

The Serpent's Seed

The church at Pentecost began so well, yet when we compare descriptions in Revelation 2-3 of what the church becomes over time, we must ask ourselves the question: ***What happened? How can a church that began so well, end so poorly?***

Acts 2:42-44

⁴²And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

⁴³And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

⁴⁴And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

Acts 4:32-33

³²And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

³³And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

Revelation 2:2

...thou canst not bear **them which are evil**: and thou hast tried **them which say they are apostles, and are not**, and hast found them liars:

Revelation 2:6

But this thou hast, that thou hatest **the deeds of the Nicolaitaines**, which I also hate.

How did it all go so wrong?

To understand a problem with the fruit, we must look at the seed. Unfortunately, the devil has worked hard to hinder a clear understanding of the Fall. A few years ago, when I shared the story of the Fall with my elementary Bible class, I gained appreciation for how that story is so tastefully written in the Bible. It's accessible to the youngest ages, yet the story is also an allegory packed full with meaning. Little children gain benefit just from the surface meaning of the story. But the devil has worked hard to keep our understanding at that level. Yet as we grow up, and we let Scripture interpret scripture and peel back layers of the allegory's meaning, we vividly see our Enemy, the cruelty of sin and the gracious love our Redeemer and His plan of redemption.

POWER.OF.TRANSFORMATION_ PRESCOTT.AZ V-17 N-1 SUNDAY_ 65-1031M

135 There is always twins. And that's the reason... Don't forget this, little flock. The church in the last days is going to be twins, "so close that it'll deceive the Elected..." Matthew 24: 24, see. The church is going to... It's a Pentecostal move. It's so much like the real thing, till it would deceive the very Elected if it was possible. And a little later on, if I get the chance, I want to explain what, how that election comes. See, it's going to deceive them because it's almost like the same thing. See, just two fathers, that's all; same mother, same church, same movement, same thing. The bedding ground is the same, where the Word falls; but one of them, like here, is perverted. You understand? Say "amen" if you did see. [Congregation says, "Amen."--Ed.] See, one of them is a perversion, because it's the wrong father. Which, I will prove someday, if God will let me, that denomination is the mark of the beast. See, it's the wrong father, he is stirring people to an organization instead of to the Word. See, it's the wrong father. It's a Cain move.

Revelation 2:9

... I know the blasphemy of them **which say they are Jews, and are not**, but are the **synagogue of Satan**.

Revelation 2:14

...thou hast there **them that hold the doctrine of Balaam...**

Revelation 2:20

...**thou sufferest that woman Jezebel** ... to teach and seduce my servants to commit fornication...

Revelation 3:4

Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments...

Revelation 3:9

Behold, I will make **them of the synagogue of Satan** ... to know that I have loved thee.

Revelation 3:16

So then because thou art **lukewarm** ... I will spue thee out of my mouth.

136 **When I go home this time, I'm preaching on the subject, The Trail Of The Serpent; the beast at the beginning, and the beast at the end; and trail him right through the Bible**, and show how he heads up. See? And you all get that on the telephone, you see, if the Lord permits us to do it. And now just watch how cunning that fellow is, how he's just exactly just... Well, they're just like Judas and Jesus there, both brothers in their tribe, just like Esau and Jacob. And--and like the--the crow and the dove, sitting on the same roost. **And everything is a twin, in--in this great warfare that we're in.**

EPHESIAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK CPT.3, pp.99-100

Now to get the real meaning of what we are about to go into, I must caution you to ever keep in mind that religion (spiritual matters if you like), is composed of two parts that intertwine but are as opposite as black and white. Religion and the spiritual world are made of those two trees which had their roots in Eden. Both the Tree Of Life and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil stood in the midst of the garden and no doubt their very branches intertwined each other. Thus in the Ephesian Church is that same paradox. The church is made up of good and bad. Two vines make the church. They are like the wheat and tares, growing up side by side. But one is the TRUE. The other is the FALSE. Now God will speak TO each one and He will talk ABOUT each one. He will call them the church. And only the elect will really know which is the true Spirit. Only the elect will not be deceived....

