



Who is Jesus?

Part 1: God's Messiah: the Promised Savior-King

Discussion

Read Genesis 1:1, 26-28; 2:7-9

God created all things, and mankind in his image (as reflectors of him), that we might enjoy a priority, self-defining relationship with him, through which we would fill the earth with his glory.

What does the way in which God created man (Genesis 2:7) tell us about God's desire for a relationship with us? About his design for us to live in relationship w/him?

Read Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-19

As long as Adam and Eve obeyed the God who had made them for himself, they would live and flourish. But, God warned, if they rebelled against him, they would make themselves worthy of his judgment and ultimately die; first spiritually through their alienation from him (3:8). Then, because God created them to find their identity in him, their alienation from God would lead to alienation within themselves (3:7), one another (3:12, 16), and the rest of creation (3:16-19). Finally, they would die physically (3:19c).

Why was their rebellion against God so devastating?

Notice that, even before God pronounced judgment on Adam and Eve for their rebellion against him (3:16-19), he promised to send a redeemer who would fix what they had broken; to deliver his people from sin and restore to them the life they forfeited at the fall, to fulfill his purpose to fill the earth with his glory through his image-bearers.

What does God's promise in Genesis 3:15 tell us about his character? His intentions toward mankind? His willingness to restore our brokenness, no matter the cost?

How does God's promise to "crush the serpent's head" relate to his plan to redeem mankind and thereby take us back to life as it was meant to be in and under him?

Read Ephesians 2:1-10

What terms describe our spiritual state apart from Christ, the promised redeemer (vv. 1-3)?

What does God graciously do for those he unites to Christ by grace through faith (vv. 4-10)?

Read Ephesians 1:7-12

How do verse 9-11 relate to God's ancient promise in Genesis 3:15?

Many refer to Genesis 3:15 as the proto-evangelium, or first telling of the Gospel. *Why is this?*

Additional Study

To better understand the story we find ourselves in, see John Mitchell's book, [Fire Song: Rediscovering the ancient melody](#), chapters 1-2 (available on Amazon).

To think more about how Adam's sin affected us see, [Fire Song](#), pp. 109-110; 123-126.

The title, "Messiah," means, "anointed one," "consecrated one," "servant of God." Jesus is called "Messiah" in John 1:41 and 4:25. Elsewhere, the word is translated, "Christ." "Christ" and "Messiah" are interchangeable terms that describe Jesus's identity and role as God's servant. For more on Jesus, the Messiah:

- Listen to Pastor John's Sermon, [Jesus the God-man Messiah](#).
- See The Bible Project, "[Messiah](#)."
- Read this Ligonier [article](#).

For more detail on the content of Genesis 3:15, including the implications of Messiah crushing the serpent's head, see [this](#) Tabletalk devotional from Ligonier, and this [Article](#) by Derek Thomas.