

The Devil's Burden

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Genesis 3:14-15.
- B. This is the word of God to the devil after the Fall of man.
- C. God brings us back little by little to the place where we can admit our wrong—this is the only grounds of healing.
- D. When we are ready to stop defending ourselves, we have a perfect defense in the Father.

II. God curses Satan in the Garden.

- A. Satan is “the shining one” in the Garden—he appears to Eve as an angel of light.
- B. Satan was cursed to “eat dust” referring to his degradation.
- C. Satan tempted Eve to be like God as he once sought to do, but judgment was only being given to him on this planet.
- D. Satan’s judgment was continual humiliation and failure.
 - 1. In life, it does not appear that good always wins though.
 - 2. We have to wait until the end of the story.

III. The protoevangelion: the first promise of the redeemer.

- A. It predicts an unending enmity that exists between two classes of humanity.
 - 1. Between Eve and the devil.
 - 2. Between the woman’s seed and the devil’s seed.
 - a. This is prophetic of the important doctrine of the Virgin Birth.
 - b. All other lines of descent are traced through the man.
- B. The one who is to bruise Satan’s head is Jesus Christ.
- C. The events of the cross were the bruising of Jesus—the resurrection was the crushing of Satan.
- D. All that are in Christ are a part of this as well. (Romans 16, II Timothy 1:1)
- E. We all are born of the devil, but those who received the promise by faith become children of God. There is enmity between these principles within.

IV. The devil's burden is that the victories he receives become his defeats.

A. People are desperately looking for reality—they are seeking an answer in a world filled with problems.

B. In our weakness, we are made strong—this is the devil's burden.

Application questions:

1. How is Satan's defeat similar to the believer's victory?

2. What is the protoevangelion? How might this foreshadow Jesus?

3. How can the believer render Satan's power ineffective? How have you seen this work in your own life?
