

Christmas Sermon

Title: “1. Seed of a woman”

Scripture: Genesis 3:9-15

Date preached: December 21st 2025

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9 Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him, “Where *are* you?” 10 So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.”

11 And He said, “Who told you that you *were* naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?” 12 Then the man said, “The woman whom You gave *to be* with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.”

13 And the LORD God said to the woman, “What *is* this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

14 So the LORD God said to the serpent:

“Because you have done this,
 You *are* cursed more than all cattle,
 And more than every beast of the field;
 On your belly you shall go,
 And you shall eat dust
 All the days of your life.
 15 And I will put enmity
 Between you and the woman,
 And between your seed and her Seed;
 He shall bruise your head,
 And you shall bruise His heel.”

9 여호와 하나님이 아담을 부르시며 그에게 이르시되 네가 어디 있느냐 10 이르되 내가 동산에서 하나님의 소리를 듣고 벗었으므로 두려워하여 숨었나이다 11 이르시되 누가 너의 벗었음을 네게 알렸느냐 네가 먹지 말라 명한 그 열매를 네가 먹었느냐 12 아담이 이르되 하나님이 주셔서 함께 있게 하신 여자 그가 그 열매를 주므로 먹었나이다

13 여호와 하나님이 여자에게 이르시되 네가 어찌하여 이렇게 하였느냐 여자가 이르되 뱀이 꾀므로 먹었나이다

14 여호와 하나님이 뱀에게 이르시되 네가 어떻게 하였으니 네가 모든 가축과 들의 모든 짐승보다 더욱 저주를 받아 배로 다니고 살아 있는 동안 흙을 먹을지니라

15 너로 여자와 원수가 되게 하고 네 후손도 여자의 후손과 원수가 되게 하리니 여자의 후손은 네 머리를 상하게 할 것이요 너는 그의 발꿈치를 할 것이라 하시고

Introduction

When I first came to live in Korea more than 20 years ago it was quite a transition. I had to adjust to

a completely different culture and way of life. It was exciting but also a challenge.

When you go to live in a new country there is always something of an inner struggle going on. How much do you hold onto from your home country, and how far do you try to assimilate or fit into the new country. It's a delicate balance to strike. If you give up all of the old then you risk losing an essential part of what made or shaped you. But at the same time if you only hold onto the old completely rejecting the new it is impossible to ever successfully blend into the new. It is therefore desirable to keep something of the old whilst at the same time being open to the new.

That brings me to the subject of Christmas. It's not easy to convey to people who have not experienced it the magnitude of a British Christmas. In the UK we celebrate two major holidays during the year. Easter and Christmas. Christians naturally recognise that Easter is the more significant holiday. What could be more important than our Lord and saviour fulfilling God's plan of redemption. But to the secular world there is no competition. Christmas is the dominant celebration. From late October things begin to slowly ramp up. Shops put up their decorations. The towns and cities of Britain adorn the lamp-posts with Christmas lights. Christmas markets are held. Churches hold carol services. Companies and offices have festive parties and schools put on nativity plays. Everyone begins the long (exhausting) countdown to Christmas. And of course Christmas itself is a long holiday. Most workers in the UK get a minimum of a week off work and often significantly longer. The entire country grinds to a halt at Christmas. It truly is a wonderful time of the year.

A Korean Christmas is a different thing all together. It bears very little resemblance to a British Christmas. Koreans are off work on Christmas day but back to work on the 26th. I often feel like it's a big build up with almost nothing at the end. Now in some ways it's quite jolly and festive. The shops put up decorations and often Christmas trees are placed in public places. But it's just not like a British Christmas. Which is of course fine. Koreans quite rightly took what they liked about a western experience and fashioned their own version of Christmas.

It took me many years to adjust to what Christmas is here. I still have a certain nostalgia for the great British Christmas. It is without doubt the time of year I most wish I could be back home. But I've learned to live with a Korean Christmas. It is what it is.

What you are probably wondering has all of this got to do with the subject of today's sermon. The answer to that question lies in the real reason why we celebrate Christmas at all. In the secular world it may be about Santa, Rudolph, presents, eating, drinking and parties. But for followers of Christ it is when we mark His birth. At Christmas, we remember the circumstances surrounding His first advent. In doing so we remind ourselves that the Lord Jesus Christ was God's gift to us. In Britain, we always exchange gifts at Christmas. It's not really the tradition here in Korea, but if you want to give me something I'll begrudgingly accept it. I can remember receiving some lovely presents as a child. But I never got a gift as significant as the gift Christ brought. The gift of salvation. Nothing on earth compares to that.

