

HEARTBEAT BIBLE STUDY LESSON TWO



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HEARTBEAT BIBLE STUDY

Lesson Two Version 3.2

GOD'S PURPOSE

Student's Outline

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REVIEW

James 1:23-25 (ESV)

For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. [24] For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. [25] But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be _____ in his doing.

GOD'S PURPOSE

Isaiah 43:7 (ESV)

everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

This means that we were created for God's _____, or to bring him _____.

CHAPTER ONE – God Created a Perfect Race

Read Genesis 2:7, 18-25

- God created the first man and called him _____.
- God created the first woman, and Adam called her _____.

The first couple lived in perfect harmony with each other and God because they were with-
out _____.

CHAPTER TWO – Sin Destroyed the Harmony

Read Genesis 2:16-17 and Genesis 3:1-7

- Physical death is a separation of our _____ from our bodies.
- Spiritual death is a separation of our _____ from God, forever.

Romans 6:23a (ESV)

For the wages of sin is death,

Rev. 20:15 (ESV)

And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

The consequences of sin

Sin ruined the harmony man had with _____.

Sin ruined the harmony Adam had with _____.

Sin ruined the harmony man had with his _____.

Sin ruined the harmony man had with his own _____.

CHAPTER THREE – The Promise of a Rescuer/Redeemer

The curse upon the woman was _____ in bearing children.

The curse upon the man was _____ in providing for the family.

The rescuer from this curse is briefly referred to in verse 15, as the one who will bruise Satan's _____,

which refers to a mortal blow or wound he will not recover from.

CHAPTER FOUR – Raising Up a Nation that Would Raise Up the Messiah

Redemption means to _____.

The one who pays the price in full is known as the _____.

Qualifications for a Redeemer:

The Redeemer must be _____ in order to pay for sins.

He must be _____ in order to die.

He must be the one who fulfills all the scriptural _____ written about the Redeemer.

The Redeemer must come from a chosen people.

God calls Abraham (Abram) to begin a new nation. Genesis 12:1-3
 God selects Isaac to continue the line. Genesis 17:15-17 & Genesis 21:1-3
 God selects Jacob over Esau to continue the line. Genesis 32:24-28
 God selects Judah to be the tribe of royalty. Genesis 49:10
 God selects David from the tribe of Judah to be King. 2 Samuel 7:12-16
 God selects Joseph and Mary to be the earthly parents of the Messiah King. Matthew 1:17-21

WHY WE BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST IS THE TRUE MESSIAH

Prophecy	Date Given	Fulfillment	Years Later
<i>Genesis 12:3 Numb. 24:17,19</i>	<i>1400 BC</i>	<i>Matthew 1:1-17</i>	<i>1400</i>
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<i>Isaiah 11:1,10</i>	<i>700 BC</i>	<i>Luke 1:31-33</i>	<i>700</i>
<i>Micah 5:2</i>	<i>700 BC</i>	<i>Luke 2:4,6,7</i>	<i>700</i>
<i>Isaiah 7:14</i>	<i>700 BC</i>	<i>Matthew 1:18-23</i>	<i>700</i>
<i>Isaiah 53:4-6</i>	<i>700 BC</i>	<i>II Corinthians 5:21</i>	<i>700</i>
<i>Psalms 22:14-18</i>	<i>1000 BC</i>	<i>Matthew 27:27-37</i>	<i>1000</i>
<i>Psalms 16:9-10</i>	<i>1000 BC</i>	<i>Acts 2:31</i>	<i>1,000</i>

HOW THE CHAPTERS ABOVE FIT INTO THE FORMAT OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT

1st five—Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Number, Deuteronomy written by Moses
Joshua-Esther—history books—record Israel's history
Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon—poetry books
Isaiah-Malachi—books of prophecy

NEW TESTAMENT

4 gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, John—record the life of Christ
Matthew—sees Jesus as the “Perfect King”
Mark—sees Jesus as the “Perfect Servant”
Luke—sees Jesus as the “Perfect Man”
John—sees Jesus as “God”

Acts—history of the church

Romans-Jude—letters/epistles written as instructions to the churches/individuals

Revelation—book of prophecy

The book of Revelation was written by the Apostle John after he had received a divine revelation about how the world will end. It is the New Testament book of prophecy.