So way back there in the early church (a very short period after Pentecost) **the false vine got to intertwine itself around the True Vine** and we find these deeds of the Nicolaitanes. And that spirit is going to be found fighting the True Vine until it is destroyed by God. Now have you got it?

What's wrong with eating an apple?

Taking the story of the Fall at face value, it appears that God sets up a seemingly arbitrary rule that Adam and Eve could eat from all the fruit trees except one. When they finally ate from that forbidden tree, their act of disobedience was met with the severest of penalties. If this is what the Fall entails, God does appear arbitrary in his rule making and draconian in his punishment. But the rest of the Bible doesn't show God's character to be such, so perhaps there's more to the story.

Matthew 15:10-11, 17-20

¹⁰And he called the multitude, and said unto them, Hear, and understand:

¹¹Not that which goeth into the mouth defileth a man; but that which cometh out of the mouth, this defileth a man.

¹⁷Do not ye yet understand, that whatsoever entereth in at the mouth goeth into the belly, and is cast out into the draught?

¹⁸But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.

¹⁹For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

²⁰These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashen hands defileth not a man.

Trees, Gardens, Fruit, and the Act of Eating can all be used metaphorically.

Genesis 2:9, 16-17

⁹And out of the ground made the LORD God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

¹⁷But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

The Tree of Life and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil are trees of a different category than the ones naturally "pleasant to the sight and good for food."

In the Bible, trees can symbolize persons.

Psalm 1 – a righteous man will be like a tree planted by the rivers of water

Daniel 4 – Nebuchadnezzar pictured as a mighty tree in his dream

Judges 9 – Gideon's son Abimelech accuses the men of Shechem in a parable in which all characters are symbolized as trees.

Matthew 3:9-10 – replying to the religious leaders’ pride in being sons of Abraham, John the Baptist cries out that the axe should be laid to the root of the trees.

Revelation 2:7 – the tree of life is in the paradise of God ... thus not a literal tree hidden somewhere in the Middle East.

The Tree of Life is Christ because He is the source of all Life. (John 5:40; 6:48; 14:6; I John 5:11-12)

A bride can be symbolized as a Garden. Likewise, her body is spoken of as choice fruits, and sexual relations as eating.

Song of Solomon 4:12, 16

¹²A garden inclosed is my sister, my spouse; a spring shut up, a fountain sealed.

¹⁶Awake, O north wind; and come, thou south; blow upon my garden, that the spices thereof may flow out. Let my beloved come into his garden, and eat his pleasant fruits.

Song of Solomon 5:1

I am come into my garden, my sister, my spouse: I have gathered my myrrh with my spice; I have eaten my honeycomb with my honey; I have drunk my wine with my milk: eat, O friends; drink, yea, drink abundantly, O beloved.

Song of Solomon 6:2-3

²My beloved is gone down into his garden, to the beds of spices, to feed in the gardens, and to gather lilies.

³I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine: he feedeth among the lilies.

Psalm 128:3

Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house...

Proverbs 30:20

Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness.

Consider also that sexual relations can be both very joyous and very tragic. God wanted to spare us from this knowledge of the evil. On the other hand, Satan promises the joy, but only delivers the evil!

When Paul alludes to the Fall, he also uses language referring to adultery.

II Corinthians 11:2-3

²For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.

³But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

The serpent had none of the characteristics of the snake he was cursed into.

Genesis 3:1 describes him as possessing reasoning powers above those of any “beast of the field.” Further, he had the ability to speak to the woman. He was not created a slithering creature; rather, this was a form he was cursed into. And God brought enmity between him and the woman, that their seeds would no longer be able to mix.

From Bro. Jason DeMars’s tract on the serpent seed:

- “The early church father, Tertullian, stated in the 3rd century, ‘Having been made pregnant by the devil ... she brought forth a son. (Patience 5:15)’”
- In Jewish tradition, Philo, Pirke De-Rabbi Eliezer and the Tragus Pseudo-Jonathan asserted that Adam was not the father of Cain. Rather, Eve was subject to adultery having been seduced by the serpent in the Garden of Eden, or the Devil himself.

