

II. THE PROTOEUANGELION or THE NEW COVENANT PREACHED TO ADAM: Genesis 3:15

INTRODUCTION: How do you respond when you are sinned against? How does did God respond the very first time he was sinned against by man? That is what we are looking at today in Genesis 3:15, as we continue our series through Covenant Theology. What is revealed in Genesis 3:15 is called *The Protoeuangelion*.

Proto = original (think *Prototype*).

Euangelion = gospel proclamation (think *Evangelism*).

Eu = good/well (think *Euphemism*; or if you know Tolkien, he used the word *Eucatastrophe*, "a sudden and favorable resolution of events in a story; a happy ending")

Angelion = message/news (think *Angel*, which means messenger).

You put all that together and you have this wonderful Theological word:

PROTOEUANGELION: The Original Gospel Proclamation (See Ligonier article by R.C. Sproul for more - <https://learn.ligonier.org/articles/what-is-the-protoeuangelion>).

CON(TEXT): Right after the fall, during the cursing of the serpent. **Genesis 3:15** "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring (seed) and her offspring (seed); he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

DOCTRINE. The promise in Genesis 3:15 reveals (I) the mercy of God, (II) the object of the Church's faith from Adam to Abraham, (III) the gospel in seed form, and (IV) Christ's ultimate victory over Satan.

I. THE PROMISE IN GENESIS 3:15 REVEALS THE MERCY OF GOD—AS SOON AS MANKIND FELL INTO SIN, THE LORD STARTED PREACHING THE GOSPEL (Genesis 3:15)

Genesis 3:15 "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring (seed) and her offspring (seed); he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

- **Years later, Habakkuk's prayer would be, "In wrath remember mercy" (Habakkuk 3:2).** The LORD did in Genesis 3:15!
 - **HENRY:** "Here was the dawning of the gospel day. No sooner was the wound given than the remedy was provided and revealed."
- **See the loving-kindness of the Lord toward his people!**
When we deserve the hammer of the Law, He brings the pillow of the

Gospel.

When we beg for the judgement of Divine Justice by our sin, He gives us the medicine of Divine Gospel.

BOYS AND GIRLS, as soon as Adam and Eve fell into sin, God started preaching the good news to them! God the Father promised He would send God the Son into the world to save sinners.

I) USE THIS TRUTH TO GUIDE YOU IN HOW TO RESPOND WHEN OTHERS SIN.

- **I) Remember Genesis 3:15 *when your neighbor sins, especially against you.*** Say to them, *"Look at the Lord responding to Adam who plunged the world into misery by his sin."*
- **II) Remember Genesis 3:15 *when your kids sin.*** Say to them, *"You need a Savior and you have one!"*
- **III) Remember Genesis 3:15 *when your wife or husband sins.*** Say to him or her, *"Look at the Lord in Genesis 3:15 responding to Eve eating the forbidden fruit."*

II) USE THIS TRUTH TO GUIDE YOU IN HOW TO RESPOND WHEN YOU SIN.

- **Say to yourself**, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost" (**1 Timothy 1:15**).

TRANSITION.

I. THE PROMISE IN GENESIS 3:15 REVEALS THE MERCY OF GOD—AS SOON AS MANKIND FELL INTO SIN, THE LORD STARTED PREACHING THE GOSPEL (Genesis 3:15).

Q. What else does Genesis 3:15 reveal?

II. THE PROMISE IN GENESIS 3:15 REVEALS THE OBJECT OF THE CHURCH'S FAITH FROM ADAM TO ABRAHAM (Genesis 3:15).

Genesis 3:15 "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring (seed) and her offspring (seed); he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

God has never left His people, in any age, without the gospel of Jesus Christ!

BOYS AND GIRLS, Adam knew enough of the gospel to be saved through faith in Christ. So did all believers in all ages, as God progressively revealed more and more, until He revealed the Gospel fully through Jesus and His Apostles.

- **WILHELMUS Á BRAKEL**: "This Person is Christ—the seed of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, and Mary—who through His death has

destroyed the devil (Heb 2:14). God had expounded this matter more clearly to Adam and the holy men after him. Adam remained in the church for nine hundred thirty years. Enoch was a prophet who proclaimed the day of judgment (Jude 14-15). Noah was a preacher of righteousness. The content of his preaching was Christ (1 Pet 3:19-21), and he prophesied concerning the calling of the Gentiles after the rejection of the seed of Shem (Gen 9:27). God also instructed and strengthened these believers by faith in the sacrifices of the fruits of the field, clean cattle, and of the firstborn (cf. Gen 4:4; Gen 8:20). Hereby the people acquired knowledge concerning the mysteries of salvation and were led to believe in Christ." — **Wilhelmus Á Brakel, The Christian's Reasonable Service, Vol. 4, Pg. 376**

TRANSITION.

II. THE PROMISE IN GENESIS 3:15 REVEALS THE OBJECT OF THE CHURCH'S FAITH FROM ADAM TO ABRAHAM (Genesis 3:15).

Q. What else does Genesis 3:15 reveal?

III. THE PROMISE OF GENESIS 3:15 REVEALS THE GOSPEL IN SEED FORM (Genesis 3:15)

Genesis 3:15 "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring (seed) and her offspring (seed); he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

- **HOPKINS:** "That primitive promise (Gen. 3:15), that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head, which lay for many ages under types and figures, at the birth of Christ broke forth into accomplishment. All those prophecies, all those ceremonial resemblances, which, containing a Saviour in embryo, were in due time matured by the Holy Ghost, until the truth of God gave them all their expected issue in Christ's birth."

BOYS AND GIRLS, the gospel is like a great Oak Tree. But how does an Oak Tree start? With an Acorn. What is the difference between an Acorn and an Oak Tree? Time.

This promise in Genesis 3:15 is like an Acorn, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ as fully revealed in the New Testament is like the Oak Tree. They are the same in substance, but different in expansiveness.

- (i) **Genesis 3:15 reveals the seed form of the incarnation of Christ to redeem fallen man as our representative. "her offspring." *not his, not Adam's***

Christ took upon himself our nature, to redeem us as our perfect covenant head!

Hebrews 2:14-15 "14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery."

- (ii) **Genesis 3:15** reveals the seed form of the *redemption* of Christ purchased by his death. "you shall bruise his heel."
- (iii) **Genesis 3:15** reveals the conquest of Christ crushing the head of the serpent, Satan by resurrection, ascension, intercession, and return. "he shall bruise your head." **truth matters** What is the a

TRANSITION.

III. THE PROMISE OF GENESIS 3:15 REVEALS THE GOSPEL IN *SEED* FORM (Genesis 3:15)

Q. What else does Genesis 3:15 reveal?

IV. THE PROMISE OF GENESIS 3:15 REVEALS CHRIST'S ULTIMATE VICTORY OVER SATAN, HIS CONFEDERATES, AND THE WICKEDNESS THAT SPRINGS FROM THEIR SCHEMES (Genesis 3:15).