This concludes our Lesson on God's Purpose. Next time we meet we will answer the questions, “Who is Jesus? Is He really God? How does His death pay for sins?”

HOW THE CHAPTERS ABOVE FIT INTO THE FORMAT OF THE BIBLE

Before we finish this lesson we want to give you an overview of how those chapters we referred to in this lesson fit in your Bible. Please turn to the Table of Contents in your Bible.

The Old Testament begins with five books that were written by Moses. They are Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. ⁵ The books from Joshua through Esther are books that record Israel's history from the time of the entrance into the Promised Land under the leadership of General Joshua (Moses' second in command), to the time of their return from exile in Babylon under the leadership of Governor Nehemiah. These are all considered "history" books.

The books: Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon are what the Jews called their books of Poetry. ⁶

The books from Isaiah all the way through Malachi are books of prophecy that predict what will happen to the nation of Israel and what will happen to the world in the end times.

The New Testament begins with four gospels. The word gospel means "good news" and these books record for us the life of Jesus who came to bring good news to the captives. That's us by the way, we were held captive by our sins until he set us free. The book of Matthew sees Jesus as the "Perfect King." The book of Mark sees Jesus as the "Perfect Servant." The book of Luke sees Jesus as the "Perfect Man." The book of John sees Jesus as "God."

The book of Acts is the history of the church from the ascension of Jesus into heaven to the imprisonment of Paul. What Jesus began to do in the Gospels, he continued to do through the church as recorded in the book of Acts, which was setting men free from their sin and making them disciples of Christ, a spiritual army doing battle with Satan.

The books from Romans through Jude are all letters (sometimes called epistles) written by the apostles and the brothers of Christ who gave instructions to churches or individuals on how to live the Christian life. Most of the letters were written to churches in various cities, some letters were written to groups of churches, and some letters were written to individuals.

⁵ Genesis is the Greek word for beginning (the titles come from the Septuagint translation of the Bible, which is a Greek translation written around 200-150 BC). Genesis tells us the story of the beginning of creation, the beginning of mankind, and the beginning of the Hebrew nation. Exodus is Greek for exit. Exodus tells us the story of how Israel exited Egypt and headed for the Promised Land. Leviticus refers to the Levites, who were people from the tribe of Levi who were selected to be teachers of God's Law in every community. Israel's priests came from the tribe of Levi and they were descendants of Aaron, Moses' brother. The Law, which we spoke of earlier, was recorded in Exodus and Leviticus. The book of Numbers records most of the history of Israel's wandering through the wilderness on their way to the Promised Land and refers to the numbering of the people of Israel in a census. The book of Deuteronomy in Greek refers to two words, deuterios meaning two, and nomos, meaning law. This was the second time the law was written down for the people. Moses felt they needed a reminder before they went in to the Promised Land and so for their benefit he repeated the entire law for them one more time.

⁶ Job deals with the timeless question of why do the innocent suffer. Psalms is Israel's hymnbook and is filled with marvelous songs of worship and deep theology. Proverbs was written mostly by Solomon, David's son, who knew more about life than any other human being and so wrote wise sayings (Proverbs) to give us all wisdom to know how to live life to the fullest. Ecclesiastes is Solomon's book he wrote towards the end of his life after he discovered that pursuing worldly happiness only leads to despair. The Song of Solomon is a very romantic and passionate love story between King Solomon and his wife.

HEARTBEAT BIBLE STUDY

Lesson Two—GOD'S PURPOSE

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This is the complete lesson from which the teacher taught.

In our last lesson we asked you to give us an indication of which junction you were at in your decision making process regarding the Bible. Either you needed more information to make a decision about whether or not it is God's word, or you agreed that the Bible was God's word but you didn't know where to go from here and were a little hesitant to step out into the unknown, or you were ready and willing to obey whatever God asked you to do in His word. Whichever junction you are at, we hope that you are ready to consider next, the premise that obedience to God's word, no matter what, will always produce a blessing and a positive result for you.

