ³ Then Satan entered into Judas called Iscariot, who was one of the twelve; ⁴ he went away and conferred with the chief priests and officers of the temple police about how he might betray him to them. ⁵ They were greatly pleased and agreed to give him money. ⁶ So he consented and began to look for an opportunity to betray him to them when no crowd was present.

- d. Jesus openly triumphed over satan to the extent that had the enemy fully realized what would have occurred he would not have crucified Jesus.
1 Corinthians 2:7-8 (NRSV)
⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

- e. Jesus will have the ultimate strike of triumph along with His church
Revelation 20:1-3,10

20 Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. ² He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years ³ and threw him into the pit and locked and sealed it over him, so that he would deceive the nations no more, until the thousand years were ended. After that he must be let out for a little while. ¹⁰ And the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.



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The Cool Down

- Mankind...you and I could never overcome the works of the devil without Jesus
- Jesus battled the devil and triumphs with All power in heaven, earth, and under the earth in his hands
- Jesus gives power to those who Believe on Him to tread upon all the works of the satan
- Will you make the profession today?
 - Jesus Is Lord of my Life
- Will you receive the finished work that Jesus has accomplished for you?