Now usually at Christmas the sermon focuses on the nativity story. A story about which we are all very familiar. We hear about how Mary and Joseph travelled up from Nazareth to Bethlehem. The pastor tells us about how our saviour was born in less than salubrious surroundings. But with all this focus upon "baby Jesus" we often forget that Jesus didn't make His first appearance as a baby. The second person of the trinity has always existed. He was active and engaged long before taking on human flesh. Not only that but He was part of God's plan right from the very beginning. That is going to be the subject of this sermon. We are going to go back and look at the first promise of the gift of the Messiah.

제가 20 여년 전에 처음 한국에 왔을 때 그것은 제 삶에 큰 변화였습니다. 완전히 다른 문화와 생활 방식에 적응해야

figure on it. The biblical scholar J. Barton Payne claimed to have found 574 verses that point to, describe or reference the coming Messiah. Alfred Edersheim found 456 Old Testament verses referring to the Messiah or His times.

Conservatively speaking, Jesus fulfilled somewhere between 200 and 400 prophecies in His earthly ministry. Even taking the lower estimate that is still a staggering number. It serves as irrefutable evidence that He truly was who He claimed to be. Today we are going to look at the very first prophecy. In order to do that we will need to go right to the beginning of the bible.

Our scripture reading today was taken from the third chapter of Genesis. I think it is fair to say that the Book of Genesis is the book of the bible most frequently targetted by critics and sceptics. In particular the first eleven chapters come under intense attack. There is a very good reason for this. It is because these chapters form the foundation for everything else in scripture. Everything else we read flows from what happened in the opening chapters of Genesis. Take away, or cause doubt about what's in Genesis and things soon begin to crumble. Critics know that if they can destroy the foundation the entire edifice becomes unstable and is likely to fall. This explains why they make concerted and repeated attacks on Genesis. Sadly they have been very successful. Many Christians have been taught, and now accept that Genesis is just a book of myths and legends. That it is not something to be taken literally.

So let's take a few moments to set the scene for what we are reading in chapter 3. Genesis opens with God creating all that exists out of nothing. He achieved this in six literal 24-hour days before resting on the seventh day. At the end of the creation week God surveyed all that He had created and declared it to be very good.

As we move into chapter 2 we are drawn into the account of the first man and woman; Adam and Eve. Adam of course came first. After God created him from the dust of the ground he placed him in a beautiful garden (The garden of Eden). God wanted him to tend and care for the garden. It is at this point in the narrative that God gives Adam a very precise command. The garden of Eden was full of trees bearing delicious things to eat. God gave Adam permission to pick and eat from every tree except one. This was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. To disobey God's command regarding this will result in death. Now some people wonder why God made this decision. Be honest, you've probably wondered about this too. Wouldn't it have been better not to have put the tree in the garden at all. Then there would have been no fall.

Here's why God placed the tree in the garden. He did it because He wanted man to truly have free will. True free will means being able to choose to do good (obey God), or to do bad (disobey God). If there was no tree then Adam and Eve would only have been permitted the option of obeying God. They would in essence have just been flesh robots programmed only to do what God wanted. This is not what God wanted. He desired His creation to genuinely love and want to obey Him, not do so through compulsion.

Not long after this God noted that the man did not have a suitable companion. Penguins, hamsters, armadillos and toucans are nice but they could not meet man's real needs. Therefore God created the woman, Eve. She was so much better than a pet penguin! Things in the garden were perfect. But they were not destined to stay this way for long.

Things take a VERY dark turn in chapter 3. This is where we are first introduced to scriptures' great villain; the serpent. Now it is worth noting that he is not referred to as Satan in Genesis.

So how do we know the identity of this "reptilian creature?" Well we have to turn to the Book of Revelation to discover who the serpent really is. In Revelation chapter 12 verse 9 we read the following

So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

This fact is reaffirmed in chapter 20 verse 2.

He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

Satan was incredibly cunning and crafty. He managed to persuade Eve that she should disobey God and eat the forbidden fruit. He did this by convincing her that God was being unfair and keeping something good from her. He appealed to her pride and vanity and she succumbed. Not only did she allow herself to be tempted into sin but she encouraged Adam to do the same.

As I have said before Adam was the federal head. God had placed him in a leadership position. He was the head of the family. Therefore the ultimate responsibility for the fall of mankind rests on him and not on Eve. He chose to obey his wife and not God. So whilst they both sinned Adam is the one who must take the blame.