That's what James was trying to tell us in

James 1:23-25 (ESV)

For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. [24] For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. [25] But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

That positive result we just mentioned is literally a forgiven life. What we mean by that is that when we disobey God our Creator we are guilty of rebellion against Him. There is a just punishment headed our way for breaking God's Law, but once we have seen how we can be forgiven (Lessons Three and Four) and receive His forgiveness, then we will be blessed in our continuing walk of obedience as we live with Him in peace. We then become a force for good and righteousness in this world, carrying out God's purposes in all that we do.

GOD'S PURPOSE

This brings us to the topic of God's purpose. It helps to ask the question, "Why did God make the earth? Why did God create humans? Why am I here?" The answers to these questions can be found in one Bible verse tucked away in the book of Isaiah. It is...

Isaiah 43:7 (ESV)

everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

¹ Just as the Mona Lisa honors the painter Leonardo Da Vinci for his skills as an artist, so do humans reflect in many ways the beauty of our creator. However, that's just the beginning. The Redeemed, as noted above, bring greater honor to God for they reflect more of his nature and qualities to the universe because God has put within them His Spirit who is transforming their personalities to become like Christ. The difference between the glory of simply being human and the glory of being Christ-like is the difference between the glory of a candle and the glory of the sun.

This verse tells us that we were created for God's **glory** which is another way of saying that the reason for our existence is to bring **honor** to God. ¹ This verse tells us that out from among the world's peoples as a whole, is a group that is called by His name. That special group is known as His redeemed.

The theme of the Bible from Genesis through Revelation is the story of how God purchased a people (the Redeemed) from out of the world so that man could again know God and have fellowship with Him. That story begins in Genesis.

THE STORY: CHAPTER ONE – God Created a Perfect Race

Read Genesis 2:7, 18-25. The Bible says that God started the human race by creating the very first couple. God called the man **Adam**, and Adam called his wife **Eve**. The two lived in perfect harmony with each other and with God enjoying all that God had given them in this perfect environment called the Garden of Eden. The reason they were able to live in perfect harmony was because they were without **sin**. That perfect environment did not last long however. Something happened that destroyed the harmony between Adam and Eve and the couple and God.

THE STORY: CHAPTER TWO – Sin Destroyed the Harmony

One of the qualities God gave to mankind was the ability, at first, to have a genuinely free will. ² God is infinitely more pleased to be worshiped by creatures who willingly and gladly give Him praise than by an army of robots who do it because they are programmed to do so. That being the case, God gave Adam and Eve an opportunity in the Garden of Eden to daily make a choice that would signal their desire to continue worshiping and obeying God. That choice is laid out for them in Genesis 2:16-17. Let's read that passage.



Every time Adam and Eve walked past the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil and refused to eat from it, was an act of worship and obedience to God.

Genesis 2:16-17 (ESV)
And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden,

[17] but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

The tree of the "knowledge of good and evil" was set apart as off limits to the couple. They could lean up against it, carve their initials in it if they wanted to, but they were not to eat of it, and if they did, God warned them severely that they would die as a result.

As long as Adam and Eve continued obeying, everything was kept in harmony in their world. All of that changed one day however, when Adam failed to protect his wife from Satan's sinful seductions. Not

2. After the fall of man that ability was lost as part of the consequence and damage of sin. For more information about what was lost at the fall we recommend reading Chapter 24, entitled Sin, of Systematic Theology by Wayne Grudem, published by Zondervan.

wrote. Most of the book of Psalms was written by David, and many of those Psalms foretold the coming and suffering of the future Messiah, David's grandson down his line of descendants some 1,000 years later. **Read 2 Samuel 7:12-16.**

God selects Joseph and Mary to be the earthly parents of the Messiah King

Two of David's descendants were engaged to be married. They knew about their royal heritage, but in the day they lived, some 1,000 years after their ancestor David was King, the throne was occupied by an imposter called Herod. They were two poor, young, and godly people who said yes when God spoke to them through the angel Gabriel and informed them that they would be the parents of the Messiah King who was coming from heaven to live on earth in their family and was to be born as a baby in Bethlehem by the Virgin Mary. This Jesus is our messiah Savior and would become the Redeemer we have been talking about who would pay for our sins. ⁴ **Read Matthew 1:17-21**

