

### Seed Promises to Abrahamic Promise

**Introduction:** The cosmic struggle has always been a fascinating one. While we won't fully understand the spiritual conflict that takes place around us, we can understand the role it plays in humankind. Bottom line is we are created in the image of God, God declared us good, the spiritual conflict is not a contest between our goodness vs. evil. Evil that mankind is involved in stems from the choice between pure love, and absolute self-centeredness. Ultimately there are only two moral principles at work in the universe between each of us created in the image of God we either choose that image which is the original and eternal reality that is love. Or we choose the egocentricity what was offered by the Serpent which was the worship of self rather than the creator. This is the conflict that Satan still uses targets when he spreads his philosophy. The results provide the basis and growth of evil. In the Garden in the seed promise we see God foreknew the entire gamut of history and had already formulated a plan to checkmate Satan's strategy before the game pieces were on the board.

#### I. The Original Messianic Promise (Genesis 3:15)

A) The first prophecy of Christ. In the presence of man and the woman, God addresses the serpent. He says, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; He shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

**Discussion:** How can we know this is a prophecy of Christ? What is the difference between Able and Cain?

- 1) The Seed was to come through Abel whom his brother, Cain, slew.
  - 2) Seth becomes the one through whom the Seed will come.
- B) The seed-line is traced from Seth all the way down through the generations to Noah and his three sons (Genesis 5).
- 1) The genealogical record from Adam to Noah.
    - a. Seth – instead of Abel.
      - a.) God had intended that the Seed promised to bruise the serpent's head would have come from Abel but Cain slew him.
      - b.) Seth is now the seed to take the place of Abel.
        - i.) Enosh – the son of Seth.
        - ii.) Kenan – the son of Enosh.
        - iii.) Mahalalel – the son of Kenan.
        - iv.) Jared – the son of Mahalalel.

- v.) Enoch – the son of Jared.
- vi.) Methuselah – the son of Enoch.
- vii.) Lamech – the son of Methuselah.
- viii.) Noah – the son of Lamech.
- ix.) Shem – the son of Noah.

**Note:** We have actually traced the seed promise from Adam, all the way down to the days of Noah and his sons Shem, Ham and Japheth. The emphasis here is not on time. God, in giving us this record, is not interested in telling us how many years lapsed from Adam until Noah. But rather, He is showing us the seed line, from Adam through Noah. Direct descendants all male seeds and that is a miracle in itself, from Adam in whose presence the promise was originally made, in Genesis 3:15, that the seed of woman would bruise the serpents head.

II. The genealogical record from Adam to Noah. a. Seth – instead of Abel.

A) The Seed-Line Spans the Great Flood (Genesis (7-9)

- 1) We learn the great lesson of obedience from the story of the flood and the ark.
- 2) We are going to see that Jesus was actually in the loins of Shem when he went into that ark.
- 3) The flood and the ark are not naive tales but are historical events.
  - a.) Viewed by Jesus – as authentic history (Matthew 24).
  - b.) Viewed by Peter – an actual event of history (2 Peter 2).
  - c.) The Seed-Line from Shem to Abraham (Genesis 11:10-26)

B) The genealogical pattern – the generations of Shem. Genesis 11:10 – “These are the generations of Shem. Shem was 100 years old when he begat Arpachshad two years after the flood. Shem lived after he begat Arpachshad 500 years, and begat sons and daughters.”

- 1) Arpachshad – the son of Shem.
- 2) Selah – the son of Arpachshad.
- 3) Eber – the son of Selah.
- 4) Peleg – the son of Eber.
- 5) Reu – the son of Peleg.
- 6) Serug – the son of Reu.
- 7) Nahor – the son of Serug.
- 8) Terah – the son of Nahor.

9) Abram – the son of Terah.

### III. 2-Fold Promise to Abraham

A) Abram (Abraham) to whom the promises are given (Genesis 12:1-7).

NOTE: Chapter 5, and chapter 11 of the book of Genesis follow a pattern of presenting the genealogical reckonings. The male off-spring from Adam all the way down to the man named Terah, and it says in Genesis 11:26, “Terah lived 70 years and begat Abram, Nahor and Haran.”

B) Three Promises Given to Abram by God

- 1) He would make Abram a great Nation.
- 2) He would give that Nation so much land – a certain land.
- 3) He would bless all nations through Abram (his descendants).
- 4) NOTE: In Genesis 22:18, He said, “. . . in thy seed, shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.” So here you have a great seed promise. Abraham’s descendent, Abraham’s offspring, seed, would be the blessing that was to come upon all families and all nations.

C) New Testament Interpretation of These Promises (Galatians 3:8, 16)

- 1) The Seed through whom God would bring a great world-wide blessing is Christ (Galatians 3:16).
  - a.) The Seed promised is Christ.
  - b.) The blessing promised is “justification by faith” (Galatians 3:8).
- 2) In Christ all men of all races, for all time, can be justified.
  - a.) We can regain the tree of life.
  - b.) The serpent’s head will be bruised. Satan’s power will be taken away.
  - c.) Death will be dissolved in life everlasting.

Conclusion: What we need to see is that history, when viewed from eternity to eternity, can be seen to be redemptive and all those who are students of the great seed-promise can catch it at a glance. God’s great redemptive plan for mankind which He purposed before time began was promised to come through Abraham’s seed. The Bible reveals that this redemption was fulfilled in Christ and the church according to His own eternal purpose. Hence, “. . . glory to God in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all generations for ever and ever. Amen” (Ephesians 3:21). This is the central theme of the Bible. Christianity did not just happen, it was planned. The Old Testament is the record of the development of that plan in Israel’s history. Over time God whittles down the plan to make it more precise. Just as He did with Eve to Abraham. God will

continue to zoom in on the thread to be followed. Jacob/Israel to Judah to David eventually to Christ.