Upon eating the fruit both of them had their eyes opened to the reality of good and evil. Prior to this act they had been naked and without shame. Now they were aware of who and what they were. They had gone from being pure and spotless to becoming corrupted and filthy. Their nakedness which had once been pure and natural now embarrassed them and so they sought to cover themselves. Furthermore they were also ashamed and guilt ridden that they had disobeyed God. Sin, as it always does destroys our relationship with God. Before the fall Adam and Eve walked joyfully with God. But now they tried to hide from Him. That is where we will pick up the story now.

먼저 질문 하나 드리겠습니다. 주 예수님께서 구약 성경의 예언을 몇 개나 성취하셨는지 아십니까? □□, 정확한 숫자를 말할 수 없기 때문에 부적절한 질문입니다. 성경학자 J. 비튼 페인은 오실 메시아를 암시하거나 언급하는 구절이 574 개라고 주장했습니다. 알프레드 에더사임은 메시아 또는 그분의 시대를 언급하는 구약 성경 구절을 456 개 찾았습니다.

엄격하게 계산해보면, 예수님께서 지상 사역 동안 200 개에서 400 개 사이의 예언을 성취했습니다. 더 적은 숫자인 200 개가 맞다고 치더라도 여전히 엄청난 숫자입니다. 이는 예수님께서 자신에 대해 주장하신 그 분임을 반박할 수 없는 증거입니다. 오늘은 첫 번째 예언을 살펴볼텐데, 그러려면 성경의 시작 부분으로 가야 합니다.

오늘의 구절은 창세기 3 장에서 발췌했습니다. 창세기는 비평가와 회의론자들이 가장 자주 공격하는 성경 부분입니다. 특히 처음 열한 장이 극렬하게 공격을 받습니다. 여기에는 아주 타당한 이유가 있는데, 이 장들이 성경의 나머지 모든 부분의 토대가 되기 때문입니다. 성경의 다른 나머지 부분들은 창세기의 초반부에서 일어난 사건들에서 비롯됩니다. 창세기의 내용을 빼거나 의심하게 만들면 모든 것이 곧 무너지기 시작합니다. 비평가들은 기초를 파괴하면 전체 체계가 불안정해지고 무너질 가능성이 높다는 것을 알고 있습니다. 이것이 창세기를 집중적이고 반복적으로 공격하는 이유입니다. 안타깝게도 그들의 공격은 매우 성공적이었습니다. 많은 그리스도인들은 창세기가 단지 신화와 전설로 가득하고 기록된 내용을 문자 그대로 믿어서는 안 된다는 가르침을 들어왔고, 그렇게 받아들이고 있습니다.

이제 우리가 3 장에서 읽을 내용의 배경을 잠시 살펴보겠습니다. 창세기는 하나님이 무(無)에서 만물을 창조하시는 것으로 시작합니다. 하나님은 일곱째 날 안식하시기 전까지 문자 그대로 하루가 24 시간인 6 일 동안 이 일을 이루셨습니다. 창조 주일이 끝날 무렵, 하나님은 자신이 창조하신 모든 것을 보시고 매우 좋았다고 선언하셨습니다.

창세기 2 장으로 넘어가면서 최초의 남자와 여자인 아담과 하와의 이야기가 나옵니다. 물론 아담이 먼저였습니다. 하 □□□□ □□ □□ □□□□ □, 아름다운 동산(에덴동산)에 두셨습니다. 그리고 아담이 그 동산을 돌보기를 원하셨습니다. 바로 이 시점에 하나님은 아담에게 매우 명확한 명령을 주십니다. 에덴동산에는 맛있는 열매를 맺는 나무들이 많았습니다. 하나님은 아담에게 모든 나무의 열매를 먹도록 허락하셨지만, 단 한 나무만은 금지했습니다. 그

stops with Adam. So what Adam should have done was to confess to God how he had fallen and then beg for God's forgiveness. This was not what he did. He looks instead to pass the blame to Eve. It was her fault that he had sinned. He clearly had no will power to resist her suggestion.

In fact, it was much worse than that. Adam is actually blaming God because He gave him the woman in the first place. If he had been left alone with the penguins and the cheetahs none of this would have happened.

The truth is however that Adam's act here is entirely consistent with fallen human nature.

Aren't we all by nature trying to blame someone else for our sins? Don't we all like to push the blame onto someone or something else? We never want to take responsibility for something we have done. Very few people ever stand up and admit their errors. We see this trait even in very young children. They clearly have not learned or been taught to do this. It comes as second nature.

Let us turn next to see what God has to say to the woman.

