



World Christian Fellowship

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Galatians

Lesson 37- One Son to many sons

Galatians 4:1-7, *Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all,² but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father.³ Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world.⁴ But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*

⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!"⁷ Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

We are going to look at the entire bible to get through this message, so stay strong and wear your seat belts!

We will see how the promise of coming of Son of God to the earth.

First let us look at the first 3 chapters of Genesis.

In **Genesis chapter 1** we have a record of God's creation.

God the eternal Father, Almighty, holy, the only God, the triune God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – creates the universe and everything in it.

God creates everything in six days, and the crown of that creation on the sixth day was the creation of man, who made in the image of God.

In **Genesis chapter 2**, the focus is on the creation of man and the addition of woman. God gives us details of His bringing man into existence and then bringing woman into existence. God gave them dominion over the entire creation and all the resources found in it.

We also could see that man and woman had a relationship with God. They were bearers of His image. They were really children of God, sons of God, and they communed with God as bearers of His image. They walked and talked with Him in the garden; they had a relationship with Him that was pure and unbroken.

In **Genesis chapter 3**, the most horrible chapter describing the most horrible thing with the most long-range impact of any event ever happened since the creation. That is the fall of man!

Satan who fell first along with some of the angels came down to the garden, seduced Eve. Adam and Eve sinned and rebelled against God. As a result of that, the entire creation was cursed. The impact of sin in the world touched everyone!

Everything began to die.

They were distrusted God and trusted the words of Satan. They disobeyed God's simple command and plunged the entire human race and all creation into a cursed and dying condition. Everything was corrupted, and everything was doomed to destruction. The whole process of human life in this world defined by death.

In the future, the entire universe will be destroyed and replaced with a new heaven and a new earth. The disastrous fall led to the curse of the culprits.

- ✓ a curse on the woman,
- ✓ a curse on the serpent, and
- ✓ a curse on the man.

God's curse on His creation

Genesis 3:14-16, *So the Lord God said to the serpent: "Because you have done this, You are cursed more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. ¹⁵ And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel." ¹⁶ To the woman He said: "I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you."*

First the culprit, Satan the serpent, then the woman, and then the man.

Genesis 3:17, *Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life.*

Embedded in that curse is the promise that is fulfilled at the birth of Christ.

Look at verse 15, God says to the serpent, *"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."*

Promise of Jesus coming to the earth.

Can you see the heart of God?

God is so full of love, mercy, and grace defined by lovingkindness. God cannot even finish the curse without stating the promise!

The promise in the midst of the curse of a child who will be the seed of the woman who will crush the serpent's head. He will be the one to destroy the destroyer. He will be of the seed of the woman.

This speaks of paradise restored, paradise regained.

- The Lord gives this promise before He even finishes the curse.
- The Lord gives this promise before He even clothes Adam and Eve.
- The Lord gives this promise before He even banishes them, at the end of the chapter.
- The Lord gave the promise even before banishing them from the garden permanently sets the cherubim and a flaming sword to make sure they never come back.

They have alienated from God.

- ✓ They were created in the image of God.
- ✓ They were bearers of His image.
- ✓ They communed with God in pure fellowship as a loving Father.

That has all ended.

They have gone from being sons of God to being sons of Satan, they have gone from being in paradise to being out of paradise, and the world around them is devastated with sin.

Let us look at the curse for a moment.

The Lord is speaking to the serpent.

Genesis 3:14, *“Cursed are you more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field.”*

How is that?

Because, *“On your belly you will go, and dust you will eat all the days of your life.”*

The serpent came and tempted through a snake, which must have been upright initially. But when that snake was cursed, that serpent was cursed, the curse involved the serpent on its belly eating dust.

Snakes, all of them throughout all of human history all over the world, are symbols of and reminders of the curse.

Every snake that ever wiggles along the ground is a testimony to the promise that God made to destroy Satan.