Genesis 3:15 "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring (seed) and her offspring (seed); he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

- **That the serpent is Satan himself is evident from Revelation 12:9.**
 - **John calls him** "that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world" (Rev. 12:9).
- **That those who are not united to Christ by faith are Satan's confederates or "seed" is evident from John 8:44 and Acts 13:10.**
 - **John 8:44** "You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires." **Paul says to Elymas in Acts 13:10**, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord?" **then Jesus makes him blind through Paul, and the Proconsul believed.*

**Now focus with me on Christ's crushing or bruising the head of Satan.*

- **HENRY:** "Christ baffled Satan's temptations, rescued souls out of his hands, cast him out of the bodies of people, dispossessed the strong

man armed, and divided his spoil: by his death, he gave a fatal and incurable blow to the devil's kingdom, a wound to the head of this beast, that can never be healed. As his gospel gets ground, Satan falls (Luke 10:18) and is bound (Rev. 20:2). By his grace, he treads Satan under his people's feet (Rom. 16:20) and will shortly cast him into the lake of fire (Rev. 20:10). And the devil's perpetual overthrow will be the complete and everlasting joy and glory of the chosen remnant."

I) Satan is an Oppressor, so Christ came to crush his head by healing His people from demonic oppression (Acts 10:38).

Acts 10:38 "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and *healing all who were oppressed by the devil*, for God was with him."

- **1 John 4:4** 'Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.'

II) Satan is a Liar and Deceiver, so Christ came to crush his head as the Truth (John 8:44; Revelation 12:9; John 1:14, 14:6).

John 8:44c "[Satan] does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies." **Revelation 12:9** "The deceiver of the whole world."

- **Just as there is no truth in Satan, so there are no lies in Christ—He is full of truth!**
 - **John 1:14** "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."
 - **BOYS AND GIRLS**, truth matters. Truth is a matter of life and death, and Jesus both IS the truth and REVEALS the truth in the Scriptures.
 - **Martin Luther rightly said**, "Unity if possible, truth at all costs."
And J.C. Ryle rightly said, "Never sacrifice truth on the altar of peace."

III) Satan is a Captor, so Christ came to crush his head by binding him and plundering his house (Selected Scriptures).

(I) Those who are still enemies of God are in the snare of the devil, being captured by him to do his will (2 Timothy 2:25-26).

- **2 Timothy 2:25-26** "God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from *the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will*."

(II) **Christ came into the world to establish the Kingdom of God by binding Satan and plundering his house** (Matthew 12:29).

- **Matthew 12:29** "Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house."

(III) **Christ destroys the kingdom of Satan and advances the Kingdom of grace through the preaching of the gospel, as is exemplified in the sending out of the seventy-two** (Luke 10:17-19).

- **Luke 10:17-19** "17 The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, 'Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!' 18 And he said to them, '*I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.* 19 Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.'"

IV) Satan is a Tempter, so Christ came to crush his head by breaking the power of sin over His people and to provide them a way of escape when tempted (Matthew 4:3).

Matthew 4:3 "And *the tempter* came and said to [Christ]," etc.

- (i) **Christ sets his people free from slavery to sin** (Romans 6:18).
 - **Romans 6:18** "Having been set free from sin, [you] have become slaves of righteousness."
- (ii) **God always gives a way of escape when believers are tempted** (1 Corinthians 10:13).
 - **1 Corinthians 10:13** "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it."
- (iii) **One of the works Christ came into the world to destroy was the habitual practice of sinning, even now** (1 John 3:8).
 - **1 John 3:8** "Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. *The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.*"
- (iv) **In our glorification Christ will destroy even the possibility of sinning, and that truth spurs believers on to live holy lives even now** (1 John 3:2-3).
 - **1 John 3:2-3** "When [Christ] appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure."

V) Satan is a Devourer, so Christ came to be a tender hearted Advocate who binds up the broken hearted (1 Peter 5:8).

1 Peter 5:8 "Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking

someone to devour."

- (I) **Satan loves to sift people like wheat, by tempting them to despair after they have sinned** (Luke 22:31-32). "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."

**RQ. Can Satan succeed in sifting when Christ is engaged in praying?
Can your faith fail while Christ intercedes for you?**

- (II) **Christ loves to bind up the broken hearted, never crushing the bruised reed or quenching the smoking flax** (Isaiah 61:1; Isaiah 42:3). **Isaiah 61:1:** "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted." **Isaiah 42:3:** "A bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice."

VI) Satan is an Accuser, so Christ came to crush his head by dying and rising in order to intercede for His people (Zechariah 3:1; Romans 8:33-34).

Zechariah 3:1 "Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him."

- **Romans 8:33-34** "Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us."
 - **BOYS AND GIRLS**, Satan is an accuser and Christ is an Advocate.
Satan as the Accuser says, "They have sinned against you, God, condemn them, throw them to hell, and give them eternal death!"
Christ as the Advocate says, "I was already killed as they deserve, forgive them, count them righteous, and give them eternal life!"

VII) Satan is a Murderer, so Christ came to crush his head by giving life and life abundant (John 8:44b).

John 8:44 "He was a murderer from the beginning."

- **John 10:10** "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

Christ came to give us life by giving up his life in our place!

- **John 10:11** "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

Now, Christ will finally and totally crush the head of the serpent one day, when Revelation 20:9-10 comes to pass!

Revelation 20:9-10 "And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever."

USE FOR EXHORTATION (3)

(I) You and have to resist Satan by humble dependance on God (James 4:6-7).

James 4:6-7 "'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.' Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

(II) You and I must stand firm against the schemes of the devil (Ephesians 6:11).

Ephesians 6:11 "Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against *the schemes of the devil*."

Please read *Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices* by Thomas Brooks, and then add it to your occasional reading for the rest of your life. Use it as a kind of devotional.

(III) You and I must be sober-minded and watchful because Satan prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour (1 Peter 5:8-9).

1 Peter 5:8-9 "Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world."

(IV) As you wage spiritual warfare—the seed of the woman being in perpetual war with the seed of the serpent—remember and rest in Romans 16:20 if you belong to Christ.

Romans 16:20 "The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet."