12 아담이 이르되 하나님이 주셔서 꺾은 열매를 주므로 먹었나이다

아담은 자신의 죄 때문에 하나님께 책망 받았습니다. 하나님께서 아담에게는 말씀하지 않으셨습니다. 앞서 말씀 드렸듯이, 이는 하나님께서 가족의 권위를 남자에게 맡기셨기 때문입니다. 책임은 아담에게 있습니다. 따라서 아담은 하나님께 자신의 죄를 고백하고 용서를 구해야 했습니다. 하지만 그는 그렇게 하지 않았습니다. 오히려 하와에게 책임을 돌렸습니다. 자신이 죄를 지은 것은 하와의 잘못이라고 합니다. 그는 하와의 제안을 거부할 의지가 전혀 없었습니다.

꺾은 열매, 그보다 훨씬 심각했습니다. 아담은 하나님께서 자기에게 여자를 주셨기 때문에 하나님 탓이라고 말합니다. 만약 그를 뱀과 함께 두었다면 이런 일은 일어나지 않았을 것입니다.

하지만 진실은 아담의 행동이 타락한 인간 본성과 완전히 일치한다는 것입니다.

우리 모두는 본성적으로 자신의 죄에 대해 다른 누군가를 탓하지 않습니까? 우리 모두는 다른 사람이나 다른 무언가에게 책임을 전가하지 않습니까? 우리는 자신이 한 일에 대해 결코 책임을 지고 싶지 않습니다. 자신의 잘못을 인정하고 나서는 사람은 별로 없습니다. 이런 모습은 어린아이들에게서도 볼 수 있습니다. 그들은 그렇게 하도록 배우지 않았는데도 마치 본능처럼 그렇게 행동합니다.

이제 하나님께서 그 여인에게 무슨 말씀을 하시는지 살펴보겠습니다.

13 And the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

In the previous verse we read Adam's complete failure to take responsibility for the act of wilful disobedience. He wanted to blame everyone except himself. Eve's answer, whilst trying to shift the blame onto Satan at least contains an admission that she is guilty. She allowed herself to be deceived and she ate the forbidden fruit. So whilst this is I suppose commendable we must still highlight Eve's sin. She allowed herself to be deceived which is itself a sin. Eve should never even have entered into a conversation with the serpent. She should have simply walked away and reported what had happened to God. It is also a sin to exchange the truth of God for a lie. This is what Eve did. She believed Satan's lies and in doing so rejected the truth of God.

As a result of man's disobedience God's perfect creation fell under a curse.

Let us read on and see what God had to say to the serpent.

13 여호와 하나님이 여자에게 이르시되 네가 어찌하여 이렇게 하였느냐 여자가 이르되 뱀이 꺾은 열매를 주므로 먹었나이다

이전 구절에서 아담은 고의적인 불순종에 대한 자신의 책임을 완전히 회피했습니다. 그는 자신이 아닌 다른 이들을 비호했습니다. 하와는 사탄에게 책임을 전가하면서도, 적어도 자신의 죄를 인정하는 대답을 합니다. 그녀는 속임을 당했고 금단의 열매를 먹었습니다. 이는 칭찬할 만 하지만, 하와의 죄를 여전히 강조해야 합니다. 그녀는 스스로 속임을

당하도록 허용했고, 그 자체로 죄입니다. 하와는 뱀과 대화조차 하지 말았어야 했습니다. 그를 떠나서 하나님께 무슨 일이 있었는지 알렸어야 했습니다. 하나님의 진리를 거짓으로 바꾼 것 또한 죄입니다. 하와는 그렇게 했습니다. 그녀는 사탄의 거짓말을 믿었고, 그렇게 함으로써 하나님의 진리를 거부했습니다.

인간의 불순종으로 인해 하나님의 완벽한 창조물은 저주 아래 놓였습니다.

계속해서 하나님께서 뱀에게 무슨 말씀을 하셨는지 살펴보겠습니다.

14 So the LORD God said to the serpent:

**“Because you have done this,
You are cursed more than all cattle,
And more than every beast of the field;
On your belly you shall go,
And you shall eat dust
All the days of your life.**

The first thing to note here is that God doesn't question the serpent (Satan). Adam and Eve were given the opportunity to explain themselves and confess their sin. No such opportunity is offered to the serpent. No debate is to be entered into. Charles Spurgeon noted the following,

“The Lord God did not ask the serpent anything, for he knew that he was a liar, but he at once pronounced sentence upon him.”

