

GARDEN TO GARDEN

Lesson 2

The Seed of the Woman

I. The “Seed of the Woman” Was Promised in Eden – Genesis 3:6-15

“The curse that God pronounces on Satan is the first expression of gospel hope. Moses tells us here the story of sin coming into the human family; and its consequences are massive, incalculable. Adam and Eve, in fact, by their sin set in motion a spiritual avalanche that carries the whole human race down and buries them in death. Here is the explanation of why the world is the way it is, why human life is the way it is, why the planet is so deadly dangerous. Everything from the behavior of man to the presence of deadly microorganisms and apocalyptic hurricanes, everything that is bad and evil and corrupt and devastating and deadly is because of what happened in that third chapter. We’ve all been plunged into a spiritual death. We’ve all been plunged into physical death; from the moment we are born we begin to die. We are all born dying and dead, dead spiritually and dying physically. We have no hope of life if all we have is the fall. And yet here in this very chapter which chronicles the fall we have embedded in the middle of the curse the promise of the Savior, who will break the curse by crushing the tempter.”

– John McArthur

II. The “Seed of the Woman” Was Promised to Abraham – Genesis 12:1-3

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. (Galatians 4:4-5)

III. The “Seed of the Woman” Was Made Flesh in Jesus Christ.

The “seed of the woman” can only be an allusion to a future descendant of Eve who would have no human father. Biologically, a woman produces no seed, and except in this case Biblical usage always speaks only of the seed of men. This promised Seed would, therefore, have to be miraculously implanted in the womb. In this way, He would not inherit the sin nature which would disqualify every son of Adam from becoming a Savior from sin. This prophecy thus clearly anticipates the future virgin birth of Christ.

“The eternal Son of God had to become man, because it was the offspring of the woman who was to crush the serpent’s head.”–John Piper

The Ministry of Christ

The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. (1 John 3:8)

□ **The Words of Christ**

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life and have it to the full. (John 10:10)

□ **The Death and Resurrection of Christ**

Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. (Hebrews 2:14)

For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive (1 Cor. 15:21-22).

□ **The Destruction of Satan**

And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Revelation 20:10)

Small Group Discussion Questions

1. How did God speak to you from today's lecture?
How is your view of Jesus Christ, the Son of God enhanced by this teaching concerning the "Seed of the Woman" prophecy?
2. From the Homework: Read aloud the last paragraph on page 16 that begins with, *"In the coming days,"*
We all struggle with disordered desires and at times are tempted to exalt created things over the Creator. How do you see that play out around us? How does it play out in your own life? What is the remedy and hope for it? (hint: read the first paragraph on page 19)
3. Read 2nd paragraph on page 22 that begins with, *"Sometimes people confuse guilt and shame,"*
Discuss the difference between guilt and shame. What does God say in Psalm 34:4-5 and Romans 8:1-2 regarding shame? Is there an area in your life where you have been holding onto shame?
4. At the top of page 26, we read, *"Instead of revenge, we see the Lord graciously seeking out the guilty, confronting their sin, promising restoration, and covering their shame. We see a God who pursues the sinner and offers hope for the future."*
How is this view of God perhaps different from what you grew up believing about God or how the world views God?