STUDY AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Study Questions

1. ****Define the term "Protoeuangelion" using its Greek roots (proto, eu, angelion) and explain why Genesis 3:15 earns this title as the "first gospel proclamation." How does this align with the Reformed understanding of progressive revelation in Scripture?**
2. ****In the immediate context of the Fall (Genesis 3), how does God's response in verse 15 demonstrate His mercy amidst wrath? Cross-reference Habakkuk 3:2 and explain how this verse fulfills the prayer "In wrath remember mercy," supporting the doctrine of God's unchanging grace toward His elect.**
3. ****According to the sermon, Genesis 3:15 served as the object of faith for the church from Adam to Abraham. Cite evidence from Scripture (e.g., Hebrews 2:14; Jude 14-15; 1 Peter 3:19-21) and historical Reformed thinkers like Wilhelms à Brakel to show how Old Testament saints were saved by faith in the promised Seed, Christ Jesus.**
4. ****Break down Genesis 3:15 phrase by phrase: (a) "enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring"; (b) "he shall bruise your head"; (c) "you shall bruise his heel." How does each element reveal the gospel in "seed form," including the incarnation (Hebrews 2:14-15), atonement, and Christ's victory?**
5. ****The sermon identifies the serpent as Satan (Revelation 12:9). List and explain at least five roles of Satan mentioned (e.g., oppressor, liar, captor, tempter, devourer, accuser, murderer), with supporting Scriptures. For each, describe how Christ crushes Satan's head in that area, drawing from passages like Acts 10:38, John 8:44, Matthew 12:29, and Romans 8:33-34.**
6. ****Compare the "seed of the woman" and the "seed of the serpent" using John 8:44 and Acts 13:10. From a Reformed perspective, how does this enmity illustrate total depravity and the distinction between the elect (united to Christ by faith) and the reprobate?**
7. ****Explain the analogy of the gospel as an acorn (Genesis 3:15) growing into an oak tree (full New Testament revelation). How does this support the Baptist confession that the substance of the covenant of grace is consistent across administrations, yet progressively unveiled?**
8. ****Discuss Christ's ultimate victory over Satan as described in the sermon, culminating in Revelation 20:9-10. How does this future consummation provide assurance of perseverance for believers, per Romans 16:20 and the Reformed doctrine of the perseverance of the saints?**
9. ****From the exhortations, outline practical steps for resisting Satan: (a) humble dependence (James 4:6-7); (b) standing firm in armor (Ephesians 6:11); (c) sober-minded watchfulness (1 Peter 5:8-9). Why is preaching**

the gospel central to binding Satan and advancing Christ's kingdom (Luke 10:17-19; Matthew 12:29)?

10. **How does Genesis 3:15 apply to personal sanctification? When tempted or accused by Satan, how should a believer respond with truths from 1 Corinthians 10:13, 1 John 3:8, and Christ's intercession (Romans 8:33-34), emphasizing union with Christ?

Discussion Questions

1. **When others sin against you (e.g., neighbor, spouse, child), how does recalling God's merciful response in Genesis 3:15 shape your reaction? Share examples from your life and discuss how this reflects Christ's command to forgive as we have been forgiven (Ephesians 4:32), avoiding legalism or antinomianism.
2. **Upon your own sin, Paul says in 1 Timothy 1:15, "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost." How does the Protoeangelion comfort you here? In a Reformed Baptist context, discuss how this combats despair without excusing sin, balancing justification and sanctification.
3. **Boys and girls (or all believers) are told Adam knew enough gospel to be saved. Debate: In our evangelistic efforts today, how much of the gospel must be shared for true faith? Use the sermon's oak-from-acorn analogy to argue for sharing Christ as the Seed who crushes Satan.
4. **Satan is called a liar and deceiver (John 8:44; Revelation 12:9), crushed by Christ the Truth (John 14:6). In an age of cultural relativism, how should Reformed Baptists prioritize "truth at all costs" (per Luther and Ryle) in church unity, family discipleship, and public witness? Discuss potential conflicts.
5. **As Satan's "captor" role is crushed by gospel preaching (Matthew 12:29; Luke 10:17-19), share experiences of spiritual warfare in evangelism or personal trials. How does this encourage church planting and missions in a Baptist framework, where believer's baptism signifies victory over Satan's kingdom?
6. **Satan tempts to despair post-sin (Luke 22:31-32), but Christ intercedes and binds the brokenhearted (Isaiah 61:1; 42:3). In group discussion, how can this truth counsel those struggling with assurance? Address Reformed views on temporary faith failures versus eternal security.
7. **Contrast Satan the Accuser with Christ the Advocate (Zechariah 3:1; Romans 8:33-34). For parents or spouses: How does this inform discipline and restoration in the home, modeling gospel mercy over condemnation?
8. **The sermon exhorts reading Thomas Brooks' *Precious Remedies*

Against Satan's Devices. Why is ongoing study of Satan's schemes vital for Reformed Baptists? Discuss one "device" from your reading or experience and how Romans 16:20 promises Satan's crush underfoot.

9. **In light of Christ's abundant life over Satan's murder (John 10:10-11), how should this victory motivate holy living amid suffering (1 Peter 5:8-9)? Debate applications for mental health, persecution, or end-times preparedness in a pre-millennial or amillennial view.
10. **Overall, how does Genesis 3:15 as the New Covenant preached to Adam unify the Bible's storyline? In a Covenant Theology discussion, argue its implications for rejecting dispensational discontinuities while affirming Baptist distinctives like credo-baptism as a sign of the new covenant.

SERMOM TRANSCRIPT

Beloved brothers and sisters, friends, visitors, let me ask you a few questions by way of introduction so we can hopefully be in the right mindset to understand Genesis 3:15. How do you respond when you are sinned against? When someone sins against you, how do you respond? Maybe think back to this last week. Something very clear. It was not like I think somebody wronged me or they were sort of rude, but something that is very clear. Someone sinned against you. How did you respond?

Another question to ask is, how did God respond the very first time he was sinned against by man? How did God respond the very first time man sinned against him? That's what we're looking at today in Genesis 3:15 as we consider or continue our series through trying to understand covenant theology. Understand the the covenants that God has made throughout history. The old covenant, the new covenant, Abrahamic covenant, the Adamic covenant or the covenant of works, the Noakic covenant with Noah and his posterity, the Davidic covenant. trying to understand that and how to properly think about it and apply it. That's what we're doing in this series. And today we're looking not at a specific covenant that God cut with anyone. What we're looking at is God promising the new covenant here in Genesis 3:15. So we have the covenant of works established with Adam and his posterity. And it was broken when Adam sinned against God. You sinned in Adam. You are guilty because of Adam's sin and because you were in him. He is your covenant head. You sinned in Adam. Your problem is much bigger than the sins that you've committed in the body. The problem is that you have a covenant head, a representative of all mankind, the first man. He represented you and he broke that covenant of works and sinned and you sinned in him. But right after that

happens, God then promises the new covenant. Not a covenant based on works, but a covenant based on God's grace. The covenant with Adam is based on his works. The covenant, the new covenant is based on Christ's perfect works and God's mercy and grace in it. And what we have today in Genesis 3:15, just like zooming in, what are some things we can learn is this is how God responded to being sinned against the very first time. In theological terms, Genesis 3:15 is called *The Protoeuangelion*.