God's plan of salvation is only intended for the descendants of Adam. The angelic beings who fell are forever lost with no hope of redemption.

Let us then look at the curse that God placed upon the serpent. Please note that although Satan worked in and through the serpent in some way it is the snake (creature) that God curses first. God informs the snake that because he has been a part of this deception he will suffer greatly. He will be cursed more than the **cattle** (meaning domesticated animals) and the **beasts of the field** (meaning wild animals). We know this to be true. Snakes have a bad reputation and are universally loathed and feared.

We then read the interesting detail that as part of the curse they will forever crawl around on their bellies. You may stop me here and quite rightly point out the fact that since snakes have no legs they can only ever slither around on their bellies.

Well, not so fast. Some believe that when God first created snakes they had legs, or were upright in some way. They may very well have had a wholly different appearance and reputation when God made them. Some have even speculated that they were attractive and even “cuddly.” The curse then includes either snakes losing their legs or their previous ability to move around in an upright manner.

Finally, the snake will be cursed to “eat dust.” Now clearly snakes do not eat dust. There are according to the “AZ animals” website just over 4,100 different snake species identified today. Of these all of them are carnivores. Not one of them is known to subsist on dust or dirt. But they do travel along the ground and give off the impression that they are “eating dust.” There is however a better explanation for this. The expression “to eat or lick dust” was an ancient saying that indicated either the lowest form of existence, or else total humiliation and defeat (Ps 44:25). This is indeed what has happened to Satan. God's judgment on Satan is for him to always know defeat. He will strive for victory but always fall short of it.

Let us turn now to the key verse for today's sermon.

14 여호와 하나님이 뱀에게 이르시되

네가 이렇게 하였으니

네가 모든 가축과

was an event that was at this point in time was approximately 4000 years in the future.

So you may have been wondering what this passage taken from Genesis has to do with Christmas. Now you know. In this verse we read for the first time that Jesus is coming. That momentous event that took place in Bethlehem was first prophesied here.

Let's look at the protoevangelium in more depth. God tells Satan that He will put “enmity” (antagonism, ill will and hatred) between him and the woman. Now naturally most woman, and many men too have a strong aversion to snakes. We also have a strong dislike for Satan and all that he promotes. We recognise evil and shun it for what it is. Most people are repelled by true evil. Satan may have hoped that he had made a good friend in Eve but God tells him this is not the case. From this point on there will be enmity between the seed, the offspring of the woman and of Satan. To put it more simply from this point on the human race will be turned against Satan.

What does it mean by “seed?” Now clearly we know who Eve's offspring (seed) were. She is the mother of the human race. We are all her descendants. But, who is, or are Satan's seed or offspring? The Bible never directly says whether angels can reproduce. Jesus is recorded as saying that at the resurrection people will not marry and will be like the angels in heaven (Matt 22:30). Some have taken this to mean that since there is no marriage among angels then they must be “sexless” or genderless. If this is the case then it's safe to say that they cannot reproduce. However in truth we are not given enough evidence from the bible to absolutely prove this. So what is in view here in verse 15.

I think that what is being spoken about here is spiritual and not literal descent. Satan's seed may mean his fellow fallen angelic beings (the demons). Or, more likely to human beings who willingly choose to side with Satan. We can quite rightly identify such people as being “children of Satan” and not, “Children of our Father in heaven.” That's a hard truth for many of us to accept. It's difficult to believe that there are people in this world who hate God so much that they choose to align themselves with Satan. A creature who is wholly evil and wicked. A lying manipulator who promises much but delivers only pain, misery, suffering and death.

But look very carefully at what comes next. God gives us a promise. The final spiritual battle will be between the woman's seed and Satan. The singular pronoun “He” is emphasised. We are speaking here then of one man, the seed of a woman who will take on and defeat Satan.

Let's have a little biology lesson. It's been quite some time since most of us were at school. How do human beings reproduce? The man puts his seed inside the woman where it merges with her egg and a new life is created. So men carry seeds and women carry eggs. This is the only place in the Bible where it talks about the “**seed of a woman**.” It talks a great deal about the “seed of men.” This is because as we just established the “seed” is in the man. So what is going on here?

Well let's think for a moment. Has any human being ever been produced without the seed of a man? Think very carefully, can you think of anyone who was born to a virgin without the intervention of a human father. Yes, you guessed it this is a prophecy predicting the virgin birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the only human who was not produced through the seed of a man. Next week we will look in much more detail at this. So, as we know Mary's situation was quite unique. She represents the only time a woman had the seed of her own.