Snakes depict the devil. *“On your belly you shall go.”*

Leviticus 11:42, *“Anything that crawls on its belly is detestable.”*

Then it says, *“Dust you shall eat.”* In the Old Testament, licking the dust, eating the dust is used a number of times as an expression for total defeat.

So, you have both the degradation and the destruction of Satan bound up in that curse, and every snake that’s ever crawled or

ever will crawl on the earth is a testimony to the degradation and the destruction of Satan.

Rainbow is the opposite of the curse. Every rainbow you ever see is testimony to the fact that God made a promise never to destroy the world again by water. It's a testimony to God's promise.

Defining the life of snakes also is a testimony to God's promise, a promise to destroy Satan. He is destroyed in the plan of God. In fact, the apostle Paul says, "Even now he is under your feet." Snakes are symbols of the degradation and the defeat of the devil.

In the midst of cursing the devil the Lord says this:

"I will put enmity between you" – that is Satan – "and the woman," – meaning Eve – "enmity between you and the woman and between your seed and her seed."

What is the seed of Satan?

The seed of Satan are all those who are part of his kingdom. Jesus said in John 8 to the Jewish leaders, "You are of your father the devil."

John 8:44, *You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no*

truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

The option is either you are a

- ✓ Children of the devil or
- ✓ Children of God.

Children of the devil are identified here as Satan's seed, Children of God are identified here as the seed of Eve, which also is evidence of Eve's salvation.

She is the mother, symbolically she's the mother of all who would ever come into the world, because she's the only woman. She started the human race with Adam. She is the mother of all, but particularly she is the mother of those who belong to God.

The Lord speaks to Eve, "You are going to have a righteous offspring. From you will come a righteous people, My children."

- The children of Satan and the children of Eve, and
- The children of Satan and the children of salvation

will be in conflict.

The word "enmity" means hostility or conflict.

So human history is marked by conflict of the

- ✓ the righteous in conflict with the unrighteous,
- ✓ the kingdom of darkness with the kingdom of light,
- ✓ the children of the devil with the children of God.

But the conflict then focuses down to one individual!

God refers to “your seed,”

Satan’s seed collectively, those who belong to his kingdom and “her seed” collectively, those who belong to the Lord.

Then it narrows immediately, because the next word is “*He shall bruise you on the head.*” Now we know that not only will the woman have a seed that comes from her that will be a righteous seed, but there will be one of them, one particular, specific one who will bruise Satan’s head. Literally crush the head of Satan, like lifting a heel and stomping on the head of a snake, crushing out its life.

For many hundreds of years, this was the only gospel and promise to the people of righteous. The promise that there would come One who would crush Satan, who would bring back paradise and restore people to be sons of God.

That was all the gospel there was for centuries, and it would come through one person, the seed of the woman.

Now it would not be without suffering, because Satan, it says, would bruise him on the heel.

So, the One who crushes Satan would Himself be wounded by Satan. There in that promise implanted in the curse is the

greatest pledge ever given to the human race, hope, mercy, forgiveness, and restoration all bound up in it.

Even before God finished the curse or banished them, He gave that promise because He is by nature a loving Father and a Saviour.

We can learn from the following passages that the promise was going to be fulfilled through the loins of Abraham.

Genesis 12:3, *I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."*

Genesis 22:18, *In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."*

The seed who would crush the serpent's head would come through Abraham, that he would be a member of Abraham's family, he would be a descendant of Abraham.

God had told Abraham back in chapter 12 that He was going to make a great nation and He was going to bless that nation.

Then God ratified that in chapter 15. Abraham to cut some animals in half and put them apart so there was a path between them, put a dead bird on each side wide, because that's symbolically in the ancient world how they cut a covenant.

People would cut an animal in half, separate the pieces. The two covenantal people making promises to each other would walk through as a binding exercise, a ceremony that bound them to the covenant.

Usually two people would pass through the pieces. But in the case of Genesis 15, God puts Abraham to deep sleep, and God goes through alone as a shining, burning light.

