

UNDERSTANDING THE “ONE STORY” OF SCRIPTURE

WEEK 6 – Gen. 3:15 – The First Messianic Prophecy

October 14, 2025

Scripture tells us following the creation, *AFTER GOD saw that it was good...AFTER GOD saw that it was very good...* Lucifer sinned. Lucifer’s sin preceded humanity’s sin.

Scripture tells us that sin entered the world through one man – Adam! Rom. 5:12 – *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men,*

Additional observations from Gen. 3:1ff:

Gen. 3:1 – *has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’* OBSERVE: The serpent didn’t mention either the “tree of life” or the “tree of the knowledge of good and evil.” But what his question brought up in Eve’s thinking was the forbidden tree. And Eve focused on the forbidden tree. The serpent took Eve’s eyes off God’s most generous blessings! Eve then began only thinking of God’s limitations on their lives.

God told them, “...but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die” (2:17). God didn’t state – “IF” you eat from it. God knew they would eat from the forbidden tree. God knows the end from the beginning.

Gen. 3:5 – *For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.* The serpent seemed to imply that they would be like God!

Gen. 3:6 - *She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.* Adam was with Eve listening to the serpent, or so it seems.

Gen. 2:16-17 tells us that God gave the command NOT to eat of the fruit of this particular tree TO ADAM! Wasn’t it Adam’s responsibility to communicate God’s words correctly to his wife? When Eve extended the fruit to Adam, he ate without hesitation!

Immediately there was separation from God. And this separation was not one imposed by God; it was initiated by men.

Gen. 3:8 - *And they heard the sound/voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day...* This might’ve been a daily outing. God desired relationship with man! ...*and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God....*

Adam & Eve ...*heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden....??* What type of sound? The text specifically states that the Lord God was walking in the garden!!!??? God is Spirit! It appears that God took a form which allowed for His form to produce a sound. His walk was audible. God could be heard by His walking!? Who walked with Adam and Eve? I’m suggesting the pre-incarnate appearance of Jesus was in the Garden with Adam and Eve. In the original Aramaic text, the word for *sound/voice* is MEMRA – which means “Word.” The Rabbis taught that the MEMRA is the same as God yet distinct – but gave no explanation! (John 1:1 – *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*)

And GOD sought them out! While the serpent's question was designed to bring about the fall of man, God's questions seek reconciliation and restoration with man.

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Gen. 3:9-10 - *Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, 'Where are you?' ¹⁰ So he said, 'I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.'* It appears that God was asking Adam to verbalize his action and admit wrongdoing.

Gen. 3:11 - *Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?*

Gen. 3:12-13 - *Then the man said, 'The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.' ¹³ And the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent deceived me, and I ate.'* Adam blames God and Eve...Eve blames the serpent! How "mankind" man is!!

God speaks out against the serpent

Gen. 3:14 - *So the LORD God said to the serpent: Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field... God knowing that the beasts would come under the curse – Rom. 8:21-22 - because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.*

Gen. 3:14 - *...on your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life.*

God then speaks to the power behind the serpent – Satan

Lucifer exercised his will against God...therefore, God told the adversary...

Gen. 3:15 - *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; God put enmity/hatred - a BLOOD FEUD between Satan and mankind (between you and the woman, and between your seed and – her Seed). And thus, we have SPIRITUAL WARFARE! This battle unfolds and looks forward to a specific "Seed of the woman" Whom we are introduced to in Gen. 3:15 as "He" – the One – the Promised One – the One Who would be born supernaturally of the Seed of woman Who is God – Who would come sometime in the future to resolve the problem of sin!*

AND, we understand this Seed is w/o aid from man; a woman doesn't have a seed. Within the judgment of God on the earth and on man, we have a glorious promise and in Gen. 3:15 the plan of the outworking of that promise begins. *He (the Seed of the woman) shall bruise (crush) your (Satan) head, and you (Satan) shall bruise His heel.* "The Seed of the woman" is the Redeemer. The Messiah would be born of a woman – alone. This would be a supernatural

birth. A virgin birth is prophesied. Isa. 7:14 - *Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.*

(Seed - Gal. 3:16-17 - *Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ*)

The word "seed" in Hebrew (*zarah*) is a masculine noun. Regarding the woman, we need to note that a woman does not have a seed. "Seed" in Hebrew means semen! A woman has an egg. The influence of a man is not noted in this verse. Adam is not brought into this equation.

