

THE PROMISE OF MESSIAH: WHAT THE BIBLE REVEALS

PreClass PreTest:

1. When did God conceive the plan to rescue humanity from their sin _____?
2. Who told you? _____.

Tonight's Class will be about the first of Old Testament passages that foreshadow the Messiah.



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Wednesdays Adult Bible Class, 7:00 p.m.

Date	Lesson	Lesson Plan
12/9	1	A Revelation of Firsts
12/16	2	The Seed of Woman
12/23	3	The Seed of Abraham
12/30	4	The Seed of Judah
1/6	5	The Prophet like Moses
1/13	6	The King like David
1/20	7	The Priest like Melchizedek
1/27	8	The Messiah in the Early Prophets
2/3	9	The Messiah in the Later Prophets
2/10	10	The Messiah in the Flesh
2/17	11	The Messiah on His Throne
2/24	12	The Messiah Who Comes

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Is Genesis 3:15 prophetic of Messiah?

1. Paul alludes to the passage in **Romans 16:20** where “the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet”.
2. OT scholar Derek Kidner describes the Protoevangelium as "**the first glimmer of the gospel.**"
3. Several early Church fathers, such as **Justin Martyr** (160 AD) and **Irenaeus** (180 AD), regarded this verse "as the first messianic prophecy in the Old Testament."
4. Until modern times, Jewish commentators saw Messiah in this verse. Bereshit Rabba, a rabbinic commentary on Genesis: "**Eve had respect to that seed which is coming from another place. And who is this? This is Messiah the King.**"

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Who is in Genesis 3:15?

1. The Spokesman | Moses designates the speaker as “Jehovah [LORD—KJV] God” (v. 14). The Hebrew term in the first instance is Yahweh — a designation of the self-existing Creator (cf. Ex. 3:14), who will form a special redemptive, covenant relationship with the nation of Israel. The second title is “God” — Elohim. Though the etymology of the term is obscure, it likely derives from a root form meaning “strong.” The name appears to be used mainly of God’s right to govern his world and mankind” (Clark, 239). The combined use of these names lends great force to the utterance that follows.

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Who is in Genesis 3:15?

1. The Serpent | Yahweh's remarks in Genesis 3:15 are addressed to the serpent immediately, though to Satan ultimately (cf. Rom. 16:20). Modernists dismiss the clear import of the biblical record. They allege that Satan is but a "personification of the self-accusing conscience of Israel" (Gray, IV.4298). However, both Testaments of the sacred volume treat him as the personal, arch-enemy of Almighty God. He is the murderer of fallen humanity (Jn. 8:44; Rom. 5:12; Rev 12:9, c.f. 20:2, c.f. 2Cor 11:3). Following his malicious deed, this curse from God previews the devil's horrible destiny.

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Who is in Genesis 3:15?

1. The Woman | Is Eve. But the main focus is not her but her seed or progeny. On the other hand, while there is mention of the serpent's seed, the primary thrust is toward the destruction of the malignant force working through the serpent (i.e. Satan), rather than upon this enemy's seed — though certainly they will share his fate (Mt. 25:41).

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Who is in Genesis 3:15?

1. **The Woman's Seed** | Simply descendants? Or Christ?
 1. The seed promise of this entire book (Gen. 22:18; cf. Gal. 3:8, 16) finds its complete fulfillment in the Savior who, in the fullness of time, was “born of woman” (Gal. 4:4).
 2. “The real question is was “does this statement a shrugging of God’s shoulders in which He dismissed the far-reaching act by saying He will put perpetual enmity” between the Devil and humans or “is it a word of hope, spoken to the first couple about to be dismissed from the presence of God” (Hailey, 10).
 3. “And *he* will”

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Who is in Genesis 3:15?

1. The Seed | Unique?

1. God gave enigmatic prophecies made more explicit in later revelation (see 1 Peter 1:10–12).
2. **Messiah will have a unique beginning**—He will be the seed of the woman. Why is He called the seed of the woman and not the seed of the man?
3. **Messiah will have a supernatural nature**—He'll defeat Satan, a supernatural being. Could man defeat “the prince of the power of the air” (Eph 2:2).
4. **Messiah will be of the human race**—He will be from a woman, not an angel or a visitor from another world—Jesus of Nazareth, born of a woman (Galatians 4:4), who vanquished Satan and sets free those who are in satanic bondage (Heb 2:14–15).