

"The Consequences of Sin"

Part 2

Genesis 3:16

**Introduction:** This week marks our 6<sup>th</sup> study from one of the most important chapters in the Bible. We have been looking at Genesis 3 and the reason I say it is one of the most important chapters in the Bible is for several reasons:

1. It reveals the ways of Satan.
2. It tells us how sin entered into the world.
3. It tells us why it is that life is so difficult at times.
4. It tells of the very first promise of Jesus Christ.
5. It tells us how God requires a "blood sacrifice" for our sins.
6. It tells us of the consequences of sin.
7. It tells us of the love which God has for all mankind.

The list goes on and on but you can see just from these points the importance of this chapter in God's Word.

Now last week we started into a study within this chapter on the consequences of sin and in that study last week we looked at a verse that is a treasury of spiritual truth.

**Notice Genesis 3:15**

This was the verse which we looked at. Here in this verse we find the very first promise of Jesus Christ.

Within this verse God announced to Satan and all who read the verse that there would be a Man Who would come from the offspring of the woman who would eventually "bruise" his head. The word "bruise" means to "crush" and so the meaning is the Man born of the woman would eventually bring about the defeat of Satan.

Now Satan did not know when his Executioner would be born but he did know 2 things:

1. His Executioner would be a Man.
2. He would come from the offspring of Eve.

Therefore, Satan was determined from that day forward to destroy the Seed of the woman who was Jesus Christ. His first attempt is found in Genesis 4 when he caused Cain to rise up against his brother Abel and he killed him. Another attempt is seen in the book of Exodus when Pharaoh gave the command to have all the Israelite baby boys put to

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death. It can be seen in the days when Jesus was born and Herod gave the command to kill all the babies from 2 years old and under. There were many other attacks also.

Now Satan was unable to stop the birth of Christ and to stop Him from paying the penalty for our sins. But Satan has not given up. He is doing all he can to gather an army of people to fight against God at the battle of Armageddon.

Now listen carefully. If you are saved you carry the Son of God within you and it is the message of the Gospel which will set people free from the control of Satan.

So Satan's attack is now against us for we are the body of Christ and when we are serving God Satan and his demonic spirits are at work to stop the spread of the Gospel. Therefore, the consequence of that sin in the garden is "spiritual warfare".

That was the judgment upon the Serpent.

## I. "The Curse on the Woman"

### Part 1

This verse contains so much information that we will not be able to cover it all today. So we will divide this up into a couple of messages.

This study has been such a blessing to me and I trust it will be a real blessing to you also.

## A. The Consequences

### 1. Sorrow

#### Notice Genesis 3:16

The first thing I want to draw your attention to in this verse is the word "sorrow". It is used twice in this verse and it will apply to 2 areas of the woman's life.

Now when God says He will multiply her sorrow please understand that she had no sorrow before her sin. So God is not saying that He would multiply something which already existed. You see before sin entered into the world there was no pain, suffering, sorrow, tears, bloodshed, or death.

All of these things came as a result of sin entering into the world. So do not look at this and think that she had sorrow before the fall because she didn't. But because of the sin

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the woman would have sorrow in many areas of her life but there were 2 areas where her sorrow would be multiplied.

**Notice Genesis 3:16 again.**

- ✓ With her children. - "In sorrow thou shall bring forth children"
- ✓ With her husband. - "AND thy desire shall be to thy husband"

The word "and" in this verse is a connective which means it connects the sorrow she would experience as a mother she will also experience in her relationship with her husband.

Now before we get into the sorrow there are 2 points we need to see which are very important:

- a. **The sorrow which the woman experiences with her children and her family is divine judgment.**

If we look closely at the verse we can see that God said **HE** would greatly multiply her sorrow. Therefore the sorrow which a woman experiences with her children or husband is not natural consequences but it is divine judgment. You see this was not just for Eve but it is a divine judgment which all woman experience in their lives.

This causes me to raise a question:

**Why does God allow this judgment to touch the life of all women?**

Ladies you need to listen closely, it is a reminder of just how terrible sin is. The pain you feel in your life with your children and your husband is there to remind you of the sin which was committed in the Garden of Eden and the terribleness of that sin.

- b. **Her judgment was directly related to her sin.**

There is something here that all of us need to pay very close attention to.

Let's notice the sin of Eve.

**Notice Genesis 3:6**

I want to show you something in this verse that is very important. When Eve ate the forbidden fruit she was seeking a personal enjoyment which she thought was being withheld from her. She sought enjoyment and pleasure apart from God. She thought God was withholding joy from her so she ate the fruit which He had commanded her not to eat.

