

## The Word of God – 17

*Ge 1:3 ¶ Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day.*

We see then God acting sovereignly to begin the process of the creation's restoration – bringing light where there was only darkness and making a division between the two. This is entirely God's work as the ruined creation is completely unable to help itself.

The total restoration of the creation takes another five days – followed by a day of rest. Setting the pattern that must be followed.

Then in God's dealing with Satan, after the Fall of the Man and the Woman, He makes the promise of salvation for Man through the work of a Redeemer - *Ge 3:15 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."*

The seed of the woman is the Lord Jesus Christ

The bruising of His heel is the cross of Calvary

And bruising the head of Satan speaks clearly of taking Satan's crown and overthrowing his rulership and replacing him with a new group of rulers - those whom God had created for that very purpose – Mankind, as coheir with His Son - *Heb 2:5 ¶ For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels.*

Adam heard what God said in Genesis 3:15 and believed Him. He exercised faith towards the coming Redeemer. Then Adam acted as a result of that faith - *Ge 3:20 ¶ And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.*

Changing the name from Woman to Eve is enormously significant

Remember we are all born - Eph 2:1 ¶ *...dead in trespasses and sins,*

It is only by placing faith in God's provision for redemption that we pass from 'death unto life' - this is what 'the mother of all living' refers to - Adam's faith in God's promise to redeem His creation.

It is in direct response to Adam's faith that God then acts providing the first picture in scripture of how that redemption will be accomplished - Ge 3:21 ¶ *Also for Adam and his wife the LORD God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.*

And here is the next part of the foundational picture of redemption – redemption is based on death and shed blood and is performed as a sovereign act of God completely apart from the one being redeemed. Just as we saw with the earth at the beginning of Genesis – Heb 9:22b...*without shedding of blood there is no remission.*

Adam and Eve having become what we would call, 'eternally lost', because of sin, a spiritual death, are now eternally saved by an act of God's grace and their faith in His provision of a covering for their sin.

Salvation by grace through faith is not a NT idea, it is a God idea that has been in place since the beginning.

The details of the picture of the Redeemer are then added to in – Ge 4:8 ¶ *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.*

What we see here is that Cain represents the nation of Israel and Abel the Lord Jesus Christ. When both of these are in the field together, in the world together, as they were at Christ's first coming, one would be responsible for killing the other. Which is exactly what happened.

More detail of the Redeemer is then given in - Ge 22:1 ¶ *Now it came to pass after these things that God tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 2 Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."*

Here we see the son of promise, whom his father loved, being offered as a sacrifice.

Jesus is the Son who was promised, who was His Father's beloved Son, who was offered as a sacrifice on the same mountain 2000 years later.

These are the only two incidents of human sacrifice in relation to God in the scriptures. One pointing to the other.

These examples also teach us about how redemption happens – notice there is death and shed blood in each. Then with Abraham and Isaac another detail is given to us, the provision of a substitute – the ram caught in the thicket – whose death God accepts in place of Isaac – who did die, from God's perspective.

More next time – If the Lord is willing.