Because God is not making a covenant that depends on Abraham, He's making a promise with Himself! Meaning that God is going to bless all nations through the line of Abraham. There is going to come a seed of Abraham who will bring that blessing and crush Satan. God ratified that Abrahamic covenant by Himself, passing through the pieces alone.

That seed not only come through Abraham but through his son Isaac.

Genesis 26:4, *And I will make your descendants multiply as the stars of heaven; I will give to your descendants all these lands; and in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed;*

The seed will not only come through Abraham and Isaac, but it will come through Isaac son Jacob.

Genesis 28:14-15, *Also your descendants shall be as the dust of the earth; you shall spread abroad to the west and the east, to the north and the south; and in you and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed. ¹⁵ Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have spoken to you.”*

The seed will not only come through Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob but it will come through Jacob son Judah.

Genesis 49:10, *The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.*

So, it would be a seed of the woman through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Judah.

In Deuteronomy chapter 18 we learn that the seed will be a preacher, a preacher like Moses.

Deuteronomy 18:15, &18, *“The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear,*

¹⁸I will raise up for them a Prophet like you from among their brethren, and will put My words in His mouth, and He shall speak to them all that I command Him.

We then learn later that the seed will come through the line of a king named David.

2 Samuel 7:12-14, *“When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men.*

God talks about Solomon in this prophecy, but specifically that refers to the greater son of David, seed who would be the Messiah. So, the seed of the woman then comes through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, and down through David.

There are many other prophecies about the coming seed.

Isaiah gives us two prophecies that are important.

Isaiah 7:14, *“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel, which means God with us.”*

So now we know that the seed of the woman will come through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, David, that He will be a preacher, that He will come into the world through a virgin. He will be a virgin-born son.

Isaiah 9:6-7, *Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.*

There will be a child born to a virgin.

That child will come in the line of David.

That child will be the Wonder of a Counsellor, the Might God Himself, the Eternal Father Himself, the Prince of Peace.

He will establish a kingdom that will never end.

That is a promise of deity becoming humanity and establishing an eternal kingdom.

The seed then of the woman comes through the Abrahamic line, comes through the Davidic line, comes down through a virgin who must be in the line of David, who has a husband also in the line of David. He is born in the line of David, He's one of David's son, He is the greatest of David's descendants.

He is the Mighty God Himself.

He is Immanuel: God with us.

Psalm 89:3-4, *“I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn to My servant David: ⁴‘Your seed I will establish forever, And build up your throne to all generations.’”*

Nobody is forever. But the son of David who is the King, the true King, the Son of God, is forever established on a throne that has no end.

Psalms 89:27-29, *“Also I will make him My firstborn, The highest of the kings of the earth. ²⁸My mercy I will keep for him forever, And My covenant shall stand firm with him. ²⁹His seed also I will make to endure forever, And his throne as the days of heaven.”*

So, there’s coming One through a virgin who is God and man, who is a King and will reign forever and ever. But He will not come without some harm being inflicted on Him.

Let us go back to Genesis for a moment again.

Genesis 3:15, *And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”*

It says that Satan will bruise his heel, Satan will bruise his heel. Isaiah spoke of that in Chapter 53.

Isiah 53:5, *“But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.”*

Who is this seed?

Who is this son?

Who is this one who crushes the head of Satan, restores paradise, makes children of Satan into sons of God?

Paul gives us the answer in Galatians 3!

Galatians 3:16, *Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ.*

- ✓ The seed is Christ.
- ✓ The seed is the Anointed One.
- ✓ Jesus Christ is the one who fulfilled all of God's promise.
- ✓ This is the one who will crush the serpent's head.
- ✓ This is the one who will be bruised by the serpent.
- ✓ This is the one who will crush the serpent's head, establish an everlasting kingdom of righteousness.

It is none other than the Messiah.

Matthew 1:1, *The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham:*

New Testament begins with the record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the Christ, "son of David, son of Abraham."