WHY WE BELIEVE JESUS CHRIST IS THE TRUE MESSIAH

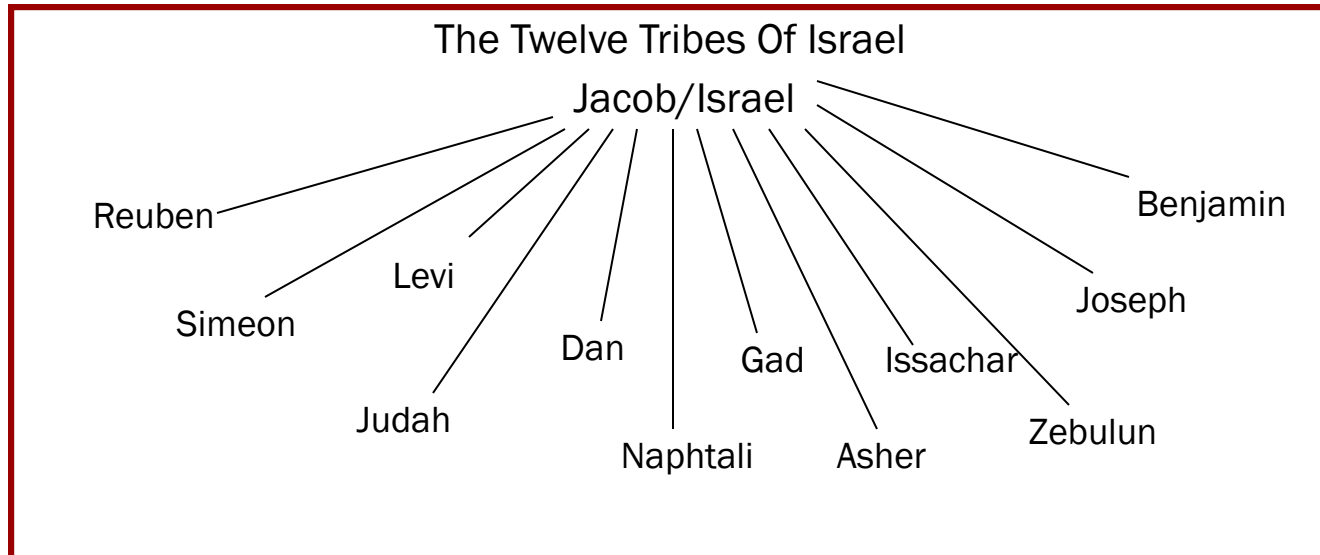
What makes Christianity different than all other religions is that Christians believe that Jesus Christ is the divine (meaning He is God) Messiah who alone can take away sins. The following predictions (prophecies) made about Jesus in the Old Testament and fulfilled in the New Testament, prove to us that He is who He says He is, the one and only Savior of mankind.

Let's examine some of the following key prophecies in the Old Testament that confirm that Jesus Christ is the "Rescuer," Redeemer," "Messiah," "Savior" that the Jews were waiting for. He not only is their "Rescuer," Redeemer," "Messiah," "Savior" but he is ours as well.

Prophecy	Date Given	Fulfillment	Years Later
<i>Genesis 12:3 Numb. 24:17,19</i>	1400 BC	<i>Matthew 1:1-17</i>	1400
<i>Genesis 49:10</i>	1400 BC	<i>Luke 1:31-33</i>	1400
<i>Isaiah 11:1,10</i>	700 BC	<i>Luke 1:31-33</i>	700
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<i>Isaiah 7:14</i>	700 BC	<i>Matthew 1:18-23</i>	700
<i>Isaiah 53:4-6</i>	700 BC	<i>II Corinthians 5:21</i>	700
<i>Psalms 22:14-18</i>	1000 BC	<i>Matthew 27:27-37</i>	1000
<i>Psalms 16:9-10</i>	1000 BC	<i>Acts 2:31</i>	1,000

