



COURSE: BIBLE HISTORY

SUBJECT: GENESIS THROUGH DEUTERONOMY - HEBREW BEGINNINGS

LESSON NO. 3 - THE MOTHER PROMISE - GENESIS 3:15

SUMMARY REVIEW:

Genesis Chapter 1 - Creation
 Genesis Chapter 2 - Provision
 Genesis Chapter 3 - Redemption

INTRODUCTION

A Prediction and a Promise

1. Prediction: Conflict between Satan's seed and woman's seed.
2. Promise: Victory for the woman's seed.

The Terms Defined

1. **Enmity** - "ill-will, hatred, strife" (Implied: WARFARE)
2. **Seed** - "ancestors, posterity or offspring"
3. **Bruise** - "to crush, to trample down" (Implies: Laying in Wait)
4. **Head** - "the superior position, signifying the object of power, control and authority"
See Matt. 28:18; Col 1:18; Eph 1:22.
5. **Heel** - "the lesser position, that which is instrumental in trying to crush the seed."

The Nature of Redemption

1. **Promised** - A part of God's eternal plan and purpose.
2. **Costly** - Won in a hard, bitter, bloody struggle.
3. **Historical** - Told in the framework of a redemptive revelation.

AIM:

1. To become aware of the viciousness of Satan and his intent to harm that seed.
2. To see that there is a greater power than Satan.
3. To understand that God's purposes will be providentially carried out. Nothing will stop God's progress toward His goal.

THE HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONFLICT

A. Cain and Abel (Gen. 4:1-8, 25).

1. Satan, through Cain, destroyed the "righteous Abel", seeming to be victorious.
2. BUT GOD! "Appointed another seed instead of Abel", Seth (vs. 25).

NOTE: The "seed of woman" survives and continues.

B. Daughters of Men and Sons of God (Gen. 6:7, 8, 12).

1. Righteous marries unrighteous, wickedness ensues.
2. A Universal Flood - "... and all flesh died ... every man ..." (7:21-22).
3. BUT GOD! "Noah found favor" (v. 8).

NOTE: The Seed-family is preserved and continues.

C. Barren Womb and Abundant Promise (Gen. 17:15-19).

1. God reaffirms His promise of years before and assures Sarah that she will bear a son, Isaac. How? For "it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women" - she was barren and past age (18:11).
2. BUT GOD! Isaac is born on schedule, (17:19), cf. Rom 4:8-12; Heb. 11:11-12.

NOTE: God's purpose will not be defeated by a barren womb - the seed continues.

D. Famine and Family (Gen. 41:55-50:26).

1. The seed-people doomed to starvation (42:1-2, cf. 43:8).
2. BUT GOD! "Jehovah was with Joseph".

Read the Biblical account noting God's providence.

NOTE: God's purpose will not be defeated by a barren earth. The seed continues.

E. Pharaoh and the Enslaved Seed-People (Exod. 1:8ff).

1. The seed-people are doomed by Pharaoh's decrees. The situation is hopeless.
2. BUT GOD! "Moses, Moses" (Exod. 3:4-10, cf. Heb. 11:23-29).

NOTE: God's purpose will not be defeated by a heathen nation. The ten plagues defeat Satan. The seed continues.

F. Evil Attempts and David (1 Sam. 16:1-13).

1. By Goliath and Saul (1 Sam. 17:1-51; 18:8-11, 19:1, 8-12).
2. By Absalom (2 Sam. 15).

BUT GOD! Seed continues.

G. Devilish woman and the seed royal (2 Kings 11).

1. Athaliah (Jezebel's daughter) "destroyed all the seed royal".
2. BUT GOD! "took Josash (the heir apparent) and hid him (2 Kings 11:2, cf. 2 Chron. 22:10-12; 23:8-11; 24:1).

NOTE: Again the seed is snatched from the adversary.

