

Remnant Life Church  
01.29.23  
**The First Prophecy**  
Gen 3:14-15

We have looked at what prophecy, a prophetic gifting, and a prophet is

- Specifically, what makes them different
- How are they different from the world's twisted usage of them by mediums and spiritists

We also took last week to examine what the Bible says about these things and why we are to have nothing to do with what satan has done to truth of God's gift

This morning, I want to begin looking at some specific prophetic words given in the Bible, why they were important, and how they impact us today.

**READ – Genesis 3:14-15**

In what we just read is the first prophecy recorded in the Bible

- And fittingly, it is about Jesus
- We also see that by God's own pronouncement we are given the absolute proof that prophecy was first given by God.

The first prophecy became necessary because of the introduction of sin into God's creation

- Adam and Eve disobeyed God (**Gen 3:6**)
- The sin was born out of their desire for independence and the need to be in control of their own lives the results of which led to God placing a curse on Adam, Eve, the serpent, and the earth itself
- This sin of independence from God has carried down through the millennia passed through the sin nature of man from generation to generation
- Let me give you an example of the mind that seeks independence from God's love as well as what it is capable of when God is absent
  - On April 19, 1995 Timothy McVeigh set off a 7000 lb. bomb in front of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City
    - It killed 168 people (of which 19 were children as there was a daycare facility on-site) and injured another 800
    - He was executed for his crime on June 11, 2001
    - As is the custom, just prior to the moment of execution, the condemned is permitted to speak his last words
    - McVeigh quoted a poem written by the Victorian era British poet William Ernest Henley, an agnostic, entitled *Invictus*
      - Listen to the words that echo exactly what ushered in the first sin that would stain the line of all humanity

*Out of the night that covers me; Black as the pit from pole to pole,  
I thank whatever gods may be; For my unconquerable soul.*

*In the fell clutch of circumstance; I have not winced nor cried aloud.  
Under the bludgeonings of chance; My head is bloody, but unbowed.*

*Beyond this place of wrath and tear; Looms but the Horror of the shade,  
And yet the menace of the years; Finds, and shall find, me unafraid.*

*It matters not how strait the gate; How charged with punishments the scroll,  
I am the master of my fate; I am the captain of my soul.*

- McVeigh's last words were the all-too-familiar declaration of man that *I am the captain of my soul*
- And it was that very same proclamation that was at the core of sin entering into the heart of man
- Because of sin, God had to separate Himself from His creation
  - God's creation that He called "very good" had to be cast out of the perfection of the Garden and condemned to live in the fallen world
  - Eternally separated from the love and light of God

Because of their sin, God pronounces 3 curses as punishment

- The first on Adam, the second on Eve, and the third on the serpent or satan
- It is within this third curse that we see the first prophecy
- God says in **Gen 3:15** – *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; He will crush your head and you will bruise His heel.*

We will divide this verse into three parts

1. I will put enmity between you and the woman...
  - a. This is not saying that women will always be afraid of snakes (not only women to be sure)
    - i. Indeed, there is a seemingly inbred hatred of snakes for most all people
    - ii. You see this in virtually every cultural reference as being universally understood
  - b. Rather, God is saying that mankind, the seed or fruit of the woman, will forever be divided, with a pronounced and eternal struggle, into 2 groups – the godly and the ungodly, who are understood to be the seed of satan
    - i. And we see the evidence of those two camps almost immediately in the first two sons born to Adam and Eve
    - ii. Cain and Abel the one notably evil and the other following and obedient to God
    - iii. The "seed of woman" refers to true believers of all time and the "seed of the devil" refers to unbelievers who align themselves with Satan against the true God (**John 8:44**).
    - iv. Throughout the entirety of history these two opposing groups have been present

- v. Yet even though the word enmity means hostility and hatred, we must be fully aware that Jesus came and taught that we are to love our enemies (Luke 6:27-36)

2. ...and between your offspring and hers...

- a. Again, offspring in this usage, means the descendants
  - i. But it goes even deeper in meaning which will lead us to the first prophetic word
  - ii. The seed or offspring of the woman is the vehicle through which Jesus would come to earth...
  - iii. And because of that, it perpetuates or enforces that there will always be contention with satan and his offspring, those who reject God, and the seed of the woman, the earthly line of Jesus
  - iv. And within that curse of God on the serpent, lies the first implicit promise of God's plan of redemption for the world
- b. When we understand that the heart of godly men and women are forever set against the serpent...
  - i. ...we can then more readily recognize why satan disguises himself and the temptation when he comes to try and lure us away from God the things of God
  - ii. There is rarely the temptation that is overtly gross or heinous
    - 1. It is cloaked in the lie of being pleasing, fun, exciting, and appealing to the flesh
    - 2. We must be able to know the difference between what satan wants us to do and what we know God's Word tells us
  - iii. We would not participate in such things that were obvious
  - iv. And so it is disguised, made to appear attractive, and like the fruit in the Garden pleasing to the eye

First, there will be enmity between the snake and the woman

Second, enmity between her offspring (the godly) and the snake's (the ungodly)

3. He will crush your head and you will bruise His heel.

- a. The words crush and bruise are very different in their meaning and intensity of action
  - i. To crush means to vanquish or kill
  - ii. To bruise means to injure
- b. satan bruised Jesus when He went to the cross
  - i. Never miss the fact that what appeared to be a victory for the enemy was actually the fulfillment of why Jesus came to walk among us in the first place
    - 1. God is in control of all things in spite of the appearance of things to our natural eyes, ears, and minds
    - 2. It was true then, and it is still true today
  - ii. Yet, the disciples thought that Jesus had lost



1. Where were they when Jesus came to them for the first time following the resurrection?
  - a. In a room huddled together
  - b. Behind a locked door
  - c. All but Judas and Thomas
2. They deserted Him in the Garden
3. Only John is recorded as being present at Golgotha at the foot of the cross
- iii. The Romans had executed Jesus on behalf of and at the insistence of the Jewish leaders and the people
  1. Pilate had no vested interest in this desert prophet or His theological views
  2. All he wanted was peace so that it would not get back to Rome and Caesar that he could not do his job well
  3. What Pilate did was purely political in nature
- iv. And for anyone else that viewed or heard of the crucifixion it would have appeared to have been the end
- v. But not for Jesus!
- c. When Sunday morning came everything changed
  - i. When Jesus rose from the grave satan was crushed
  - ii. Yes, Jesus had been bruised – He had been injured severely on the cross
    1. But He had not been crushed
    2. Jesus WILLINGLY surrendered His life – it was not taken from Him
    3. He had been bruised, but satan had been crushed!
  - iii. The prophecy spoken by God in the Garden, in part, had been fulfilled
    1. Why do I say in part?
    2. Because satan's final defeat, his final punishment in the Lake of Fire, is yet to come (*Rev 20:10*)
    3. But the prophetic words spoken in *Gen 3:14* were being fulfilled by the resurrection of Jesus Christ
  - iv. And in that victory, Jesus provided a way for every man and woman, every boy and girl, for every one of us to be reunited with the Father
    1. Freed from the curse of sin and the penalty of death
    2. Jesus paid the price for us!
    3. It was spoken several thousand years before it happened

The very first prophetic word - the first prophecy - was not spoken regarding only a moment in time, but it was to impact all of eternity.

It was not a word to be shown evident in one person's life, but the lives of all humanity for all time

It was not a word given out of a selfish desire to be looked at in awe and wonder, but it was given in pure love

*John 3:16 – For God so loved the world, that He sent His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him, would never die, but have eternal life.*