Say that five times fast. The *Protoeuangelion*. Now look at me. Adults, look at me. There are many theological terms that you don't have to know. And knowing all the proper big theological terms, the words that are like derived from Greek or Latin, knowing you don't have to know those to be a faithful Christian. They will be incredibly helpful for you to know them and to have shorthand words that communicate really big ideas. It's really helpful in having conversations to just say, "Well, we're talking about the Hypostatic Union." And if you don't have any idea what that is, you go, "What?" And I got to explain, "Well, Christ is one person. He has two natures. There's no mixing or confusing that he is God and man. Those aren't mixed. They're not confused. They're not synced in some way, but he's one person and has two distinct natures. That's what we mean when we say the Hypostatic union. And when we say the *Protoeuangelion*, all we mean is the primitive or the original gospel proclamation. the very first time God proclaims the gospel. So there are some words that you do need to know just because it's nice. Here's a shorthand word *Protoeuangelion*. Proto let me just explain that so you understand why it matters. Proto means original. Think of the word and you use all these words. Think of the word prototype. A prototype, an original type of something. That's what the word proto means. Ueangelion simply means gospel preaching or gospel proclamation. That's where we get our word evangelism. But instead of translating the u a u they do it a v in evangelism. So evangelism, you know that word evangelism, gospel proclamation. That's what it means well or good. Good. Think of the word euphemism. It's where you take something that might be kind of rash or might be kind of intense or might I have to use euphemisms a lot while I'm preaching because we have children in here as well. And so there are many things that I say and I speak euphemistically. I'm putting a I'm saying something in a good way that you could say in a really uh more crude way that we don't want to say in front of kids. U EU, it just means good or well. Or if you know Tolkien well enough, he coined a term called the U catastrophe. EU catastrophe. And it means a sudden and favorable resolution of events in a story. A happy ending. It's the U catastrophe. U means good or well. So proto you good. So original good and then angelion gospel proclamation. Think of the word angel. That's the root word. Angel means a messenger. So you've got the original good news. The original good news preached. That's all that the word *Protoeuangelion* means. You don't have to memorize it, but it's good to know it and good to know. Oh, I know exactly what you're talking about. And when you say, hey, you remind somebody of the *Protoeuangelion*. It's like, yeah, Genesis 3:15, right after Adam

and Eve sin and God promises the new covenant, promises the gospel. So, that's where we're at in the context of Genesis 3:15. And we're like, we're not doing an expository series through the book of Genesis. We're parachuting in to verse 15. So, you need to know this is right after the fall. This is during the cursing of the serpent, which is Satan, who deceived Eve. And Adam is right there and allowed it to happen. And then Adam also partook of the fruit that God had forbidden. They broke the covenant of works. They're hiding from the Lord in the garden. The Lord comes in the cool of the day to walk with Adam. in person right there and Adam's hiding and the Lord says, "Where are you, Adam? I hid myself because I was naked. How'd you know you were naked? Why do you feel shame? What have you done?" Adam, of course, blame-shifts to Eve, this woman that you gave me. And then Eve says, "Well, the serpent deceived me." So, she blame-shifts to the serpent. And then the Lord pronounces a curse on the serpent, but not only for the serpent and not primarily for the serpent, but primarily so that Adam would hear this curse on the serpent and hear this first promise of the gospel. That's what's happening here. Look at it. This is the Lord God speaking to the serpent, but for Adam and for all of us to know. I will put enmity between you, Satan, and the woman, and between your offspring or your seed and her offspring, her seed. He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel. I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and her offspring. And then it gets singular. He shall bruise your head and you shall bruise his heel. What we have here, here's the doctrine that you should understand from Genesis 3:15. The promise in Genesis 3:15 reveals four things. The mercy of God, the object of the church's faith from Adam to Abraham, the gospel in seed form, and Christ's ultimate victory over Satan. That's what's revealed here in Genesis 3:15. the mercy of God, the object of the church's faith from Adam to Abraham, the gospel in seed form, and Christ's ultimate victory over Satan. So, let's take each one of those to try to understand this first gospel proclamation. First, the promise in Genesis 3:15 reveals the head of the serpent shall be the head of the serpent shall be crushed. So, which is more serious? Well, obviously the head wound. So, what you need to grab from this is as soon as mankind fell into sin, the Lord started preaching the gospel. As soon as mankind fell into sin, the Lord started preaching the gospel. Years later, Habakkuk would pray, quote, "In wrath, remember mercy. Throw them into hell." He didn't judge them immediately for that. As soon as Adam and Eve fell into sin, God promised he would send the Lord Jesus Christ into the world to save them. That's the very first thing that God does. Isn't that amazing? What do you and I deserve as soon as we sin against God? Every time we sin against God, what do you deserve? What do I deserve every time I sin against God? Hell. I deserve to be taken out.

Imagine the simplest command given just like Adam and Eve were given. Do not eat from the tree. The simplest command. And they defy the Lord. They rebel against him laboring to be like God. But he responds by preaching the gospel to them. God the Father promised that he would send God the Son into the world to

save sinners. The promise right here reveals the mercy of God. I want you to think through this and apply this to your own life and use this truth that as soon as mankind fell into sin, the Lord started preaching the gospel. Use that truth to guide you and how to respond when other people sin.

When other people sin, remember Genesis 3:15. When your neighbor sins, your friend, whoever, when your neighbor sins, even and especially when they sin against you, say to them, "Look at the Lord responding to Adam who plunged the world into misery by his sin." Say that when someone sins against you, and then forgive them. Remember Genesis 3:15, parents, when your kids sin, remember Genesis 3:15. When your kids sin, I do not mean you shouldn't discipline them. I do not mean that you shouldn't also say the law to them, but remember Genesis 3:15. And you better get here. You better get to this point. You're going to have to correct. You're going to have to guide. You're gonna have to discipline all of that, but you've got to get to the gospel. It's got to get to the gospel. Say to them something like, "You need a savior and you have one in Christ Jesus." Look at what God did when Adam and Eve sinned against him. He promised a savior. Husbands and wives, remember Genesis 3:15. When your spouse sins against you, say to your wife, husbands, or say to your husband, wives, look at the Lord in Genesis 3:15 responding to Eve eating the forbidden fruit. Look at the Lord responding to Adam standing passively by and not protecting his wife. Say that. Look what the Lord did. Look how the Lord responded. Forgive one another. Look at what God has done for us in Christ Jesus. Look at what he did at the first sin. Use this truth also to guide you and how to respond when you sin. Not only when others sin against you, but use this truth to guide yourself and how to respond when you sin. Say to yourself, if you have genuine faith in Christ Jesus, say to yourself, Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. That was promised as soon as we fell into sin. And that was accomplished in the Lord Jesus Christ. Life, death, resurrection. This saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. The promise in Genesis 3:15 reveals the mercy of God. As soon as mankind fell into sin, the Lord started preaching the gospel. That's the first thing that you should grab from Genesis 3:15. But the second is this. The promise contained here reveals the object of the church's faith from Adam to Abraham. This was the object of the church's faith from Adam to Abraham. How was anyone saved from Adam to Abraham? Genesis 3:15. The promise that God made, that's what all believers in that period, that's all the light that they had. That's all the light that God had given them. That is the gospel that he had given them. And that promise is what every true believer trusted in. And all of Christ's works that he hadn't even done yet, but would do for them were applied to them as they believed that promise. This was the object of the church's faith from Adam to Abraham. Nobody's ever been saved through their own obedience. No one's ever been saved through sacrificing animals. No one has ever been saved through good intentions. Everyone who has ever been saved from their sin has been saved by the grace of God alone through faith alone in the Lord