We then read about how this conflict between the Seed (Jesus) and Satan will play out. The Lord Jesus Christ will bruise Satan's head. The Hebrew word used for “bruise” here is the word *shuph* (shoop). In some bible translations it is translated as “crush.” This I think much better captures the fate of Satan. To crush a snake's or even a person's head is to inflict a mortal blow. By contrast to bruise, or even to crush someone's heel whilst painful is far from being mortal. That is what is being conveyed here. Satan will strike a blow against our saviour. We know this to be true. Jesus suffered

greatly as He fulfilled God's redemptive plan. He was whipped, beaten, tortured, physically and mentally abused and then nailed to a cross till He died. But through this act He dealt a death blow to Satan. He crushed his head and brought about his downfall.

Perhaps this is not something we often think about at Christmas but we should. When we think about our blessed saviour being laid in a manger we should remember what He came to do. Thirty or so years later He hung from a cross bearing the weight of our sins upon His shoulders. He agonized in extreme pain for us.

I want to leave you with the words taken from one of the best know Christmas carols. When Charles Wesley wrote the familiar carol “Hark, the Herald Angels Sing,” (published 1739) he included a verse based on Genesis 3:15. In case you were wondering it is verse 4. Allow me to read it to you now.

*Come, Desire of Nations, come, Fix in us Thy humble home.
Rise the woman’s conquering Seed, Bruise in us the serpent’s head.
Adam’s likeness now efface, Stamp Thine image in its place,
Second Adam from above, Reinstat us in Thy love,
Hark, the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King.*

Beautifully expressed. No words of mine could top that.

Next week, Lord willing we will look at another prophecy Jesus fulfilled. The prophecy regarding His virgin birth. I hope you will join me for that.

15 □□ 너로 여자와 원수가 되게 하고

네 후손 your seed 도 여자의 후손 her Seed 과 원수가 되게 하라니

여자의 후손 He 은 네 머리를 상하게 할 것이요

너는 그의 발꿈치를 □□□ 할 것이니라 하고

하나님은 이제 뱀으로부터 사탄에게 관심을 돌리시고 저주하십니다. 이 구절은 성경에서 발견되는 최초의 예언입니다. 이를 원복음(原福音), protoevangelium 이라고 부릅니다.

이 단어 Protoevangelium 는 두 개의 그리스어 단어 즉 "첫 번째"를 의미하는 "proto"와 "좋은 소식" 또는 "복음"을 의미하는 "euangelion"에서 유래했습니다. 따라서 이 구절은 최초의 복음 선포입니다. 인류 역사를 기록하기 시작한 창세기의 세번째 장에서 벌써 우리는 하나님의 구원 계획을 읽습니다. 세상은 짧은 기간 동안만 완벽했습니다. 이제 세상은 죄에 빠졌고, 하나님께서는 당신의 창조물을 정당하게 저주하셨습니다. 하지만 감사하게도 하나님은 당신의 창조물을 구원할 계획을 가지고 계셨습니다. 하나님은 아직은 모든 것이 파괴되도록 내버려두지 않으실 겁니다. 그분은 우리에게 생명줄을, 안전기는 상황이 달라질 것이라는 희망을 주셨습니다. 안전가 하나님은 당신의 아들 메시아를 보내어 인류를 구원하실 계획을 세우셨는데, 그 □□□□ 4000 년 후에 일어났습니다.

창세기의 이 구절이 크리스마스와 무슨 관련이 있는지 궁금하셨을 겁니다. 이제 아시겠죠? 이 구절에서 우리는 처음으로 예수님이 오실 것을 알게 됩니다. 베들레헴에서 일어난 그 중대한 사건이 이곳에서 처음으로 예언되었습니다.

원복음을 더 자세히 살펴보겠습니다. 하나님은 사탄에게 그와 여자 사이에 "적대감"(적대감, 악의 증오)을 두겠다고 말씀하십니다. 지금은 대부분의 여자와 많은 남자들도 뱀에 대해 강한 혐오감을 가지고 있습니다. 또한 우리는 사탄과 그가 조장하는 모든 것을 싫어합니다. 우리는 악을 인지하고 그 악한 것을 피합니다. 대부분의 사람들은 진정한 악에

혐오감을 느낍니다. $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$, 하나님은 그렇지 않다고 말씀하십니다. 이 시점부터 여자의 씨 즉 그녀의 후손과 사탄의 후손이 완수가 될 것입니다. 더 간단히 말해서, 이 시점부터 인류는 사 $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$.

