

PART 3: THE COVENANT OF GRACE.

A term used to describe God's one saving plan.

Week 5

1.—*After man had impaired the covenant entered into with God, it was in God's power to punish him immediately with eternal damnation. God's object in creating the world was to make known the glory of His nature. This had not yet been manifested to man in its perfection. So God resolved not to let judgment take effect immediately, but to use Adam's fall as a means to a new and higher revelation of His nature, and to turn to the fallen world in the glory of His forgiving love and redeeming grace.* —Witsius II, I, 3.

Reading: C. chapt. 3; COTC chapt. 6.

The Covenant of Grace- The first Promise of Redemption (Gen 3:13 ff).
The proto evangel

I. DEFINITIONS

Words about Covenants are *extra* biblical, like 'trinity'. They show us a biblical truth.

Covenant of Works (WCF 7:2) stressing performance

Covenant of Grace- stressing God's free gift (WCF 7:3)

Covenant of Redemption, the covenant between the Father and the Son (RC Sproul), not WCF.

Covenant of commencement - O Palmer Roberson.

II. THE REMEDY OF THE FALL. Three words

A. The Word to Satan

Satan is God's ultimate enemy (Isa. 14:12-21). The war on earth reflects the war in heaven (Eph 6:12, Zech 3:1-5. Rev 12:1-6. John 12:31).

The Serpent - Satan behind the Serpent (Gen 3:15).

Structure:

1. Initial Parties: Enmity

Woman (Eve) and Serpent

2. Ongoing Process

Between their seeds--struggle of the church in Old Testament.

Cain and Abel

Gen 5 - Line of Sons of God before Noah

Line of Abraham/Israel post Noah

Joshua 10:22-25

1 John 3:12

Imprecatory Psalms

3. The Final Conflict

Two Defined Individuals
Sing/Masculine “He”
Satan and Christ/Second Adam
Ps 110:6.

B. The Word to the Woman

Blessing and Curses

Blessing of fruitfulness, but pain in labor
Dependency--desire to rule her husband (Gen 4:7), to dominate and usurp her husband. This reflects what happens at the tree.

C. The Word to the Man 3:19

Work: Ground is cursed - Labor is hard
The end of man, dust to dust, man made from the dust; given rulership, headship to rule for God and His glory, but now he falls and dies.
Romans 8:18-23.

Summary

The big issues of labor pain, work, interpersonal struggles, and death all touch us today.