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Biblical Theology  
Quiz #1

**Genesis 3:15**

“I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel”.

God’s pronouncement of generational curses is a response to the serpent’s deception and Adam and Eve’s disobedience. This verse is in reference to the pronouncement upon Satan. The “enmity” is the imagery of the constant struggle between the offspring of Satan and of Eve. Throughout the Old Testament, the battle rages between the people of God and of Satan. Beginning with Cain and Abel, this story illustrates hatred and jealousy stemming from sin. Even though they were both born of Eve, Cain gave into his sinful desires and becomes part of Satan’s offspring by killing Abel. Enmity is created with our desire to rebel and separate ourselves from God. God waged war against sin. This enmity continues into the flood account. Noah is seen as an offspring of Eve who was righteous and blameless during his time. On the other hand, the world was full of wickedness, as fallen angels/“sons of God” married humans and gave into every evil inclination. God uses the flood to wipe out the human race because the humans were “only evil all the time” (Genesis 6:5). He spares Noah and makes a covenant with him that He will never do this again. The imagery can also be seen in God’s conventional relationship with Abraham and the nation of Israel. God calls Abraham and makes a covenant to bless the people who bless him and curse the ones that curse him. Time and time again, God’s hand is seen in building the nation of Israel. God delivers His people out of Egypt through Moses. The Law was given to help the people see their sins. The nation is blessed when they obey and are disciplined when they do not. Moses, Joshua, and Elijah challenge the Israelite nation to choose God over idols and life over death (Deut 30:15, Josh. 24:14-15; I Kings 18:20).

God chooses the nation of Israel to be a blessing to other nations. The enmity between God and Satan/sin/death continue until the foreshadow of the seed of Eve is fulfilled.

The second part of the passage foreshadows Jesus as, “he will crush your head and you will strike his heel.” This image is seen in the movie, “The Passion of Christ,” where Jesus steps on the head of a serpent when it strikes. The repetition of the offspring or seed that is promised to Abraham points to Jesus. In 2 Samuel 7, God promises that the seed of David would sit on the throne forever. Jesus is the seed of David to crush Satan. Jesus was tempted in the wilderness by Satan, however, Jesus stood firm. Jesus is the offspring of Eve that destroyed Satan on the cross. Although, he was betrayed by Judas which led to Jesus’ death, Jesus defeats Satan in the resurrection. This culminates to Jesus in Paul’s message to the church in Colossae. “Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ’s physical body through death to present you holy in his sight.” (Col 1:21-22). Our sinfulness and evilness align us with Satan and separates us from God. Jesus is the seed that crushes Satan and reconciles us back to Him.

### **Genesis 2: 20b – 23**

But for Adam no suitable helper was found. So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took from the man’s side and then closed up the place with flesh. Then the LORD God made a woman from the part he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. The man said, “This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called ‘woman,’ for she was taken out of man”).

Genesis 2:20-23 is a passage often used at weddings to illustrate God’s design for marriage. God saw that Adam needed a companion and created Eve out of Adam’s rib. Many would tie this passage to Paul’s message of parallelism between husbands/wives and Jesus/and the church in Ephesians 5. The parallel is that Christ is the head and the church is the body. The church (followers of Christ) flow out from Christ. The church is the helper in carrying out His

mission. The role of a husband is to be like Christ in giving up his life for her. The role of a wife is to submit to the head as if submitting to Christ. The imagery is powerful as this depicts the union between a man and a woman.

In addition, God used the pattern of *deep sleep* in His plans. God initially puts Adam into a deep sleep to create Eve. The scriptures show a personal God who cares for His creation. He gives Adam a wife and a bride is born. He also uses the deep sleep in sealing His covenant with Abraham in Genesis 15:12 for a nation. In the passage, God continues to remind Abraham of His promise, but Abraham has not had a child. Abraham could not have an offspring or nation without children. God reassures Abram that his children will be as much as the stars in the night sky. This would also be a child from his flesh and blood. His flesh and blood is a theme that continues to be traced throughout the Old Testament. Abraham believed and was put into deep sleep where the Lord spoke to him and assured him of a great nation. God's covenant with Abraham was sealed in deep sleep. However, the Israelites continued in disobedience which leads to the Messiah that comes from Abraham's lineage. Only in Jesus would the Abrahamic covenant be fulfilled. He died a real death, but overcame death. Jesus' death symbolizes a period of deep sleep because He did not stay down. Abraham becomes a blessing for all the nations through Jesus' death and resurrection.

Adam and Abraham represent types of Jesus Christ. Something followed after they experienced a deep sleep. In Adam's sleep, he receives a bride. In Abraham's sleep, he receives a nation. In Jesus' sleep, there is birth to His bride (the church) and there's a new nation of the people redeemed.