

Sermon follow-up  
12/13/09  
The Skull Crushing Seed (Gen. 3:8-21)  
Rich Lusk

Genesis 3 presents history in terms of an unfolding battle between the seed of the woman and the seed of the serpent. This battle comes to a culmination when the Seed of the woman, Jesus, is crucified by the seed of the serpent, who, like Cain, have fallen from grace (cf. Mt. 3:7; Jn. 8: 37-47).

Satan was cursed to eat dirt (Gen. 3; cf. Ps. 72:19, Mic. 7:17)). But man was made from the dirt (Gen. 2), returns to the dirt (Gen. 3), and the blood of the slain man cries out from the dirt (Gen. 4). The curse on the serpent indicates that, in a sense, Satan will become a man-eater (1 Pt. 5:8). But Jesus defeats Satan by eating/swallowing up death (1 Cor. 15:54), and we share in his victory of the serpent and death when we eat him in the eucharist (Jn. 6).

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A very helpful article on Genesis 3:15 is Jim Hamilton's "The Skull-Crushing Seed" (<http://www.beginningwithmoses.org/articles/theskullcrushingseed.htm>). Hamilton points out that though there is not a lot of explicit evidence that the apostles considered Jesus the fulfillment of the seed of the woman promise in Gen. 3:15, the implicit evidence is overwhelming.

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My friend Derrick MacDonald put together the following chart, showing the biblical theme of the seed of the woman vs. the seed of the serpent.

**A THEME THROUGHOUT ALL SCRIPTURE:  
THE WAR OF THE SERPENT VS. THE BRIDE AND HER SEED**

The serpent attacks the **Bride** and tries to seduce her (impregnate her) thus producing corrupt seed or if the Bride remains faithful to her Husband, the serpent attempts to kill the **seed**.

**I. THE SERPENT ATTACKS THE BRIDE AND HER SEED**

This is a major theme in Genesis:

- Genesis 3** The serpent attacks Eve.
- Genesis 4** The serpent (Cain) attacks Abel.
- Genesis 9** The serpent (Ham) attacks Noah.
- Genesis 12** The serpent (Pharaoh) takes the Bride, Sarai.
- Genesis 20** The serpent (Abimelech) takes the Bride, Sarah.
- Genesis 27** Isaac, acting as a serpent, refuses to pass the covenant blessing on to the Seed, Jacob.
- Genesis 31** The serpent (Laban) attacks the Seed, Jacob.
- Genesis 38** The serpent tries to dilute the royal line as unfaithful Judah intermarries with a Canaanite.

- Exodus 1** The serpent (Pharaoh) attacks the Seed, the male infants of Israel.
- Exodus 2-12** The serpent (Pharaoh) oppresses the Bride, the nation of Israel.

- Numbers 31** Balaam (the serpent) advises the Moabites to seduce the Israelites (the Bride). see v. 16; Numbers 25:1,2; 2 Peter 2:15

- Joshua 2** The serpent (Canaanites) wars against the Bride.

- Judges 3** The serpent (Eglon) oppresses the Bride.
- Judges 4** The serpent (Jabin & Sisera) attacks the Bride.
- Judges 9-10** The serpent (Abimelech) terrorizes the Bride.

- 1 Samuel 17-31** The serpent (Saul) is attacking the Seed.
- 2 Samuel 15-18** The serpent (Absalom) seeks the life of the Royal Seed.

- Esther** The serpent (Haman) attempts to destroy the Bride.

- Matthew 2** The serpent (Herod) seeks to kill the Seed.

- Gospels** The serpent (through the Pharisees and Pilate) finally succeeds in killing the Seed.

- The Revelation** The serpent (Israel and Rome) try to kill the Bride and the Seed.

## II. HOW THE BRIDE FIGHTS THE SERPENT

The Bride, the Seed, and the Husband (Priest, Guardian) fight against the Serpent by either deceiving the Serpent or fighting against and killing the Serpent.

<b>Genesis 3</b>	God curses the serpent.
<b>Genesis 4</b>	God curses the serpent.
<b>Genesis 9</b>	Noah curses the serpent.
<b>Genesis 12</b>	Abram, the guardian-husband, and the woman deceives the serpent.
<b>Genesis 20</b>	Abraham, the guardian-husband, and the woman deceives the serpent.
<b>Genesis 27</b>	The woman and the seed (Rebekah and Jacob) deceive the serpent (Isaac).
<b>Genesis 31</b>	The seed-Jacob-(and the woman, v.34,35-Rachel) deceive the serpent.
<b>Genesis 38</b>	The woman (Tamar) deceives the serpent (Laban).
<b>Exodus 1</b>	The woman (midwives) deceive the serpent (Pharaoh).
<b>Exodus 2-12</b>	God deceives Pharaoh into a "war of magic tricks".
<b>Joshua 2</b>	The woman (Rahab) deceives the rulers of Jericho (the serpents).
<b>Judges 3</b>	Ehud deceives Eglon with a "left handed stab".
<b>Judges 4,5</b>	The woman, Jael, deceives and kills the serpent-Sisera.
<b>Judges 10</b>	The woman kills the serpent-tyrant, Abimelech.
<b>1 Samuel</b>	Samuel deceives the serpent-tyrant, Saul (16) Jonathan and David scheme to deceive Saul (20)
<b>2 Samuel</b>	Hushai and David scheme to deceive Absalom (15) A woman deceives the serpent-tyrant, Absalom, by hiding the spies in a well. (17)
<b>Esther</b>	The woman deceives the serpent, Haman, by inviting him to a banquet.
<b>Matthew 2</b>	The man and woman deceive the serpent, Herod, by hiding the child in Egypt.
<b>Gospels</b>	God and the Seed, Jesus Christ, deceive the Serpent into thinking that the crucifixion of the Seed will give victory to the Serpent.
<b>The Revelation</b>	The followers of the serpent are prophesied to become servants of the Bride. (3) The woman flees from the serpent and deceives him by hiding the child in Egypt. (Ch. 12) The Seed administer the final "head" wound that ultimately defeats the Serpent. (Ch. 20)