- He is the seed of Eve;
- Seed of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah;
- Seed of David.

His father was in the Davidic line, though he played no physical role in His birth, by being His earthly father and he passed on the right to rule. But Mary had David's bloodline. Her genealogy shows that, given in Luke.

Matthew 1:16, *“Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.”*

That's how the New Testament starts.

Now we know who that seed was promised to Eve who would crush the serpent's head.

Matthew 1:18-24, *Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. ²⁰But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” ²²So all*

this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: ²³ “Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.” ²⁴ Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife, ²⁵ and did not know her till she had brought forth her firstborn Son. And he called His name Jesus.

The New Testament begins with the announcement that the promised Seed has arrived. It is none other than Jesus. This is the one who fulfils all God’s promise of paradise regained, restored, of the crushing of Satan and the rescue of men and women, and restoration to becoming sons of God.

This is the message the apostles preached.

Acts 13:30-32, *But God raised Him from the dead. ³¹ He was seen for many days by those who came up with Him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are His witnesses to the people. ³² And we declare to you glad tidings—that promise which was made to the fathers.*

- ✓ The good news from Genesis 3:15!
- ✓ The good news promised to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah.
- ✓ The good news promised to David.
- ✓ The good news promised to Isaiah and other prophets.

This is what we preach: we preach that this Jesus is the Anointed One promised in the very first promise embedded in the original curse.

Acts 13:33, *God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus. As it is also written in the second Psalm: 'You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.'*³⁴ *And that He raised Him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, He has spoken thus: 'I will give you the sure mercies of David.'*³⁵ *Therefore He also says in another Psalm: 'You will not allow Your Holy One to see corruption.'*³⁶ *"For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep, was buried with his fathers, and saw corruption;*³⁷ *but He whom God raised up saw no corruption.*³⁸ *Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins;*³⁹ *and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.*

The Law couldn't free you from sin, from death, from hell. So, the message of the apostles was that the promise that God made to the father's way back in the book of Genesis was fulfilled in Jesus.

This is the long unfolding history.

Here is the good news.

Since His name is Jesus because He came to save His people.

How is it that He does that?

How does His salvation come to me as a sinner?

Galatians 3:26-29, *“For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”*

This is the most amazing thing. Through Abraham’s seed, the Messiah, we become Abraham’s seed, as the Messiah passes His rights on to us, so that we are heirs of the promise.

All the blessing that God promised to the seed of the woman, promised to the seed of Abraham, promised in Christ, is passed through Christ to us.

So, Paul says, *“We are blessed with all spiritual blessings in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus.”*

This is God’s loving purpose.

Galatians 4:4, *“But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.”*

God didn't create His Son, He sent Him.
Jesus, God's son pre-existed eternally.
Born of a woman, full humanity.
Sent by God, full deity.

Why does He come?

To redeem us.

How did He redeem us?

Galatians 3:13: *"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree")"*

Jesus died on the cross, took the curse that we deserved, redeemed us from the curse.

Galatians 3:14, *"that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.,"*

Through faith!

John 1:12, *"As many as believed, He gave the right to become the sons of God."*

Galatians 4:5, *to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*

For us who have trusted Christ, put our faith in Him,

- ✓ paradise has been restored,
- ✓ paradise has been regained.
- ✓ we are citizens of heaven:
- ✓ our names are written there,
- ✓ our inheritance is there,
- ✓ our Father is there,
- ✓ our family is there.

We are, again, bearers of God's image. We are sons of God.

We were the children of Satan, our home was the world system.

We were children of wrath.

We were sons of disobedience.

We were under bondage to the Law and to sin, which led to hell.

That is the universal human condition.

Galatians 3:26, *"But we're all sons of God" "through faith."*

By putting our trust in Him, we have become sons of God.

A seed, a Son, to raise many sons!

To restore us to God,

To bring us to glory.

This required the cross. He had to go there. He had to suffer. He had to be bruised in order that He could be triumphant.