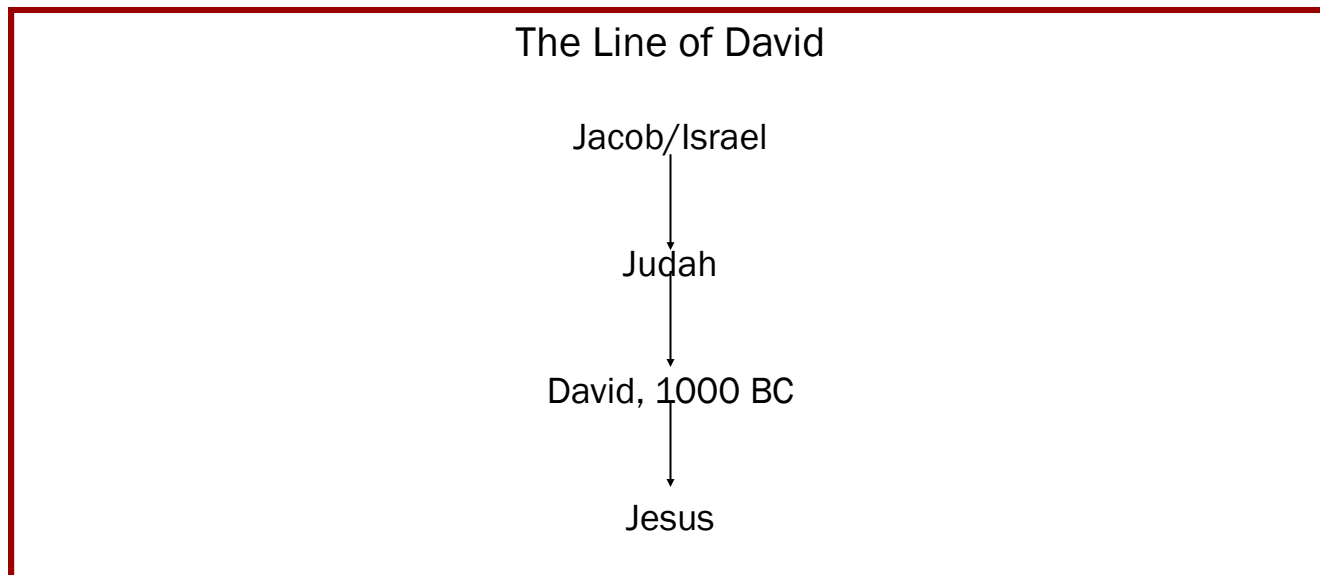
Next week we want to begin telling you more about our Redeemer and about how by putting our faith and trust in him we can become members of that race of people that God talked about in the Garden of Eden, the seed of the woman, that was to do battle with Satan and in that battle they would win victoriously.

4 This Jesus is also called the "Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world" by John the Baptist at Jesus' baptism. He is called the Lamb of God because in the Old Testament law, lambs were used as substitute sacrifices to temporarily cover over people's sins. Unfortunately, those lambs were not capable of truly removing people's sins forever; only the perfect sacrifice Jesus Christ was able to do that.



Read **Genesis 32:24-28**. Here we find Jacob wrestling with the angel of the Lord (could this be Jesus?). As strange as it sounds, we see Jacob seemingly getting the upper hand. Asking for a blessing, Jacob is re-named Israel by the angel of the Lord, saying that Jacob had been one who persevered.

God selects Judah to be the tribe of royalty



Jacob had twelve sons that became, in Egypt, the twelve tribes of Israel. While in Egypt, Jacob chose Judah, and in a prophecy gave Judah's descendants the gift of royalty. One future family member out of Judah's descendants would be given the honor of being chosen as the King of Israel. **Read Genesis 49:10**

God selects David, from the tribe of Judah, to be King

That person was King David who while still a shepherd boy, was chosen by God to be the King of Israel. David was a man after God's own heart and he showed that kind of devotion in the Psalms that he

only did she disobey God and eat from the tree but her husband followed her lead and ate also. Read **Genesis 3:1-7**.

Once Adam and Eve chose to rebel against God, they then suffered the immediate consequences of that disobedience which was to die. Their death was twofold. It was a physical death and a spiritual death. Regarding their physical deaths, that began immediately to happen as Adam and Eve instantly became mortal. Had they never sinned, death would not have been a part of their future, they would have lived forever. Yet now that sinned entered the human race because of their decision to rebel against God, they would experience a physical death some 900 years later, a death that would separate their souls from their bodies.

