

Lecture 10: Genesis – The Seed Promise

February 5, 2020

Who is a character that stands out to you, and why?

Big Events – Creation, Fall, Flood, Tower of Babel, and Abraham...

Who is God? Who is man?

What is the problem? The solution?

God is personable—and should be thought of in this way.

Man is faulty—even the “heroes”—and progressively gets worse.

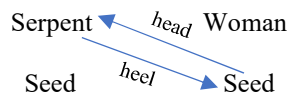
Illus. Cain kills Abel (cf. Augustine on Rome’s beginnings), then Lamech threatens his wives.

United man is limitless in capability, but fills the earth with violence...*what is the solution?*

God-Instituted Hostility

“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed;

He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel” (Gen. 3:15).



Apocalyptic Literature!

~ like poetry come to life on the Big Screen!

Revelation 12-13 – a *midrash* of Genesis 3:15

Illus. The NT is like having select answers at the back of the algebra book.

We learn:

1. The dragon is “the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan” (Rev. 12:9).
2. Humanity is divided into the “seed of the serpent” and the “seed of the woman” (cf. Cain and Abel).
3. Not every biological descendent of Eve is “seed of the woman,” i.e. “seed of the Living One.”
4. The antithesis between God and Satan, and between the two seeds, remains—Heaven and Hell.

Clarification—Jesus said:

“Do not think that I came to bring peace on the earth; I did not come to bring peace, but a sword” (Mt. 10:34).

Not a literal sword (Jn. 18:36), but a division between the believing and the unbelieving, even within families.

The Kingdom of God theme in the Bible...

The Meaning of “Seed” in Genesis

Caution: Not necessarily biologically descent...

Jabal – “the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock” (Gen. 4:20)

Jubal – “the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe” (Gen. 4:21)

Tubal-cain – “the forger of all implements of bronze and iron” (Gen. 4:22)

} no lineage past the Flood!

Point: Fundamental likeness of character (cf. John 8:44 – “You are of your father the devil...”)

Illus. “plants yielding seed after their kind” (Gen. 1:12)

Sum: Biological descent does not automatically mean you’re in, nor does lacking it mean you’re out.

The Seed of Abraham

Abraham’s Family

“In Isaac your seed shall be *named*” (Gen. 21:12)—divinely called or designated.

Abraham’s Trait

“Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness” (Gen. 15:6).

Illus. Serge Brunier, *The Great Atlas of the Stars* (2001) – the Milky Way looks like sand by the sea!

“I and the lad will go over there: and we will worship and return to you” (Gen. 22:5).

Neither the deadness of his body nor Sarah’s womb caused Abraham to waver in unbelief (Romans 4).

When tested, he believed that God is *true* and God is *able* to raise the dead (Hebrews 11:17-19).

Sum: The fundamental trait of Abraham is FAITH.

Every true Christian believes in this God who gives life to the dead—and is, therefore, seed of Abraham.

The Search for the Seed of the Woman, the Seed of Abraham, continues...