"씨"는 무엇을 의미할까요? 현재 우리는 하와의 후손(씨)이 누구인지 잘 알고 있습니다. 그녀는 인류의 어머니입니다. 우리는 모두 그녀의 후손입니다. 그렇다면 누가 $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$? 성경은 천사들이 자손을 생산할 수 있는지 직접적으로 언급하지 않습니다. 예수님께서서는 부활 때 사람들이 결혼하지 않고 하늘에 있는 천사들과 같을 것이라고 말씀하셨습니다(마태복음 22:30). 어떤 이들은 이 말씀을 천사들은 결혼하지 않으므로 "성별이 없다"고 해석합니다. 만약 그렇다면 천사들은 후손을 생산할 수 없습니다. 그러나 사실 성경에는 이를 절대적으로 증명할 충분한 증거는 없습니다. 그렇다면 15 절은 무엇을 말하고 있는 것일까요?

저는 여기서 문자적인 후손이 아니라 영적인 후손을 의미한다고 생각합니다. $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$ (의미들)을 의미할 수도 있습니다. 혹은 기꺼이 사탄의 편을 들기로 선택한 인간을 의미할 가능성이 더 큼니다. 그런 $\square\square\square\square$ " $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$ " $\square\square\square\square$ " $\square\square\square\square$ " $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$. 이는 많은 사람들이 받아들이기 어려운 진실입니다. 이 세상에 하나님을 너무나 미워하여 사탄과 연합하기로 선택하는 사람들이 있다는 것이 믿기 어렵습니다. $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$. 많은 것을 약속하지만 고통과 비참함, 고난과 죽음만을 가져오는 거짓말장이 조종자입니다.

그다음에 무엇이 오는지 주의 깊게 살펴보십시오. 하나님께서 우리에게 약속을 주십니다. 마지막 영적 전쟁은 여자의 씨와 사탄 사이에서 일어날 것입니다. 단수 대명사인 "그He"가 강조됩니다. 여기서 사탄을 무찌를 한 남자, 여자의 씨에 대해 이야기하고 있습니다.

자, 잠깐 생물학 수업을 해 봅시다. 우리 대부분이 학교를 졸업한 지 꽤 오래 되었습니다. 인간은 어떻게 번식할까요? $\square\square\square\square$ (정자)seed 가 여자의 몸속에 들어가고, 그 씨(정자)seed 가 여자의 난자egg 와 결합하여 새로운 생명을 탄생 $\square\square\square\square$. 그래서 남자는 씨(정자)seed 가 있고 여자는 난자egg 가 있습니다. 이 구절이 성경에서 "**여자의 씨(the seed of a woman)** "에 대해 언급하는 유일한 부분입니다. " $\square\square\square\square$ seed"에 대해서는 많이 언급합니다. 분명 "씨 seed"는 남자에게 있기 때문입니다. 그럼 이 구절은 무슨 뜻일까요?

잠시 생각해 봅시다. $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$? 인간 아버지의 개입 없이 처녀에게서 태어난 사람이 있었습니까? 네, 그렇습니다. 이것은 주 예수 그리스도의 동정녀 탄생을 의미하는 예언입니다. 그분은 남자의 씨로 태어나지 않은 유일한 인간입니다. 다음 주에 이 부분에 대해 더 자세히 살펴보겠습니다. 우리가 알듯이 마리아의 상황은 매우 독특했습니다. 그녀는 여자가 자신의 씨를 가진 유일한 경우를 대표합니다.

그런 다음 씨(예수님)와 사탄 사이의 갈등이 어떻게 전개될지 언급합니다. 주 예수 그리스도께서 사탄의 머리를 상하게 하실 것입니다. 여기서 " $\square\square\square\square$ bruise"에 해당하는 히브리어 단어는 슈프(shoop)입니다. 어떤 성경 번역에서는 "으깨다crush"로 번역하는데, 저는 그 단어가 사탄의 운명을 훨씬 더 잘 표현한다고 생각합니다. 뱀이나 심지어 사람의 머리를 으개는 것은 치명타를 입히는 것입니다. 반면에 $\square\square\square\square$, 누군가의 발꿈치를 으개는 것은 고통스럽겠지만 결코 치명적인 것은 아닙니다. 바로 이것이 여기서 전달하는 의미입니다. $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$ 할 것입니다. 우리는 이것이 사실임을 압니다. 예수님은 하나님의 구원 계획을 성취하시며 엄청난 고난을 겪으셨습니다. 채찍질당하고, 매를 맞고, 고문당하고, 육체적, 정신적으로 학대받으신 후 십자가에 못 박혀 돌아가셨습니다. 그러 $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$. $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$.