Regarding their spiritual death, Adam and Eve sensed that immediately as well also. They no longer lived in perfect harmony with God after disobeying him and hence they found themselves hiding from him, while at the same time trying to position fig leaves to hide their nakedness from each other and God. This is a picture of spiritual death. Spiritual death is a separation from God forever. The place where souls will be kept from the presence of God's mercy is called hell. Let's look at two Scripture verses that reinforce the severity of this situation. The first is. . .

[Romans 6:23a \(ESV\)](#)

[For the wages of sin is death,](#)

The second is. . .

[Revelation 20:15 \(ESV\)](#)

[And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.](#)

These two verses are sobering reminders that all those who die in their sins will face an eternal judgment. These Heartbeat Lessons are all about revealing God's plan of rescue so that we will be rescued from the anguish of hell, and placed into a wonderful, special relationship with God.

Before all of that is explained however, let's do a quick review. Physical death is a separation of our **souls** from our bodies. Spiritual death is a separation of our **souls** from God, forever. This penalty for sin is important to remember. It will come up again later when we find in our study that God will require the penalty payment to be made by his holy substitute, the Messiah.

The Consequences of Sin

The damage done by sin (rebellion against God) destroyed many things in Adam and Eve's life. Sin ruined the harmony they had with **God**, which we already discussed. Sin ruined the harmony Adam and **Eve** had with each other, which meant no more perfect marriage. Sin ruined the harmony Adam and Eve had with their **environment**. After that day the land was cursed to no longer provide food easily for the human family. Sin also ruined the harmony Adam and Eve had with their **bodies**. Broken health is a byproduct of the curse of being mortal, and that was the immediate consequence God warned them about if they chose to sin against him.

Once sin entered the human race, the Garden of Eden was no longer the paradise it started out to be. All the suffering in this world, from broken relationships, broken environments, even broken health, can be traced back to the curse of sin upon the human family that originated with Adam in the Garden.

THE STORY: CHAPTER THREE – The Promise of a Rescuer/Redeemer

At this point in our story, everything looks extremely grim. Man has lost everything that was important to him, everything necessary to make him *truly* happy because he sinned and rebelled against God. There is tremendous sadness in the Garden and a sense of utter despair. That is man's condition today.

Our lives are sad stories of hurt done to others because of our sin, or hurt done to us because of their sin. We know we aren't living the way we were designed to live, just look around at the mess the world is in. Deep down inside of every person they know that to be true once they are exposed to these facts. They know that peace is found in being in right relationship with God, our spouse, our family, our bodies, and our environment. Some of those things can be restored in our life today; some of them will be restored when God makes everything new; but none of it can be restored unless God sends a rescuer redeemer to remove the penalty of sin upon us.

That promise came quickly. It came in the Garden while God was addressing Adam and Eve and Satan for their disobedience. In the midst of the curse came a promise of rescue. Read Genesis 3:14-19.

In verse sixteen we read of God's curse upon the woman. Can you put in your own words what that curse was? ³

In verses seventeen through nineteen, we read of God's particular curse upon the man. Can you put in your own words what that curse was?

In summary then we can say that the curse upon the woman was **pain** in bearing children. The curse upon the man was **pain** in providing for the children.

Tucked away in verse fifteen is an amazing promise of one who will come and defeat Satan, (and sin). God refers to that person in the third person masculine singular, (he) and says that he will bruise Satan's **head**, a mortal wound, while Satan will only bruise his heel, a temporary wound. Since Satan is not a physical creature and cannot be killed physically, this prophecy must indicate something other than death. Most scholars believe this is a promise of the future Redeemer, yet to come, who will by some action, take away all of Satan's power to hurt us. We will be discussing this in detail in Lesson Three.

One more piece to the puzzle of God's plan of redemption is seen in verse fifteen as well. Notice there that God referenced two groups of people. Satan's seed and the woman's seed are mentioned and this seems to be the setting of the stage of the great war between two peoples. One is bent on evil and the destruction of all that is good. The other is bent on good and the destruction of all that is evil. The leader of the first band is Satan. The leader of the second band is the future Messiah. This means that the woman's seed that is hated by Satan's seed is all her offspring that will live righteously by faith in God and Christ. That included her son Abel who was killed by Cain and another son named Seth who lived righteously before God. That line continued through history and now includes every person who believes in Jesus as Savior and Lord by faith.

