

IN THE BEGINNING – PART 4

- ✓ In our last lesson, we saw that the devil thought that he can thwart God's plan and purpose by bringing about the fall of the man and the woman that God had created to replace him and rule in a marriage relationship.
- ✓ However, no one can thwart anything that God has purposed and so we can look forward and anticipate the time when the second Man, the last Adam will sit on the throne with His joint-heirs and take on the rulership.
- Genesis 3 gives us the account of how he contradicted God's word and deceived the woman who in turn gave the fruit to her husband and he ate.

1Tim 2:14 *And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived [lit. 'utterly deceived'], fell into transgression.*

- 1st Tim 2:14 clearly states that Adam was NOT deceived, and yet we know that he ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. So why did Adam eat the forbidden fruit after the woman had eaten? Bearing in mind that Adam is a Type of Christ, why do you think he would do this?

Rom.5:14 ... *Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.*

1Cor.15:45 *And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. 46 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. 47 The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. 48 As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. 49 And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.*

2Cor 5:21 *For He made Him [Christ] who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him*

- When Christ came to the earth as a man, He found His future wife in sin, and so He took her sins upon Himself. In so doing, He became the perfect sacrifice and shed His blood for her redemption and for the forgiveness of her sins. Just as the first man, Adam, had to have a helper comparable to him to rule in the 7th Day, so Christ must have a helper, His wife, to rule with Him in the 7th Day.
- Adam knew no sin (just as Christ did not know sin) when he chose to eat the fruit given to him by His wife. Adam also knew that he could not rule without the Woman - who was the helper comparable to him - that God had made from a part of his body. Adam was not deceived, but in his unfallen state of mind, he knew that redemption would only be possible if he entered into sin with his wife – they both would have to be redeemed together if rulership was to take place. And in this way Adam is a Type of Christ because Jesus – 'who knew no sin' – 'became sin for us, that we might become the righteous of God in Him'.
- Remember: The Woman was deceived, but not Adam! Adam knew fully well what he was doing and that should not surprise us since the antitype must mirror the type in exact same format. Christ did exactly what Adam did and vice versa and for sure, it's certain that Christ knew that he was taking on our sin and paying the redemption price.

Rom.5:12 *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned— 13 (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not*

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*imputed when there is no law. **14** Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. **15** But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. **16** And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.*

- The context for this verse in Romans is a comparison showing how through one man's offense (Adam's), judgment and condemnation came to all, however through One Man's obedience (Christ's), grace abounded much more resulting in many being made righteous. The 'Him' who was to come is speaking of Christ, and we can clearly see from these verses that Adam is a Type of Christ.
- It's awesome to see the **1 Corinthians 15** verses give us a clear comparison of the first Adam and the last Adam. This should help us to understand why God has declared the end from the beginning and the intended ruler ship declared in the beginning is exactly what the end should look like and the last Adam with His bride fulfilling the type.
- With the disqualification of Adam and the woman to rule in Genesis 3, the promise of the Seed of the woman was immediately given.

Gen. 3:14 *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."*

- And as we read these verses, we see that the promise of the coming Seed is given to 'that serpent of old', making abundantly clear that the Seed of the Woman is the One who will remove Satan and his fallen angels as rulers over the earth. The coming Kingdom of Christ is at the heart of all and at the heart of the Kingdom is redemption which the Seed of the woman (Christ/the last Adam) would accomplish.
- Note: After the promise of the Seed of the woman was made, the ground was cursed and no wonder it is said to be groaning. Praise the Lord! There is hope for it as well.

Rom. 8:20 *For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; **21** because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. **22** For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.*

- Following the Fall of Adam and his wife, and after the Seed of the woman was promised, Adam acted by faith in changing his wife's name from 'Woman' to 'Eve', which means 'life-giver', because she was to be 'the mother of all living'. God then killed an animal, or animals, to clothe Adam and Eve in tunics of skin. This would cover their nakedness, which had resulted from them eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. It's important to note that the covering with tunics of skin could not replace the lost covering of glory.

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- In God's actions we have the first incidence of death and shed blood being required for the forgiveness of sins. But despite that forgiveness, and the fact that they did have spiritual life, they still had to be excluded from the garden of Eden because they were no longer in the image and likeness of God, and no longer fit for a position of rulership at that time. They now possessed a sin nature and had no covering of glory and as a result, they could not continue to eat from the tree of life. That is what we see in the following remaining verses.

Gen. 3:20 *And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.*

21 *Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin and clothed them.*

22 *Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"—* **23** *therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. 24 So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.*

- We had mentioned earlier that the Seed of the woman is the One who will remove Satan and his fallen angels as rulers over the earth. The Seed of the woman (the Second man, the last Adam), Jesus Christ and His joint heirs will sit on His throne and rule but for that to happen, we must see what Jesus said upon His encounter with 2 of His Disciples on the road to Emmaus. They had failed to understand that the Christ must suffer before He could enter into His glory and glory has to do with ruler ship.

Rom.8: 17 *and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.*

2Tim.2:11 *This is a faithful saying: For if we died with Him, we shall also live with Him. 12 If we endure, we shall also reign with Him. If we deny Him, He also will deny us.*

- For Christ to suffer and then enter into glory, we must see the One who has always been God, manifested in the flesh in the likeness of men, the promised Seed of the Woman.

John 1:1 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made..... 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us,...*

- Jesus was born a Jew and from the virgin Mary, being overshadowed by the power of the Holy Spirit came the Man Jesus, His physical form.

Phil 2:8 *And being found in appearance as a man.....*

Col 2:9 *For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.....*

- It's important to note that Jesus being born a Jew, His Genealogy takes us all the way back to Adam through David and Abraham. We also know that the nation of Israel came to be through, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and from Jacob's twelve sons – the Jews came to be.

