

From Death to Life
"The Journey of Redemption"

The Promise of Redemption
(Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 53:4-6)

Introduction: The story of redemption begins in Genesis.

Every great story has a beginning. The story of redemption starts not at the birth of Jesus, but all the way back in the garden of Eden.

In Genesis, we read how humanity, created in God's image, was given the freedom to choose obedience to God or rebellion. Tempted by the serpent, Adam and Eve disobeyed God by eating from the forbidden tree, introducing sin and its consequences into the world.

This act of disobedience fractured the perfect relationship between humanity and God, leading to spiritual separation, pain, and death.

Even in that moment of failure, God made a promise—a promise that He would make things right again.

I. The first _____ (Genesis 3:15)

A. Genesis 3:15 is often referred to as the "*Protoevangelium*," or the first gospel.

1. This is the first announcement of the coming redeemer found in the Bible.
2. To God's old covenant people, this verse was a beacon of hope (Galatians 4:1-4).

B. God, speaking to the spiritual serpent, Satan after the fall, declares: "*I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall crush your head, and you shall bruise his heel.*"

1. This is the first glimpse of the gospel.
2. Satan thought he was clever, but all he had actually done was fall victim to God's plan.
3. The Bible speaks of "the hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began" (Titus 1:2).
4. This prophecy includes Christ's first coming and His second coming.
 - a. The second coming is mentioned first—where Christ will crush Satan's head.
 - b. The first coming is mentioned second—where Satan can only bruise Christ's heel.
 - c. Ultimately, the seed of the woman, Christ, will come and defeat sin and Satan once and for all.

II. The suffering _____ (Isaiah 53:4-6)

A. Isaiah prophesied about the coming Messiah hundreds of years before Jesus' birth.

B. He describes Him as a suffering servant:

"Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed." (Isaiah 53:4-5)

1. Jesus took upon Himself the weight of our suffering and pain. (2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pe. 2:24)
2. The people misunderstood Jesus' suffering, believing He was punished by God for His own wrongdoing.
3. Jesus' hands and feet were pierced by nails (Psalm 22:16; Luke 24:39-40).
4. His punishment brought us peace with God (Romans 5:1; 8:1).
5. 'With His wounds we are (spiritually) healed.' (1 Pe. 2:24)

III. We can trust in God's plan for the _____ areas of our lives

A. Just as God kept His promise to send a redeemer, He will also be faithful in our lives.

B. What broken areas in your life need His redemption?

1. Maybe you find yourself further from God than you used to be.
2. He is standing here today ready and willing to restore you.
3. God is in the business of restoration.
4. When we put our trust in God's hands, He can make all things new.

Conclusion: From the very beginning, God had a plan to redeem humanity. Jesus is the fulfillment of that plan.

No matter how dark the world seems, we can trust in His redemptive work on the cross and His resurrection.

Let's not only walk in that hope ourselves but share that hope with others!

Reflection:

1. Meditate on God's promises this week.
2. Identify an area in your life where you need to trust in His redemptive work.
3. Who can you invite to join you on the journey to Easter?