Jesus Christ alone. But their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ in this period of redemptive history was not it didn't look exactly the same that it looks to us today. We have the full picture. They only had a little narrow promise. They had that promise and that was sufficient. And God imputed to them the righteousness of Christ. Removed all of their sins. Everyone who believed and rested in God's promise to save. This is called progressive revelation in redemptive history. God gives a little bit of light in a certain period and then when he makes the Abrahamic covenant, he gives more promises and so there's a little bit more light given. And then he makes the Mosaic covenant and there's a little bit more light given as Christ is foreshadowed and typified with the priests and the sacrifices and the Passover continually observed. And then the Davidic covenant, there's a little bit more light given. this Christ will be the king to establish an eternal kingdom. And then the Lord Jesus Christ becomes a man, lives without sin, dies on a cross, raises from the dead, ascends back to heaven, and then his apostles go out and clarify everything that he did. And we get a really big full orb picture. But in every period of redemptive history, God has given enough light, enough gospel that his people can believe the promise and he saves them for Christ's sake. Does that make sense? This is the object of the church's faith from Adam to Abraham. What this means is God has never left his people in any age without the gospel of Jesus Christ. Adam and Eve had it. And everyone from Adam and Eve all the way through have had it. And it just gets bigger and bigger and bigger. It's like you get to see through a little keyhole. And then the hole gets a little bit bigger and a little bit bigger until the Lord Jesus Christ and his apostles come and it is widescreen 4K. We get it. But the keyhole is enough for God to save. Isn't that amazing? This is what Adam and all those until Abraham, this is all they had. This is the promise. Doesn't this show like they didn't they had the Ten Commandments written on their heart, but they didn't have the Ten Commandments written in stone or written in scripture.

They didn't have the Gospel accounts. They didn't have Paul's letters. They didn't have the book of Isaiah. They didn't even have Genesis written down, but they had Genesis 3:15. They had that promise passed down to them, and they believed in the promise, and that is how God saved them. That's how God united them to the perfect son. Boys and girls, look up here at me. Adam did not have Adam did not have as much knowledge about the gospel as you do. Isn't that weird to think about? You know more about the gospel than Adam did.

But Adam knew enough about the gospel to be saved through faith in Jesus Christ. He had this promise.

God has never left his people without the gospel in all ages. And we see that here beginning in Genesis 3:15 while they're still even in the garden. So the promise in Genesis 3:15 reveals the object of the church's faith from Adam to Abraham. What else does this verse reveal? The third thing that I want to draw your attention to is

that the promise of Genesis 3:15 reveals THE GOSPEL IN SEED FORM. It is the gospel, but it's a in seed form. So listen to Ezekiel Hopkins, a fantastic pastor from the Puritan era. He says that primitive promise in Genesis 3:15 that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head which lay for many ages under types and figures. At the birth of Christ, it broke forth into accomplishment. All those prophecies, all those ceremonial resemblances which containing a savior in embryo were in due time matured by the Holy Ghost Holy Ghost until the truth of God gave them all their expected issue and Christ's birth. Isn't that beautiful? Boys and girls, look up here at me again. The gospel, that word means good news. And it's just talking about what Christ has done in his perfect life without sin so that all who believe in him would be counted righteous. What Christ did in his death, he willingly gave himself up and and suffered under the wrath of God that you and I deserve for our sin so that everyone who believes would be forgiven, reconciled to God, adopted into his family. Jesus then arose from the dead to be the savior and king of his people forever. Life, death, and resurrection of Christ. That's what the gospel means. But that gospel is like a big oak tree. We have a lot of oak trees in our in our neck of the woods, don't we? Do you have an oak tree in your yard? You probably do. Oak trees can get really, really big. And that good news, the gospel is like an oak tree. But every oak tree at one point was what? If you go back far enough, what was that oak tree at one point? An acorn, right? A seed. This gospel proclamation to Adam in Genesis 3:15 is like the acorn which will grow and get bigger and bigger and wider and wider and we'll see it more. And eventually in the gospel accounts and in the New Testament when the apostles clarify all the doctrine, we see the oak tree. But adults, you can follow this metaphor too. Is there any substantial difference between an acorn and an oak tree? Is the essence different? No, not really. It's the same thing. It's just a matter of time. The essence doesn't change. The nature of it doesn't change. It just grows. It gets bigger. It has more going on. It gets more expansive. You see it more. But the essence, the essence is the same. The only difference between an acorn and an oak tree is time. So long as a deer doesn't eat it and chew it up and then it can't grow into an oak tree. So this promise is like the acorn and the gospel of Jesus Christ as fully revealed in the New Testament is like the oak tree. They are the same in substance but different in expansiveness. That's it. This gospel in Genesis 3:15 is the same gospel that you and I have. We just understand a lot more. Look, look even what's revealed though in Genesis 3:15. It reveals the seed form of the incarnation of Christ to redeem fallen man as our representative. It reveals the incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ and even being born of a virgin. Whose seed? Adam's seed. No, Eve's seed. Wait, how does Eve have seed? Her offspring, not Adam's offspring. Wasn't Adam the representative? Why would it be Eve's offspring? Just as it was Mary's offspring and it wasn't Joseph's offspring because the incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ and even being born of a virgin, Christ took upon himself our nature to redeem us as our perfect covenant head and he became a man without the process of ordinary generation, the seed of a man but was she was overshadowed. Mary was by the power of the Holy Spirit and she conceived and

gave birth to the Lord Jesus Christ. So the seed form of the incarnation of Christ to redeem fallen man as our representative is right here in Genesis 3:15. It also reveals the redemption of Christ that he purchased by his death. Look at it. you speaking to the servant, you shall bruise his heel. The heel is going to be bruised. That's speaking of the death of the Lord Jesus Christ. What Christ is going to do when he offers up himself, his heel shall be bruised. But it also not only reveals the death of Christ in that seed form. Not only the incarnation of Christ and being born of a virgin in that seed form. It also reveals the conquest of Christ crushing the head of the serpent Satan by resurrection, ascension, intercession, and return. He, this promised one, the Lord Jesus, who's being promised, he shall bruise your head. So the son's heel is crushed. The serpent's head is crushed. So it reveals the incarnation of Christ to redeem sinners like us. It reveals the redemption that Christ purchased by his death. It reveals even the conquest of Christ that he will be victorious over Satan, over sin, over death. This is the promise. It's the seed form of the gospel. But what else does Genesis 3:15 reveal? Well, it reveals Christ's ultimate victory over Satan, his confederates, and the wickedness that springs from their schemes.