In Gen. 3:15 - While the overarching battle is between Satan and the ultimate Seed of the woman, Jesus, Conflict also enters the world between the two distinct groups: the followers of Satan and the followers of Jesus. Spiritual warfare!

In Gen. 3:15 we read that Satan would bruise the heel of this Seed of the woman. The Messiah, is bruised on the heel at the cross at the crucifixion. The Seed of the woman will experience

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suffering. The first Messianic prophecy doesn't tell us He would first come as a conquering King. He would SUFFER.

Scripture teaches us that the basis of redemption is – blood. The Seed of the woman would die, shedding His blood.

Gen. 3:21 - *Also for Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.* God demonstrated the requirement of blood/a life for a life through fashioning animal skins to cover Adam and Eve. The fig leaves that Adam and Eve fashioned (by their own works) to cover their nakedness were replaced with animal skins. Blood was shed to cover their sin. Who killed the innocent animal? God! And, we see a substitutionary sacrifice in this account – the innocent animal dying in place of Adam and Eve. In Lev. 17:11 God declared that He requires blood to atone for sin – to cover sin.

In the midst of the context of SIN, IMMEDIATELY God provides THE resolution for sin. In the midst of judgment there is a promise. This is the first promise we see in Scripture about an individual Who is the resolution for sin. Gen. 3:15 has been called *protoevangelium* in Greek - which means the "first gospel". "Gospel" is good news! What is the good news from God? Against the backdrop of sin and judgment, God promised hope in the provision of "the" resolution of sin.

The woman's Seed would bruise/crush the head of Satan. Satan was dealt a death blow (to the head, so to speak), a mortal wound - at the cross.

Heb. 2:14b - *that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.* Satan "no longer has the power of death" because Jesus conquered death by rising

from the grave. Jesus removes both the fear and the penalty of death for those who have placed their trust in Him. Believers look forward to resurrection and eternal life.

Satan was dealt a death blow at the cross. The significance of Jesus being crucified on Golgotha was to show His victory over His enemy, Satan, thus fulfilling the prophecy of Genesis 3:15.

How? Golgotha is Aramaic for “place of the skull.” In Gen. 3:15 God declared that Satan would bruise the heel of the “Seed of the woman.” One of the Roman methods of crucifixion involved laying the victim on the ground, stretching out the arms and attaching each wrist to the cross beam...crossing the victim’s legs and adhering his crossed feet to the cross with one nail through both heels. Jesus’ heels were bruised.

The entire cross was then lifted up – high above the ground. Jesus was lifted above the ground at the place of the skull (representing death). Golgotha referred to a skull-like shape of the rocky terrain or to the gruesome reality of it being a site of execution where skulls and bones would be found. Jesus was literally in a position over His enemy. Jesus was then hoisted up on the cross...and the cross was DROPPED-it was

RAMMED into the “head” of the skull-like rock that gave Golgotha its name. The Seed of the woman *shall crush your head*, Satan!

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QUESTIONS

What was new to you?

What impacted you? WHY?

How does Gen. 3:15 fit into the “one story” of Scripture?

What will you share from these verses – with whom – and WHY?

In thinking forward, what are these verses teaching you in terms of a Biblical principle that is foundational to your walk with the Lord?

SUGGESTED HOMEWORK

Reread Week 6 with the Bible references.

Pray about people w/ whom you can share a Biblical principle from this lesson.

Share!

If you’re journaling, note what you are learning.

Read Week 7’s handout when you receive it.