Before there are any children born, it is curious that God speaks of both Eve and the Serpent having offspring, and Adam already refers to his wife as being a mother.

Genesis 3:15

¹⁵And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed [offspring] and her seed [offspring]; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Genesis 3:20

And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living.

- ➔ It's only in the first verse of chapter four that the Bible speaks of any sexual relations and children being born, yet already five verses previous, Adam calls Eve a mother. Why would he do this if he didn't know that she was already carrying children.
- ➔ Additionally, it's noteworthy that Eve was the mother of all living, but nowhere is Adam called that. Why? Because he wasn't the father of all Eve's children.

Genesis 4:1-2

¹And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.

²And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground.

CBS News, "The Strange Case of Twins with Two Different Fathers," May 8, 2015

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/new-jersey-twins-with-two-different-fathers/>

"In a case that sounds more like the makings of a daytime TV talk show than a real-life court proceeding, a New Jersey judge ruled that twin girls were fathered by two different men.

The story began to unfold when a woman sought child support payments from a man she claimed was responsible for her pregnancy. According to a report in The New Jersey Law Journal, a DNA test was ordered by the Passaic County Board of Social Services, which found that the mother's eggs had been fertilized by sperm from two different men."

Bible genealogies support the Fall as being a sin of adultery.

Abel and Seth are listed as sons of Adam, but Cain is not.

Luke 3:38

Which was the son of Enos, which was the son of Seth, which was the son of Adam, which was the son of God.

Adam was made in God's image, and Seth is said to be in Adam's image, but Cain is not even though he was the firstborn.

Genesis 5:1-3

¹This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;

²Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.

³And Adam lived an hundred and thirty years, and begat a son in his own likeness, after his image; and called his name Seth:

Cain's genealogy is tied up with a being variously known as "the wicked one," the serpent, the devil, and the dragon.

I John 3:12

Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

Ezekiel 28:13-15

¹³Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl,

the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.

¹⁴Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

¹⁵Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

Revelation 12:9

And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

These literal genealogies give a face-value interpretation to the account in Genesis 6 of the sons of God (Seth's line) taking wives of the daughters of men (Cain's line). New Testament passages also refer to two family trees in the earth.

Genesis 6:1-2

And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them, That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

New Testament passages refer to “children of God” and “children of the devil”

I John 3:9-12

⁹Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

¹⁰In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

¹¹For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

¹²Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

Matthew 13:38-39

³⁸The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

³⁹The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

John 8:39-44

³⁹They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham.

⁴⁰But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham.

⁴¹Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God.

⁴²Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

⁴³Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.

⁴⁴Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

⁴⁵And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.

Matthew 23:33 *(the truth of the serpent metaphors used by John and Jesus may have hit home rather hard!)*

Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?

Twins throughout the Scripture

EPHESIAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK CPT.3, p.88

You know that Genesis is the book of beginnings, and what you find started there will carry right on through the Revelation and never change. There we see that Cain persecuted and killed Abel because the latter pleased God. Then

we see a perfect picture in Abraham's son of the flesh, Ishmael, who teased and fought the son of promise, Isaac. And there was Esau, who hated Jacob and would have killed him, had not God intervened. In the New Testament we find Judas betraying Jesus, while the religious orders of the first century attempted to destroy the early believers. The children of this world, controlled by the devil, hate the children of God who are controlled by the Spirit.

Lucifer & Michael (Ez.28: 12-17; Is.14:12-15; Rev. 12:7)
 Cain & Abel
 Daughters of men & Sons of God (lines of Cain & lines of Seth)
 Lot & Abraham
 Ishmael & Isaac
 Esau & Jacob
 Korah & Moses (also mixed multitude among the children of Israel)

Moab (ex. Balaam) & Israel
 Ahab's prophet & Micaiah
 The Pharisees & John the Baptist
 Judas & Jesus; also Pharisees & Jesus (see John 8:44)
 Children of wicked one & children of the kingdom (Mt.13:38)
 Children of disobedience & children of obedience (Eph.2:1-2)
 Children of God & Children of the Devil (I John 3:10)
 Antichrist & Holy Spirit (Mt. 24:24)

QUESTIONS.AND.ANSWERS.3_ JEFF.IN COD SUNDAY_ 64-0830M

1132-319 Now, if you notice it's always been twins all along. There was... Cain and Abel were twins, and Esau and Jacob were twins. Jesus and Judas come out of the same tribe and in the same church. And the--even the Holy Spirit and the antichrist is to be twins, so close that would deceive the very elected if possible. Have you got it? All right.