It reveals Christ's ultimate victory over Satan, his confederates, and the wickedness that springs from their schemes. I will put enmity between you and the woman, between your offspring and her offspring. He shall bruise your head. This is talking about Satan. That the serpent is Satan himself is evident from Revelation 12:9. You don't have to speculate and go, "Well, I've heard that the serpent in Genesis 3 is Satan, but I don't know if it really is." Yeah, it is because God clearly says it is. John calls him that ancient serpent who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world. Like, what did the serpent do? He's an ancient serpent who deceived. It's clear, and this is why that's been consistent throughout church history, that people go, "I don't know if that's Satan." was like, "Yeah, you're being silly. It's Satan." He clearly says that. God clearly says it. That's why you have to interpret scripture with scripture as well. It shines light on something. So, that's clear. The serpent is Satan. That's evident from Revelation 12:9. Satan is a fallen angel who rebelled against God, was cast down, extremely powerful, hates the Lord, hates the Lord's people, but he will be defeated. Now, not only is the serpent clearly Satan, but he's said in Genesis 3:15 to have offspring. What does that mean? Doesn't mean physical offspring. It means those who are his confederates, those who are in his line, those who are under his control. That those who are not united to Christ by faith are Satan's confederates or seed is evident from John 8:44 and Acts 13:10. That's not physical offspring. It's talking about his seed in a more spiritual sense. Christ says in John 8:44, "You are of your father, the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires." You are of your father, the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. And Paul says to Elymas in Acts 13:10, "You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villain, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord?" So the serpent is Satan, who's the offspring of Satan, who's the seed of Satan in

Genesis 3:15. It's those who are outside of Christ. You are of your father the devil, you son of the devil. We have two different spots clarifying that. So that's why we say the promise of Genesis 3:15 reveals Christ's ultimate victory over not only Satan, but Satan and his confederates and the wickedness that springs from their schemes. So they're talking about Satan, demons, and the wicked who hate the Lord and all the wickedness that comes from their schemes. So it's not the enmity is not just between Satan and the woman. So it's not this endless battle or perpetual battle between Mary and Satan. No, it's Satan and his confederates and Eve and all those who come after her. and ultimately the Lord Jesus Christ. Now I want you to consider with me this promise. You shall bruise or he shall bruise your head. You shall bruise his heel. Christ crush the head of the serpent. The serpent crush his heel. I want you to focus with me on Christ's crushing or bruising the head of Satan. And to understand Genesis 3:15, and this is getting into a little bit more application for us, I'll give you a few exhortations to close. Consider with me Christ crushing the head of the serpent, the good news that is ultimately promised in Genesis 3:15. And by the way, it's clear, isn't it, that God wants you to know, not only, hey, I'm going to deliver you from your sin. He wants you to know more than that. He wanted Adam and Eve to know more than that. It's like, you guys shouldn't have listened to the serpent. Eve, you shouldn't have listened to the serpent. Adam, you shouldn't have listened to your wife in that instance. But I'm going to crush that serpent. That one who led you astray, that one who is dividing you from me, that one who's tempting you to rebel against me, that serpent, I'm going to crush him. So the Lord not wants you I think you should take from Genesis 3:15. He wants you to know more than personally individually I'm going to forgive you of your sins and give you eternal life. That's true and hallelujah. But he also wants you to know I will judge Satan and his confederates and I will win. I think he wants us to be like yeah let's go. The Lord Jesus is going to win. Things look differently to us at certain times according to God's providence. It doesn't always seem like we're winning, but we're going to win because Jesus is going to win. I think he wants you to know that. And so, focus with me on what other parts of scripture says about Christ crushing the head of the serpent. And I want to present to you a few things concerning how Christ actually does that. So, first, Satan is an oppressor. Satan and his confederates, they oppress people. So Christ came to crush his head by healing his people from demonic oppression. Christ came to heal his people from demonic oppression. Now demonic oppression, I guess in some circles, is still in vogue. In some circles of Christians is still like talked about a lot. But in a lot of circles, demonic influence, demonic oppression is hardly ever talked about. And I would guess our circle, the reformed circle, it's not talked about hardly at all. But demonic possession and demonic oppression is real. Satan is real. Demons are real. They hate you and they scheme against you. But if you are a Christian, they cannot possess you or oppress you in the ways that we that you might see in the gospel accounts. If you are not a Christian, if you've not been converted to Christ, filled by God's Holy Spirit, if you're not converted, you are totally open to demonic possession and demonic oppression. And there are many

people I believe in our society that are possessed by demons and oppressed by demons and we just don't see it or talk about it very much anymore because we say they have some psychological disorder and we just every time anybody acts in a way that's like it kind of seems like what we see in the gospel accounts when people are oppressed or possessed by demons they're like no they're just and then they have some fancy psychological term it's like it's just that it's like, well, that might be what you call it and both might be true at the same time, but I'm saying that looks like demonic activity. You need to know that that's real. But if you are a believer, you need to know that if you are filled by God the Holy Spirit, which all Christians are, if you're sealed by God the Holy Spirit, which all Christians are, you are absolutely safe from being possessed by demons or even oppressed by demons in the way that you see in the gospel accounts. Greater is he that is in me than he that is in the world, the Apostle John says. But Satan is an oppressor. Demons are oppressive. So Christ came to crush his head by healing his people from demonic oppression. He gave us plenty of examples of that throughout his gospel ministry, throughout his earthly ministry. Acts 10:38. In the retelling of what Christ did through the apostles, God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil. For God was with him. That doesn't mean healing all from sicknesses. And every time you get sick, it means it's a demon. That's not what he's talking about. healing people from demonic oppression or what you would maybe typically call demonic possession. Many times it's just the oppression, the influence of them and not like what you could have possibly seen in horror movies made in the 80s and 90s that it's like they totally take over you. It's less like that and more like the influence and the oppression.

Satan's an oppressor. So Christ came to crush his head by healing his people from demonic oppression.

He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. You do not need Christians, you do not need to be scared of Satan and demons in the way the world should be scared of Satan and demons. The constant thing for Christians that is said throughout the New Testament is watch out for his schemes. Watch out for him baiting the hook. He prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. Not he's going to oppress you or possess you at some point or haunt your house. That's not what the constant warning is in the scripture. It's watch out so you can stand firm against the schemes. He can't possess you. He can't oppress you like that, but he still schemes against you. He can still tempt you. And so that's why that constant thing is said in the New Testament. So you don't have to be watching out for being possessed if you're a Christian, but you need to be watching out for being misled.

Christ came to crush his head by healing his people from demonic oppression. But also secondly, how does Christ crush the head of the serpent? Well, Satan is a liar

and a deceiver. So Christ came to crush his head as the truth. Satan is a liar and a deceiver. So Christ came to crush his head as the truth. Listen to John 8:44. Satan does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character. For he is a liar and the father of lies. The father of lies. Revelation 12:9 says he is the deceiver of the whole world. He's the deceiver. Like capital D deceiver. He doesn't stand in the truth. There's no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character. He is a liar and the father of lies. That's Satan. He's a liar and a deceiver. So the Lord Jesus Christ came into the world to crush the head of the serpent and he came to crush him as the truth. He is truth personified. He doesn't say I tell you the truth merely which he does. He says I am the truth. I am the way, the truth, the life. And he is full of truth. The word became flesh and dwelt among us. And we have seen his glory, glory as of the only son from the father, full of grace and truth. So Satan is a liar and a deceiver. Satan wants you to believe lies. He wants you to not understand the truth. The truth sets you free. Not only the truth that is Jesus Christ himself, but the truth that Jesus Christ reveals will set you free. There are probably many of you in this room who are still captive to bad thinking, to errors, to lies that I'm not saying that you realize they are lies and you're like, I love believing lies, but you still believe wrongly about some things and you don't even realize that you are trapped. So, you need the truth. Satan wants you to believe lies. He wants you to believe lies about God. He wants you to believe lies about the way God does things or why God does things. He wants you to believe lies about the gospel. Satan wants you to believe that since we're saved by grace alone through faith alone and Christ alone, it doesn't matter how I live because I'm not saved by my works. So, I'll just keep living however I want. Satan would love for you to believe that. Satan would love for you to believe that you are the wisest person in the room. He'd love for you to be wise in your own eyes. He would love for you to have an inflated view of yourself. Paul says, "Do not be wise in your own eyes." And Satan would love to lie to you and have you believe that. It's like, I understand that verse, but everyone should listen to me.

