



# Blessings and Curses

Romans 3:23 “...for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”

What is sin? The first week of Genesis we talked about this.

Sin is many things...

- **Sin is the disruption of shalom.** The peace and the rightness of what God created. We have violated His peace.
- **Sin is rebellion.** We don't like the way God sets it up. We rebel against God's order of things.
- **Sin is participation in the way of death.** Sin is when we steer things in the opposite direction of God.
- **Sin is missing the mark.** Archery term of missing what you are aiming at.

Augustine said that “ALL sin is pride” or stems from pride.

After sin enters the world, God immediately steps into the situation and starts to set things right.

- **Starts with the serpent:**  
Satan will be crushed when Jesus comes. He will wound Jesus by hurting His people.
- **The woman:**  
The promises God gives the woman are related to the domains he placed under her:
  - The woman was created out of the side of the man--**EQUALS**
  - To be a **MOTHER** of FRUITFUL children
  - The woman was to be a **HELPER** to her husband in creating a God glorifying culture
  - The woman was to live as a **DAUGHTER** of God, her Father
  - She was to be a holy **LOVER**-BECAUSE what was taken from man is reunited with the man

It was promised by God that Eve and all her daughters throughout history would struggle with contentment in their role and their husbands role.

- **The Man:**

The man's promises are related to the domains that God placed under him:

- **Men were meant to be Cultivators** - God created men to cultivate untamed land into a garden after the prototype of Eden (Genesis 2:5-8, 15). If a man gets bored or doesn't love God, he cultivates sin
- **Men were meant to be Warriors** - God created men to rule on His behalf and therefore God's enemies are to be man's enemies.
- **Men were meant to be sages** – God created men to receive knowledge and wisdom and teach that to others, especially their wives and children.

Why did God hand out promises of toil and pain because of our sin? Because God loves us. The snake, the woman, and the man are not depicted as individuals involved in a personal crisis; rather they are representatives. We are left with the impression that this is not their story so much as it is our story, the story of mankind. With great skill the author presents these three participants as the “heads” of their race. The snake, on the one hand, and the man and the woman, on the other, are as two great nations embarking on a great struggle; a struggle that will find its conclusion only by an act of some distant “seed” or “offspring.”

God went looking for Adam in the garden and now, today, God comes looking for us. God took on flesh to bring us home. *2 Corinthians 2:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.*

## Have Questions about Genesis?

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