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Now, think with me where it is that the majority of women seek to find enjoyment and pleasure today. Is it not with her children and her husband? It is these 2 areas of her life that she seeks the enjoyment and the pleasure which she desires.

Notice what Paul says about these 2 areas of the woman's life.

### **Titus 2:3-4**

<sup>3</sup> *The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things;*

<sup>4</sup> *That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children.*

It is in these 2 areas of her life today that she feels the greatest pain.

Eve sinned in her pursuit of enjoyment and now the divine consequences of her sin would be that in the 2 areas where she would expect to find her greatest joy she would find the greatest misery.

Before we go on there is something which needs to be said here, this does not mean that a woman who is a wife and a mother is in a constant state of sorrow and emotional pain. There is joy in motherhood and there is joy to be found with her husband. But it is also true that there are no greater areas of pain which a woman can feel than with her children and with her husband.

### **Application:**

Just as the sin of Eve was directly related to the consequences so it is the divine pattern for all sin which we commit.

Let me give you some verses which will support this.

### **Galatians 6:7**

<sup>7</sup> *Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.*

Let me show you David's consequences for his sin with Bathsheba.

### **2 Samuel 12:9-11**

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<sup>9</sup> *Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight? thou hast killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword, and hast taken his wife to be thy wife, and hast slain him with the sword of the children of Ammon.*

<sup>10</sup> *Now therefore the sword shall never depart from thine house; because thou hast despised me, and hast taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be thy wife.*

<sup>11</sup> *Thus saith the LORD, Behold, I will raise up evil against thee out of thine own house, and I will take thy wives before thine eyes, and give them unto thy neighbour, and he shall lie with thy wives in the sight of this sun.*

Let us get back to our verse again.

## 2. Multiplied Conception

Notice Genesis 3:16 again.

<sup>16</sup> *Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.*

There is a statement in this verse that we must pay very close attention to.

God would greatly multiply her sorrow and her conception or her pregnancies. You may have never thought about this statement before but it is very important.

Before Adam and Eve sinned all things were very different including child birth. Today women are able to conceive every month and a woman can become pregnant and about 10 months later she can be pregnant again. That was not the case before the fall.

Before the fall women could not conceive as frequently as they do today. The frequency of conception is part of the curse on the woman.

But let me explain why I say they could not conceive as frequently before the fall. God had told Adam and Eve to be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. Before the fall Adam and Eve were eternal. Death came because of sin. So if women could conceive one child a year and they were eternal one family would fill the earth by themselves. The earth would not have held all the people. So before the fall apparently women would have only been able to have children every 20 years or so.

Now that the fall has taken place death has entered in and so conception can happen much more frequently so as to keep up with the death rate.

### 3. Pain

#### Genesis 3:16

<sup>16</sup> *Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.*

Before the fall there would not have been any pain in child birth but now there would be. But the sorrow in child birth would be not just a reference to physical pain. It also refers to emotional pain.

Before the fall if there had been any children born they would have been born without a sin nature and therefore would not have been any emotional pain in the raising of children. They would have been like Jesus in that they would have grown in wisdom and stature.

It was not long before Eve felt the pain of this judgment.

#### Genesis 4:8

<sup>8</sup> *And 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 slew him.*

#### Application:

Today we can see the effects of the curse on the woman in the sense that we can see the pain in many mother's lives over the choices and decisions of their children.

The greatest pain a mother can feel is the pain of child birth and the pain that comes from raising children when they make poor choices or one is taken from her arms in death.

#### Conclusion:

The picture that is painted here in Genesis 3 is one that is very dark but we cannot leave this text without me showing you ladies there is a way to soften the pain of the curse.

#### 1 Timothy 2:1-15

<sup>11</sup> *Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection.*

<sup>12</sup> *But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.*

<sup>13</sup> For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

<sup>14</sup> And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

<sup>15</sup> Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

Here in this text Paul is speaking about women in the church. Then as he comes to verse 13 Paul reflects back to creation and then in verse 14 he refers to the original sin.

Now as he approaches verse 15 I believe he has in mind the curse on the woman which was that she would experience her greatest pain in 2 areas of her life, with her children and with her husband.

Then he says she shall be saved, and according to Vines this statement means, "to save from the penalty of judgment".

So let me put this thought together. I believe Paul is pointing here as to how a woman is to live her life and when she does it softens the pain of the curse.

She must:

1. Continue in faith.
2. Continue in love.
3. Continue in holiness.
4. And all of these must be mixed with sobriety. (Not intoxicated by the distractions of the world).

**Proverbs 31:28**

<sup>28</sup> Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her.