He wants you to believe lies. And Christ is the truth that destroys those lies. He wants you to believe lies about men and women. He wants you to agree with enough of the Bible about the differences between men and women that you can get by. He wants you functionally though to be an egalitarian to act though you would never say it but to act like men and women are kind of interchangeable in the world in the church in the home. The specific lies I think Satan really wants people to believe today about the differences between men and women is he wants you to be patriarchal on paper and you would pass the test. But when it actually functions out, you think, "Oh, I am biblical." But when you're actually talking and acting and what you're doing is just not what God says in the word. Those are the kind of lies that are the worst that are like I believe this, I know this, but then the function, the talking, the actions are just inconsistent with what you

say you believe. And it's like that for all of us. He wants us to believe I'm doing really well in this and for me to just be totally blind to what I'm actually doing.

Satan wants you to believe all sorts of lies. But Christ came to crush the head of the serpent as the truth. Full of grace and truth. This how God sanctifies us. Sanctify us in the truth. Your word is truth. Boys and girls, look up here at me. Truth matters. And I do not determine what is true.

what I say is true is not good enough. It has to be I'm saying this is true and then going look at what God says. I don't determine the truth. You do not determine the truth. Your mom and dad don't determine the truth. Your pastors don't determine the truth. The government doesn't determine the truth. Your boss doesn't determine the truth. None of that. Truth is not determined by majority. Truth is revealed by the Lord God. And it is our job to mine the scriptures so we can know the truth. Truth is a matter of life and death.

Martin Luther said when people said Martin don't you want unity with other professed believers he said unity if possible truth at all costs and JC Ryle rightly said never sacrifice truth on the altar of peace you never sacrifice truth just to like get along that's what he's saying we cannot do that truth is a matter of life and death. Christ is the truth and he reveals the truth in the scriptures and he came to crush the head of Satan who is a liar and a deceiver. Truth matters. Third, not only does he crush the head of the deceiver as the truth, not only does he crush the head of the oppressor by the healer, by setting people free from demonic oppression, but Satan is a captor. He captures people. Satan is a captor. So Christ came to crush his head by binding that captor and plundering his house by binding him, tying him up in a chair as it were and stealing all the stuff that Satan had taken captive, namely you.

Satan is a captor. So Christ came to crush his head by binding him and plundering his house. Those who are still enemies of God are in the snare of the devil. Those who are still not converted to Christ. You, if you're still an unbeliever, you are in the snare of the devil. You've been captured by him to do his will. Second Timothy 2:25 and 26. God may perhaps grant unbelievers repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth. and they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil after being captured by him to do his will. So those who are still enemies of God are in the snare of the devil being captured by him to do his will. Christ came into the world to establish the kingdom of God by tying up or binding Satan and then plundering his house. Unbelievers tied up and bound by Satan. Christ came into the world to bind the strong man, Satan, and steal all of his stuff that he had taken. Isn't that amazing? That's a great picture. Matthew 12:29 speaking of Satan, this is Christ speaking of Satan after he is setting people free from demonic oppression. He's saving people and they say, "Oh, he's only casting out demons by the power of Satan." Like, "Oh my goodness, how's divided cannot

stand. How can Satan cast out Satan? And then he says, "How can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods?" That's what he's saying. That's what I'm doing. That's what I came to do. And setting up the kingdom of God on the earth. How can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods? Unless he first binds the strong man, then indeed he may plunder his house.

So, Satan is a captor and Christ came to crush his head by binding him and plundering his house. That's one of the metaphors scripture uses for saving someone, delivering someone is that you were captured by Satan to do his will. Christ stormed into Satan's house, punches him in the face, ties him up in a chair, and sets you free. He binds the strong man and plunders his house. He also he does this. Christ advances his kingdom of grace and continually destroys the kingdom of Satan through the preaching of the gospel. That's the ordinary means that God uses to and that Christ uses to set people free from the captivity of Satan. This is exemplified when Christ sends out the 72 to preach in Luke 10. Luke 10:17-19. The 72 returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name." And Jesus said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I've given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. He sends out the 72 to preach the gospel. And they come back and saying, "It was really successful." And Christ said, "You know what that's like? It's like Satan falling from heaven." That's how Christ continually tears down the kingdom of Satan and advances the kingdom of grace. It's through the primary means is through the proclamation of the gospel. That's how he continues to plunder Satan's house. That's what he did for you when you became a Christian. When he caused you to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, he untied you and brought you out, set you free. Satan is a captor. So Christ came to crush his head. Satan is also a tempter. He tempts to sin. So Christ came to crush his head by breaking the power of sin over his people and to provide them a way of escape when they are tempted.

So Satan is a tempter. That's clear in Matthew 4:3. The tempter is what he's called. Matthew 4:3. The tempter came to Christ in the wilderness. Definite article tempter, not a tempter. He is called the tempter. He's the one that Christ sets his pre people free from slavery to sin so that we're no longer enslaved. Another way you could think about it is Christ sets his people free from being in love with sin. He breaks the power of sin. Having been set free from sin, you have become slaves of righteousness. Romans 6:18. Do you need to be set free from sin? Only the Lord Jesus Christ can do that. He lived without sin. He died for sinners. He arose from the dead. Turn to him in faith. Turn from your sin. Trust in Christ alone to save you. And he will set you free from the power of sin, from the enslaving power of sin that it wields in your life. He will sanctify you. That means he'll continually transform you to be more and more like him and less like Adam. Christ sets his people free from slavery to sin. And he always gives a way of escape.

When even believers after they're set free from slavery, he gives a way of escape when believers are tempted. This is how Christ comes to crush the head of the tempter. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability. But with the temptation, he will also provide the way of escape that you may be able to endure it. 1 Corinthians 10:13. Objection. Often in my life, it doesn't feel like I have a way of escape when I'm being tempted to sin. Sins that I continually fall into. Answer. The way of escape is there. You're just not walking out the door.