So what? What's the significance of the Serpent Seed doctrine?

- 1) The Serpent Seed doctrine gives a clear understanding of the first promise of redemption in Genesis 3:15. Without the doctrine of the Serpent Seed, it's as though you had a story with a clear hero (the seed of the woman, who is Christ), but the identity of the villain remains foggy (very convenient for the villain). Genesis 3:15 launches the overarching narrative of the Bible, the promise of a Redeemer who will bruise the serpent's head. We are promised to be serpent-bruisees, too!
Romans 3:20
 And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.
- 2) The Serpent Seed doctrine shows the awful effects of sexual sin in a family and we witness a God who is not hindered by the skeletons in anyone's closet. Consider how dysfunctional God's own family in Eden was! Yet God doesn't treat dysfunction as a form of leprosy that has to be put into quarantine, lest one become unclean by association. When Adam and Eve sin against one another and against God, God can't get there fast enough to restore His children.
- 3) The Serpent Seed doctrine underscores the importance of the virgin birth.
- 4) The Serpent Seed doctrine is in continuity with the battle raged between God and Satan since Lucifer fell from heaven, because he wanted to sit in God's throne in God's Temple (Isaiah 14:12-14; II Thessalonians 2:4).

EPHESIAN.CHURCH.AGE - CHURCH.AGE.BOOK CPT.3, pp.110-111

Now why did this have to be so? Why was it that the seed of the serpent must come this way? Man was created for God. Man was to be the temple of God. The place of God's rest (the Holy Spirit) was man, the temple....

Satan has known this all along. He also wants to in-dwell man even as God so does. But God has reserved to Himself that right. Satan cannot do that. God alone appeared in human flesh. Satan could not and cannot do that. He does not have creative powers. The only way for Satan to accomplish what he wanted to do was to enter the serpent in Eden even as he entered by evil spirits into the swine at Gadara. God does not enter animals; but Satan can and will to accomplish his ends. He could not have a child directly by Eve as did God by

Mary, so he entered into the serpent and then beguiled Eve. He seduced her and by her did Satan have a child vicariously. Cain bore the full spiritual characteristics of Satan and the animalistic (sensual, fleshly) characteristic of the serpent. No wonder the Holy Spirit said that Cain was of that wicked one. He was.

Note: the Serpent Seed doctrine has no connection to racist teachings that either blacks or whites are from a serpent race. All nations came from Noah and his wife. Bro. Branham affirms Paul's teaching many times:

Acts 17:26

And [God] hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation;

DOES.GOD.CHANGE.HIS.MIND_ LA.CA V-18 N-4 TUESDAY_ 65-0427

199 Now, there was three races of people on earth. We might be black, brown, yellow, whatever we are, but we come from one blood. And there is three races, which come from Ham, Shem, and Japheth's people; and that's Jew, Gentile, and Samaritan, half Jew and Gentile.

WHO.IS.THIS.MELCHISEDEC_ JEFF.IN V-5 N-10 SUNDAY_ 65-0221E

145 And there is only three races of people on the earth; if we believe the Bible; that is, Ham, Shem, and Japheth's people. That's the three sons of Noah. We all sprung from there. That's right. That makes us all back from Adam, which makes us all brothers. The Bible said, "Of one blood God created all nations." We're all brothers, through the blood stream. A colored man can give a white man a blood transfusion, or vise versa. The white man can give the--the Japanese, yellow man, or the Indian, the red man, or whatmore, or a Japhenite, or whatever, he could give him a blood transfusion, 'cause we're all the same blood. The color of our skin, where we lived, had nothing to do with it.