

“Curses Pronounced and Victory Promised”

Genesis 3:14–19

Big Idea: In response to original sin, God pronounced curses upon the sinners but also promised victory over the serpent.

I. The Curses Pronounced

A. The Curse upon the Serpent (Verses 14–15)

1. A Loathsome Posture
2. A Losing Battle

B. The Curse upon the Woman (Verse 16)

The woman’s very vocation as wife and mother is now the focus of her curse.

1. Pain in Motherhood
2. Strife in Marriage

Compare the wording with Genesis 4:6–7.

C. The Curse upon the Man (Verses 17–19)

The man’s very vocation of working and subduing the earth and exercising dominion over it is now the focus of his curse.

1. Painful Working of the Stubborn Earth
Ecclesiastes 1:2–3, 8, 13–14, 22–23; Romans 8:18–23
2. Broken Return to the Lifeless Earth

II. The Victory Promised

A. The Need for a New Adam

1. An Obedient Federal Head
Romans 5:18–19
2. A Thorn-Cursed Sufferer
John 19:1–5
3. A Death-Conquering Savior
1 Corinthians 15:20–23

B. The Promise of the Woman's Seed

A. The Hostility between the Serpent and the Woman

B. The Long War between Two Groups of Offspring

In the Old Testament, we often see these two lines of offspring related to national conflicts between God's chosen seed line and pagan nations.

Genesis 9:24–27; 15:5–6, 13–16

But the people that is truly the seed of the woman in the *plural* sense is not a bloodline. It is those who believe in God and in his promised Savior. Through the victory of that personal serpent crusher, they triumph not only over this evil world but even over the evil spirits and Satan himself.

Luke 10:17–19

Many who thought they were Abraham's seed and thus the seed of the woman were actually the seed of the serpent. Though they were very religious and outwardly respectable, they were unrepentant sinners.

Matthew 3:7–8; 12:34; 23:31–33; John 8:37–40, 44

1 John 3:7–13; Romans 16:20a

Believers are united to the Savior by faith. They are members of his body. And because Christ has smitten the serpent on his head, so shall we!

Revelation 12:13–17a; Micah 7:15–17; Isaiah 65:17, 24–25

The offspring of the woman will be victorious. But that victory all comes down to the valor of one man, one who is the incomparable Seed of the Woman.

C. The Costly Triumph of One Man over the Serpent

Genesis 4:1, 25; 5:28–29

Genesis 22:15–18 (compare with Galatians 3:16, 27–29)

The Seed Promise passed from the woman to Abraham to King David.

Psalms 89:3–4, 19–23, 35–37; 91:11–13

Triumph by Death: Isaiah 53:10–12; Hebrews 2:14–16; John 12:31–33