This brings us to the heart of God's strategy to raise up a Rescuer/Redeemer. Since God knew all of this was going to be required in eternity past, the members of the Godhead had already worked out a plan whereby the sin of those who were to be rescued would be paid for in full by a substitute sufferer. That strategy is what the next section is all about.

THE STORY: CHAPTER FOUR – Raising Up a Nation that Would Raise Up the Messiah

We have been referencing a person in our studies we have called the Rescuer/Redeemer. We all know what a rescuer is; but not everyone knows what a redeemer is. When a person goes to the pawn shop and leaves a watch with the owner in exchange for a short term loan, and then later returns to the shop with the full payment to get the watch back again, he is said to be *redeeming* his watch. That means that he is buying back his watch. So, redemption means **to buy back**. The one who pays the price in full is known as the **redeemer**.

³ The particular curse upon the woman was to suffer pain in childbirth, but more significantly she was going to be driven to control her husband. The word desire there is the same word found in Genesis 4:7 where God said to Cain that sin's desire is for you, indicating sin's nature to control our actions. Since Adam was supposed to protect Eve and didn't, now Eve was going to protect herself in her own sinful ways. We can see that same response today in relationships where a man did not protect the woman he was supposed to protect.

We have already shown that man has to pay the price of his sin, which is death. We have briefly mentioned that man is unable to escape paying the penalty. That leaves us with a need to have someone pay the penalty for us and that person is our redeemer.

Qualifications for a Redeemer:

There are a number of factors that limit the eligibility of those who qualify for the title of our Redeemer. First of all he must be **sinless** because only a perfect sinless sacrifice is sufficient to pay for someone else's sins. That eliminates every sinful human being and leaves us with only one possibility. That redeemer must be divine. Not only does he have to be divine but he also has to be **human!** No spirit being can pay the penalty of death unless he becomes a physical human being. That redeemer must also be one who fulfills all the Scriptural **promises** regarding the coming of the redeemer and there are many.

The Redeemer must come from a special people.

Earlier we looked at the promise that the Messiah would come from the woman's seed as opposed to Satan's seed. Eve had a godly son whose name was Seth. He started a line of descendants that were for the most part godly people. That line of people was the target of Satan's attacks right from the beginning of time but God protected his chosen line from destruction. The coming messiah would have to come from this line.

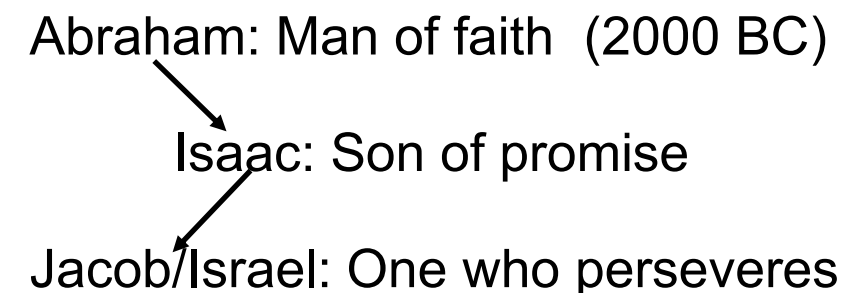
God selects Abraham

At the appropriate time God called a man from that line of people to begin a new nation. That man's name was Abraham.

Read Genesis 12:1-3. Notice that there is a clue in verse three that the Messiah would be the fulfillment of this prophecy in that God says through Abraham all the peoples of the earth would be blessed. That is not possible other than through the spiritual capabilities of Jesus Christ as Messiah and Savior.

God selects Isaac to continue the line

Abraham would have a son in his old age and would name him Isaac. That son would be known as the son of promise, and he would begin a line of people known as the chosen line of promise.



Read Genesis 17:15-17; and, Genesis 21:1-3

God selects Jacob to continue the line.

When Isaac married Rebekah he had two sons. One of those sons was the son through whom the line would continue and the Messiah would be born. His name was Jacob.