

I. The Fall and the Curse

A. The Fall in the Context of Government **Genesis 3.1-13**

1. The Lawgiver and lawbreakers
2. Who gets to decide what's good and bad for the common good of people?
3. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil
4. The rebellion

B. The Curse **Genesis 3.16-19**

1. Pain in childbirth, relationships, thorns, sweat, toil
2. Death

II. The Development of the Messianic Hope

A. Biblical Hope

B. Messianic Hope

1. Jesus's Messianic identity is a core message of the gospels

John 20.31 *but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.*

- a. Jesus is presented as the Christ/Messiah (Matt 1.16-17, Luke 3.15, John 4.29)
- b. Angels and demons declared it (Luke 2.11, 4.41)
2. Core message of the apostles (Acts 2.36, 3.20, 5.42, 8.5, 9.22, 17.3, 18.5, 18.28)
3. What does Christ/Messiah mean? (Hebrew – masiah, Greek – christos)
 - a. "Anointed One" or "Consecrated One"
 - b. In the Old Testament many people were anointed (with oil) as a way of appointing them or consecrating them to a position of leadership and to carry out their responsibilities; (1 Kings 1.39, 19.16, 2 Kings 9.6, Ps 105.15, Ex 29.7, Lev 4.3-5, 1 Sam 10.1) specifically prophets, priests, and kings.
 - c. The Old Testament examples act as foreshadows of *the Christ, the Messiah*

C. The Messiah – God's Divine Agent

1. The Messiah then is biblically understood as the Man working on behalf of God as the ultimate mediator of redemptive history
 - a. God saves – The Messiah is the Savior (Luke 2.11, Phil 3.20, 1 John 4.14)
 - b. God judges the earth – The Messiah is the Judge (Acts 10.42, 2 Tim 4.8, James 5.9)
 - c. God redeems his creation – The Messiah is the Redeemer (Gal 3.13, Titus 2.14, Heb 9.15)
2. The Day of the LORD – The Day of Christ (Phil 1.6, 1.10, 2.16, 1 Cor 1.8, 2 Cor 5.10)

"Rather than a conglomeration of arbitrary prophecies, the Scriptures develop the idea of messianic mediation in a more intuitive and organic way. From the beginning of the redemptive narrative, the seed of the messianic idea is planted in the soil of fallen humanity, and it grows progressively according to the covenants God made with men, particularly Adam, Abraham, and David."- (John P. Harrigan, 2015, p134)

D. The Protoevangelium – The First Gospel **Genesis 3.14-15**

1. Genesis 3.15 is the "Root" promise from which all future messianic promises are based.
2. The Curse on the Snake – *"Because you have done this, Cursed are you above all the livestock, and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly, and you will eat dust all the days of your life."*
 - a. On your belly (You will crawl)
 - b. Eat dust (lick dust)
 - c. God will put enmity (hostility) between the Promised seed and the Snake and his offspring/progeny
 - d. The Promised Seed will crush (heb -swp) your head (Heb – Ros – symbol of life and authority) with his foot
 - e. However, you will get to strike (heb -swp) his heel
3. The Bible will take the language from Genesis 3.15 and use this same language to tell the story. (eating dust/crawling, snakes, seeds/children/genealogy, feet crushing heads.)

E. Complete Military Domination

1. Joshua 10 – The five kings
2. 2 Samuel 22.38 – 39 *"I pursued my enemies and crushed them; I did not turn back till they were destroyed. I crushed them completely, and they could not rise; they fell beneath my feet."*
3. The Bible purposefully uses this language to give us context for the absolute and total victory over one's enemies.
 - a. Feet crushing heads of his enemies (Ps 47.3, 68.21, 89.23, Jer 23.19, Hab 3.13, Isa 63.3-4, Mal 4.2-3)
 - b. Enemies eating dust (Ps 72.8-9, Isa 65.17-25, Mic 7.13-17)

F. Genealogies and the Drama of the Seed

G. The Covenants

1. Genesis 3 and the Covenants
2. Blessed and Cursed

H. Psalm 110

1. With over 23 different direct citations and allusions, Psalm 110 is by far the most quoted OT verse in the NT
2. Ps 110 gives us the context to the Messiah, our world, and our situation and it's a commentary of Genesis 3.15

I. Genesis 3.15 in the New Testament

1. Luke 10 – Satan falls like lightning, Jesus gave them authority to tread on serpents
2. Matt 3.7, Luke 3.7 - John the Baptist – Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
3. Matt 12.37, 23.33 - To the pharisees Jesus says: You serpents, you brood of vipers, how are you to escape being sentenced to hell?
4. Matt 13.38 – Pharisees are called “sons of the evil one”
5. John 8.44 – You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning...
6. One of the ways scholars interpret Revelation 12-13 is through Genesis 3.15, a woman giving birth to a male child that will deliver a head wound to the serpent/dragon/progeny of Satan
7. 1 Corinthians 15
 - a. Remind them of the gospel, the death of the Messiah, his resurrection, the witnesses to his resurrection, the resurrection of the dead, and the Messiahs resurrection as the first fruits.
 - b. v22 For as in *Adam all die*, so in Christ all will be made *alive*.
 - c. v24 Then *the end* will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his *enemies under his feet*. ²⁶The last enemy to be *destroyed is death*.
8. The Cross and bruising of the heel.
9. Was the Serpent’s head crushed at the Cross?
10. **Romans 16.17-20**
 - a. v18...By smooth talk and flattery they deceive the minds of naïve people.
 - b. v19...but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil.
 - c. v20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

J. The Day of the LORD

II. Implications

A. The Anchor of Your Soul

1. Genesis 3.15 gives us the context of Jesus and his story.
 - a. The bruised heel (the Cross) and crushing of the enemy’s head (the Day of the LORD)
 - b. Suffering before glory (Luke 24)
 - c. It should be your chief delight and glory to get lost in the drama of his story
2. It also gives us the context to our own stories. Suffering before glory. (Colossians 3)

B. Our Mission

1. To prepare the people of the Earth for the coming of the Messiah
2. We witness to the bruised heel and the crushing of the enemy’s head
3. We preach the Cross and the Day of the LORD
4. We embrace the Cross and the Day of the LORD by our lifestyles
5. We pray Maranatha! Even so Lord Jesus come!