

Grace in Judgment

Genesis 3:14-24

Context: After indulging in the forbidden fruit in the Garden of Eden, God judges the Serpent, Adam and Eve. But within his judgment are two powerful pictures of the work of Jesus Christ.

As God judges sin in the Garden...

A. _____ **the prophecy of Jesus (vs. 14-15)**

1. Verse 15 outlines the cosmic battle between Satan and his offspring (unbelievers and demons) and the descendants of Eve (Jesus Christ, the Church).
2. This “first gospel” is prophetic of the struggle and its outcome between “your seed” and her seed (Christ, a descendant of Eve, and those in Him), which began in the garden. (John MacArthur)

B. _____ **the results of the sin (vs. 14-24)**

1. The serpent would be made to crawl on the ground, war against humans, and would suffer a crushing blow by the offspring of the woman.
2. Women would have pain in childbirth and would struggle in their relationship with their husbands.
3. Men would have to work and toil hard for food.
4. Both man and woman were removed from Eden and from fellowship with God. They would now face eventual death.

C. _____ **the atonement (vs. 20-24)**

1. This passage presents the first atonement in the Bible. The word atonement means covering and to “take away.” The idea is that a person or thing is unclean due to sin or some other defilement. Then, with a payment or sacrifice, atonement is made for that person or thing, and it is now holy or acceptable.
2. The Book of Leviticus is the most helpful to understand the meaning of the need for the Cross of Christ and the atonement of the Blood of Jesus. Leviticus 17:11 (ESV) For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life.