H. Death and Hezekiah (2 Kings 18:1-20:21).

1. Hezekiah is terminally ill with no heir. Satan seemingly will win.
2. BUT GOD! "I will add fifteen years ..." (2 Kings 20:6).
NOTE: God's purpose will not be defeated by illness.

I. Wicked Haman and the Jewish Remnant (Book of Esther).

1. Haman's envy and pride spells destruction for the Jews (3:1-6).
2. King makes a decree to "destroy, to slay, and to cause to perish ALL Jews, both young and old, little children and women ..." (3:13).
3. BUT GOD! "... you are come to the kingdom for just such a time as this ...".
NOTE: Esther is the means by which God again preserves the seed-people.

J. Herod and the Infant Slaughter (Matt. 2)

1. "The Herod ... slew ALL the male children ... from two years old and under ..." (vs. 16).
2. BUT GOD! Joseph is told to carry "the child to Egypt (2:13-15, 19-23).
NOTE: God's purpose will not be hindered by lust of pride.

K. Satan and Jesus

1. Devil makes frontal attack through the temptations.
2. BUT GOD! "It is written".
NOTE: God's purpose will not be hindered by lust of pride.

L. The Nations and Jesus (John 11:53)

1. The Jewish rejection and the Roman crucifixion combined to make Satan's "Grand Finale" in seeking to trample down the seed.
 - a. The Betrayal (John 13:18, 27)
 - b. The Trial (Matt. 26:59)
 - c. The Cross (Act 2:23)
2. The murder of Jesus (Satan's work, is an evil act used by God in fulfillment of His eternal plan of redemption! (Think about it!) Acts 2:23, 3:14-15, 13:23-29.
3. BUT GOD! Raised up Jesus from the dead declaring Him to be the Son of God. (Rom. 1:4).
 - a. Promised - Rom. 1:2.
 - b. Born (seed of David) - Rom 1:3.
 - c. Declared - Rom. 1:4.

THE AFTERMATH OF CONFLICT

A. The Savior's Power is Seen in His Claims

1. Jesus claimed **that He was stronger than Satan** (Matt. 12:24-30; Luke 11:14-23)
 - a. He spoils his goods (Lit. "to completely plunder"). cf. Mark 3:27.
 - b. He divides his kingdom. cf. John 8:32-33.
 - c. He binds him (Lit. "to put in chains or fetters").

2. Jesus claimed **that Satan has no power over Him** (John 14:30)
 - a. Jesus, being sinless, negates the Devil's power! (See Heb. 2:9-18; cf. 4:15; 7:25)
 - b. The Cross was not merely the Devil's plot - it was God's plan (cf. John 10:17-18)
 - c. Satan was absolutely powerless and fell in total defeat underneath the "heel" of the victorious Christ according to God's promise! (See Revelations 1:17-18).

NOTE: Jesus' life was not taken from Him. He "voluntarily willed" Himself to die. (See John 19:30; cf. 7:30; 8:80; 12:23, 27).

B. The Savior's Power is Seen in His Cross.

1. The Power of the cross (John 12:31-33; cf. Rom. 1:16-17 with 1 Cor. 1:18-2:2)
2. The Power of the cross confirmed by His own resurrection (John 14:18-20; 16:17-24, 33; cf. Rom. 1:4).
 - a. He burst the gates of the grave! (Matt. 28:1-7)
 - b. Death could not possibly hold him! (Act. 2:23-24; 13:32)
 - c. He wrested Satan's power from Him! (Heb. 2:14-15; 1 John 3:8). Jesus is Conqueror and Victor! (Rev. 1:17-18).

THE DOCTINAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE CONFLICT

- A. **The Promise of God** can be relied on.
- B. **The Providence of God** will protect his people.
- C. **The Purpose of God** will always stand.

NOTE: **The Proposed Enmity** still continues. (Rom. 16:19b-20).

SELF TEST ASSIGNMENT

1. Memorize Genesis 3:15.
2. Write a paper on your understanding of Genesis 3:15.