The way of escape is there. So don't that's another lie. It's like, man, I'm just I still feel like enslaved to certain sins. You're not. That's a lie. And Satan wants you to believe you're still enslaved to sin. And good job. You're believing the lie. And that's not helping you. Stop it. You're not enslaved to sin if you're a Christian. There's not a way of there's no way of escape. When I am tempted, feel like the doors are all shut. That's a lie. There is a way of escape. So the first steps in battling temptation, the first steps are actually thinking and acting according to the truth. I just feel like I can't control it. I'm enslaved. Like no, you're not. That's a lie. Feel like there's no way of escape. No, there is a way of escape. That's a lie. Don't believe the lie of the enemy. He wants you to think all of the doors are locked. He wants you to think that you are chained to a chair in a dungeon, but you're not. So think like it, act like it. Romans 6, Paul says, "You are no longer slaves to sin. You're slaves to righteousness. Therefore, reckon yourselves dead to sin and alive to God." It's like, you got to think like it and act like it and pray like it. But if you just constantly believe lies and think on lies, you're going to lose and keep losing and keep losing. But God always gives a way of escape when believers are tempted. That's one of the ways that Christ crushes the head of the tempter. And one of the works that Christ came into the world to destroy was the habitual practice of sinning. Even now, that's one of the works that Christ came into the world to destroy. the habitual practice of sinning. Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil. For the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. 1 John 3:8. Whoever makes and it's that that word in the Greek practice a practice of sinning. Whoever makes a habitual practice of sinning, which means I know this is sin, I don't want to repent of it. I'm going to keep doing it. I'm going to do it tomorrow. I'm going to do it Thursday. I'm going to do it next Monday. That's the habitual practice of sinning. That doesn't mean I'm battling. I'm waging war. I'm praying. I'm trying to put to death the deeds of the body like Romans 8 says, and I keep stumbling. That's not the habitual practice of sinning. The habitual practice of sinning is I've got this habit. I'm going to keep the habit and we'll just chalk it up to God is merciful. It's like no. Christ came to destroy that habitual practice of sinning so that Christians would wage war against the flesh and labor to put to death the deeds of the body with the sword of the spirit by the power of the spirit that we may live. The reason the son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil. And you Christians, you are truly converted. You know that by experience

that there are sins that you used to indulge in and make peace with and just habitually walk in without any real desire to repent, but just kind of avoiding it in your own mind, whatever you did to justify it. And now you're like, I don't do that anymore, actually. I name that as sin. I want to walk in righteousness, not in that wickedness. Like, hey, Christ destroyed that habitual practice of sinning even in my life. That's why he came into the world. He'll ultimately do that when he glorifies us. In our glorification, Christ will destroy even the possibility of sinning. And that truth that Christ will one day glorify us. No more sin, no more sickness, no more sadness, no more temptation. Glorified with Jesus and like Jesus. That truth, that future promise is the motivation that spurs us on to live holy lives even now. When Christ appears, we shall be like him because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in Christ purifies himself as Christ is pure. What does that mean? Because one day we will be with Jesus and glorified like Jesus in the here and now. We hope in that future and therefore we labor to walk in righteousness and in holiness in our everyday lives. Everyone who thus hopes in him for that future grace purifies himself as Christ is pure and labors to walk in purity of heart and life. Satan is a tempter. So Christ came to crush his head. He's also a devourer. So Christ came to be a tenderhearted advocate who binds up the brokenhearted. Satan is a devourer. He prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. And I think he's principally talking not about just tempting to sin. He's talking about like what he wanted to do to Peter in Luke 22. Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you that he might sift you like wheat.

But I've prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you've turned again, Peter, strengthen your brothers. Satan loves to sift people like wheat by tempting them to despair after they have sinned. That's how Satan was trying to sift Simon Peter like wheat. Peter denies knowing Christ three times, but he's saying he wants to sift you like wheat, but I've prayed for you that your faith may not fail. So how does he want to devour? By tempting you to despair under the own sense of guilt for your own sin. But Christ Jesus came into the world to crush the head of that devourer, to crush the head of the one who wants you to be empty and despair. And Christ loves to bind up the brokenhearted. never crushing the bruised reed or quenching the smoking flax. Listen to what Christ is said of Christ in Isaiah. The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted.

A bruised reed he will not break and a faintly burning wick he will not quench. Christ comes to bind up the brokenhearted,

to crush the head of the serpent who is the devourer. Believers, there is more mercy in Christ than there is sin in you. Richard Sibbs, never forget it. Satan's also an accuser. And Christ came to crush his head by dying and rising in order to intercede for his people. Quickly, boys and girls, look up here at me. Satan is an

accuser. That means he said, "This person did this and they deserve to be killed." But Christ is an advocate, a representative, like a defense attorney. Satan, boys and girls, look at me. Satan the accuser says, "They have sinned against you, God. Give them eternal death." Have you sinned against God? I have. You have. We're all guilty because of Adam's sin, too. What are we going to do? Satan, the accuser, says, "They've sinned against you, God. Condemn them. Throw them to hell. Give them eternal death." But Christ, boys and girls, Christ as believers advocate, as a Christian's advocate, says, "I was already killed as they deserved. Forgive them. Count them righteous. Give them eternal life." That's how he came to crush the head of Satan, who is the accuser. Satan may rightly accuse you, but Christ stands as the advocate of his people. He already died for our sins. He already lived for our righteousness. And he also already gave us eternal life through faith in him. Satan is also a murderer. So Christ came to crush his head by giving life and life abundant. Satan was a murderer from the beginning. John 8:44. John 10:10 says, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy." Christ says, "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." So Christ came to crush his head by giving life and life abundant. Now Christ will finally and totally crush his head when Revelation 19 and 20 comes to pass. In conclusion, let me just give you a few quick exhortations. You have to resist Satan by humble dependence on God. Christ is going to crush his head. Continues to do it. But you have to resist Satan by humble dependence on God. James 4:6 and 7. You also need to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. Ephesians 6:11. Stand firm against the schemes of the devil. Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. believers, please read Precious Remedies Against Satan's Devices by Thomas Brooks. Add it to your like daily devotional. The portions, the chunks of it are so small, you can read like five minutes of it a day. Just read one device and like one remedy a day or you can read a whole chapter. But please add that to your reading. Read it and then read it again and then read it again. It's one of the most helpful books that I've ever read. Standing firm against the schemes of the devil like God tells us to precious remedies against Satan's devices by Thomas Brooks. So we have to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. Resist Satan by humble dependence on God. He opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. So submit yourself therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. James 4. Third, we have to be sober minded and watchful because Satan does prowl around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. Sober-minded and watchful because Satan prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. First Peter 5:8 and 9. And then finally, just want to remind you of this. As you wage spiritual warfare, you have real enemies who really hate you. There's a tempter, an accuser, a murderer. Christ is crushing his head. But you still have to wage this spiritual warfare. You have to be sober minded. You have to be watchful. You have to stand firm against his schemes. You have to humbly depend on God and resist the devil. And as you do all of that, you need to do it with Romans 16:20 in mind. The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. Unbelievers, you have no hope

outside of Christ. Turn to Christ Jesus today. Trust in him alone for salvation. He will receive you. Believers, you have everything to hope in Christ. Stick with him. Trust in him. And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. Our father, we ask you to sanctify us.