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

2 *Abraham begot Isaac, Isaac begot Jacob, and Jacob begot Judah and his brothers. 3 Judah begot Perez... 5 Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, 6 and Jesse begot*

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David the king. David the king begot Solomon by her who had been the wife of Uriah. 7 Solomon begot..... 16 And Jacob begot Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus who is called Christ. 17 So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until the captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from the captivity in Babylon until the Christ are fourteen generations.

- The beginning of the Gospel of Matthew sets out the genealogy of Jesus the Christ and starts with His lineage to David the king, the one to whom was promised a ‘Son’ whose Kingdom would be established ‘forever’. And then further back to Abraham, the father of the nation of Israel, the one to whom the promise concerning his ‘Seed’ was given –

Gal 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.

Luke 3:23 Now Jesus Himself, began His ministry at about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph..... Nathan, the son of David, 32 the son of Jesse, the son of Obed, the son of Boaz, ... Judah, 34 the son of Jacob, the son of Isaac, the son of Abraham, the son of Terah... Shem, the son of Noah,... Enosh, the son of Seth, the son of Adam, the son of God.

- ❖ We can see from these verses that for us to understand the nation of Israel and the last Adam, the Seed of the woman, we must always do what we have been doing. Beginning at the beginning just as the Christ did to the disciples.

Luke 24:27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

- Going back to the beginning and starting from Gen. 4, we see that Eve, the mother of all living, from whom the whole human race would come, bore Cain, and then Abel, with the 2 sons born in the image and likeness of Adam. (Gen.5:3-4). Beyond their expulsion from the Garden Adam and Eve had 2 sons and then after Seth, he is said to have sons and daughters. Let’s read chapter 4 and see what spiritual truths we can learn from it.

Gen. 4:1 Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, and said, “I have acquired a man from the LORD.” 2 Then she bore again, this time his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. 3 And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. 4 Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, 5 but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. 6 So the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? 7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.” 8 Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

- In Abel ‘a keeper of sheep’ and Cain ‘a tiller of the ground’ we see a distinction with Abel having a focus on spiritual things and Cain on things of the earth, much the same way as Jacob is described as a ‘mild man

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living in tents' & Esau as 'a man of the field'. Cain was 'a tiller of the ground', therefore a man of the earth, a worldly man, picturing our 'old man', our sin nature, whereas Abel was a 'keeper of sheep', a shepherd – the title given to our Lord (the heavenly Man).

John 10:11 *"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.*

- Abel therefore pictures the man of the spirit.

- In the process of time, they both brought an offering to the Lord and God only respected Abel's offering.
 - We must not assume that God's respect, or not, of their individual offerings was based upon whether it was the fruit of the ground, or the firstborn of the flock. [Although perhaps it is worth noting that Scripture specifies that **Abel's offering was the 'firstborn of his flock'**, while it **does not say anything comparable about Cain's offering being the first fruits of the ground.**]
 - Cain as a tiller of the ground could only be expected to bring an offering of the fruit of the ground, as that is all that he would have had available to bring. So, there must have been something in connection with what or how Cain gave his offering that was not acceptable to God.
 - Cain became very angry, and his countenance fell, meaning literally that his face dropped down.
- As a result of his anger, God admonishes Cain in verse 7 to do well and be accepted. Unfortunately, Cain did not conquer or rule over his sin as God had advised him. Instead, we see him in verse 8 killing his brother when they were in the field together.
- What we are seeing in verse 7 is a description of sin as a person or beast who wishes to consume or devour Cain. This case gives us a picture of sin being a predator waiting to hunt down its victim. You might recall this Scripture from the NT:

1Pet 5:8 *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.*

Mat. 13:24 *Another parable He put forth to them, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field..... 36 Then Jesus sent the multitude away and went into the house. And His disciples came to Him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field."*

37 *He answered and said to them: "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world...*

- When they were in the field together - the world together - one brother rose up and killed another brother. Cain did not rule over his sin (his anger) and instead, 'Sin' the predator, ruled over him and consumed him.
- **Gen. 4:7** is an interesting verse because it lays out for us the history of Cain, from his disobedience to his future restoration. The counsel God gives him provides an opportunity for repentance and to act by faith, and to be accepted. "If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should [lit. shall] rule over it." The promise to Cain is that he shall rule over his sin. A day of repentance and forgiveness will come. In the same way as Israel, of whom Cain is a type, in the future will experience repentance, forgiveness and acceptance (see 2 Chron.7:14).

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- Here is the foundational picture of ‘the Good Shepherd [who] gives His life for the sheep’. Here also is the foundational type for Israel killing their brother, the Christ and here is a stark warning of what will happen to the [spirit man of the Christian](#) if we remain in the world [with the man of flesh](#).

We will pick up from Gen. 4:9 next time God willing! Let us remain diligent, keeping our focus on the prize!

Questions:

1. Why is it important for us to understand why Adam is a type of Christ?
2. How significant is the promise of the Seed of the woman in Gen. 3:15?
3. Read Matthew 1:1 – How is the Christ described in this verse?
 - a. What promises were given to Abraham and David with respect to the Christ?
4. Read Genesis 4:1-2 – What things can we learn from the first 2 sons of Adam and Eve?
 - a. Their occupation
 - b. How did God feel about their respective offerings?
5. What admonishment, or encouragement, in v.7 does God give Cain as a result of his anger?
6. According to Gen. 4:8, did Cain conquer or rule over his sin as God had advised him?
7. We are told that all this happened when they were in the field together. With a scripture reference, how do we understand the word ‘field’?

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8. What have we learnt for ourselves from what we have covered in this lesson?