

Sermon Series: The Promised Seed

Sermon Text: Genesis 3:15 The Seed of Woman

The Seed of Woman is promised to destroy the venomous head of the serpent.

- Who is the serpent? The Devil. Revelation 12:9-10 “And the great dragon . . . that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world . . . the accuser of our brothers”
- Who is the seed of the serpent? Humanity in rebellion against the Lord and against His Christ (Ps. 2)
- Who is the seed of woman?
 - The elect people of God (Rom. 16:20)
 - Christ (Rev. 12:1-5)

1) Plight: Humanity’s unnatural and vexing submission to the serpent in Adam and Eve.

a) Unnatural:

- i) Serpent Usurped God’s Authority in Humanity’s Life: “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field” (3:14)
- ii) God Had Given Humanity Authority over Serpent: “let them have dominion . . . over the livestock” (1:26); “have dominion . . . over every beast that moves on the earth” (1:28)

b) Vexing:

- i) Naked: “they knew they were naked” (3:7)
- ii) Alienated: “the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden” (3:8); “He drove out the man” (3:24)
- iii) Pained: “pain in childbearing” (3:16); “by the sweat of your face you shall eat bread”
- iv) Death: “to dust you shall return” (3:19)

c) Application:

- i) Humanity’s Plight in Adam
 - (1) “you were . . . following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience” (Eph. 2:2)
 - (2) “You are of your father the devil” (John 8:44; cf. 1 John 3:8, 12)
 - (3) The devil holds people in lifelong slavery through fear of death (Heb. 2:14-15)
- ii) The Lie of Autonomy—
 - (1) “You will be like God, knowing good and evil.” (3:5)
 - (2) “I will run life my own way. We will rule the world independently of God and His law.”

2) Conflict: The Church’s perpetual conflict with the seed of the serpent.

- a) “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed”
 - i) God, by His grace, puts the enmity there, else we would be forever in the thrall of Satan’s lies.
 - ii) “Seed” is multi-generational
 - (1) Cain vs. Abel
 - (2) Lamech (Cain) vs. Enoch (Seth)
 - (3) Mankind vs. Noah
 - (4) Ham vs. Shem

- (5) Canaanites vs. Abraham & Patriarchs
- (6) Pharaoh vs. Israel/Moses
- (7) Philistines/Goliath vs. Israel/David
- (8) Haman vs. Mordecai/Esther
- (9) Sanballat & Tobiah vs. Nehemiah
- (10) Jerusalem/Rome vs. Christ & the Church

b) Application:

- i) Augustine's 2 cities defined by 2 loves: self-love vs. love of God and neighbor
- ii) The enemy's goal is to turn your love inward. Your mission is to love the Lord wholeheartedly and to love your neighbor as yourself.

3) Deliverance: The Singular Seed of Woman in victorious combat with the serpent.

- a) "He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." (3:15c)
 - i) Christ's Humanity—"He," that is "the seed of woman"
 - ii) Christ's Suffering—"you shall bruise His heel"
 - iii) Christ's Victory—"He shall bruise your head"
- b) Christ Destroys the Venomous Liar
- c) Christ Destroys the Venomous Accuser
- d) **Application:** Put all your trust in Christ to deliver you from all the power of the devil.

4) Conquest: The collective seed of woman in victorious combat with the serpent.

- a) Romans 16:20 "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you."
 - i) A benediction is not well-wishing, it is a blessing based on a reality or promise. Paul blesses, "Grace be with you," because God gives grace to His people. The Word or benediction is a means of grace, an instrument for its bestowal.
 - ii) Note that the violence upon Satan is enacted by God as the God of peace (shalom), the God who has reconciled all things to Himself through Christ, making peace by His cross (Col. 1:20; cf. 2:15).
 - iii) "Under your feet" is your experience of conquest in union with Christ.
- b) **Application:**
 - i) Know biblical doctrine well enough to guard against deviations from the truth (Rom. 16:17-18).
 - ii) Walk with wise discernment of good and evil (Rom. 16:19).
 - iii) That we "wrestle not against flesh and blood" (Eph. 6:12), and that "the weapons of our warfare are not carnal" (2 Cor. 10:4), does not mean that unbelievers are not our enemies. Rather, our goal in combat is not mere physical constraint, but the conquest of hearts, the whole soul for Christ (2 Cor. 10:5). "Love your enemies" (Matt. 5:44), because Divine love conquers the rebel heart (1 John 4:19).

Doxology: ²⁵ Now to Him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶ but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷ to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen. (Romans 16:25–27)