이 내용은 크리스마스에 우리가 자주 생각하는 것은 아니지만, $\square\square\square\square\square\square\square\square$. 우리의 복도신 구세주께서 구유에 누워 계셨던 것을 생각할 때, 그분이 이 땅에 오셔서 무엇을 하셨는지 기억해야 합니다. 약 30 년 후, 그분은 십자가에 매달려 우리 죄의 짐을 짊어지셨습니다. 그분은 우리를 위해 극심한 고통을 겪으셨습니다.

가장 잘 알려진 크리스마스 캐럴 중 하나에서 따온 가사로 마무리하고 싶습니다. 찰스 웨슬리는 1739년에 출판된 친숙한 캐럴 "천사들의 노래, 들어라"(Hark, the Herald Angels Sing)를 썼을 때 창세기 3장 15절을 바탕으로 한 가사를 썼습니다. 그 노래 4절인데 지금 읽어드리겠습니다.

*오소서 열방의 소망이여 오소서 우리 안에 당신의 소박한 집을 세우소서
여인의 정복하는 후손이여 일어나 우리 안에 있는 뱀의 머리를 꺾으소서
아담의 형상은 이제 자유지고, 당신의 형상이 그 자리에 꺾으소서,
우로부터 오신 두 번째 아담이시여 당신의 꺾은 안에 우리를 다시 세워주소서
들어라 천사들의 노래 꺾은 신 왕께 영광을*

아름답게 표현되었습니다. 제 어떤 말도 이보다 더 좋을 수 없습니다.

다음 주에 예수님께서 성취하신 또 다른 예언, 즉 동정녀 탄생에 관한 예언을 살펴 보겠습니다. 여러분도 함께 해주시기를 바랍니다.

Lessons to learn

I have drawn two lessons from today's text.

저는 오늘의 본문에서 두 가지 교훈을 얻었습니다.

1 Sin leads to separation

Adam and Eve were blessed by God with the perfect life. They lived in a pristine world that contained all they needed to live content and happy lives. The perfect climate, surrounded by delicious foods to eat and the ability to be friends with penguins and capybaras. But when they chose to rebel and go against God they lost all of that. Their sin drove a wedge between them (the creature) and God (the creator). God, who is perfectly holy can have nothing to do with sin. Human beings and God were from this point on separated. Today, thanks to the person and work of Jesus Christ we can be reconciled. When we confess of our sins, repent or turn from and then place our trust in Christ alone we can be restored to God. The cross of Christ bridges the chasm and rejoins us with our loving heavenly Father.

However our sin can still lead to us being separated from God. This is not a permanent separation but our rebellion can impact the fellowship we enjoy with God. When we sin we damage our fellowship with God. We separate ourselves from Him. So I urge you to humbly go before the Lord and confess of your sins. When you do this He will draw you close and once again you will get to enjoy true intimacy. Why would you ever want to allow your sin to separate you from your loving heavenly Father?

1 죄의 결과는 분리로 이어집니다

아담과 하와는 하나님으로부터 온전한 삶의 축복을 받았습니다. 그들은 만족스럽고 행복한 삶을 위해 필요한 모든 것이 갖춰진 껍질 껍질. 완벽한 기후와 맛있는 음식이 가득한 곳에서 펭귄과 카피바라와 친구가 될 수 있는 기회도 있었습니다. 그러나 그들이 하나님께 반역하고 불순종하기로 선택했을 때, 그 모든 것을 잃었습니다. 그들의 죄는 그들(피조물)과 하나님(창조주) 껍질 껍질. 완벽하게 거룩하신 하나님은 죄와 관련될 수 없습니다. 이 시점부터 인간과 하나님은 분리되었습니다. 오늘날 예수 그리스도의 인격과 사역 덕분에 우리는 하나님과 화해할 수 있습니다. 우리가 죄를 고백하고 회개하며 돌아켜 오직 그리스도만을 신뢰할 때, 우리는 하나님께로 회복될 수 있습니다. 그리스도의 십자가는 그 심연을 메우고 우리를 사랑의 하나님 아버지와 다시 연결해 줍니다.

그러나 우리의 죄는 여전히 우리를 하나님으로부터 분리시킬 수 있습니다. 물론 영구적인 분리는 아니지만, 우리의 불순종은 하나님과 우리의 교제에 영향을 미칠 수 있습니다. 우리가 죄를 지을 때, 하나님과의 교제가 손상됩니다. 우리는 그분과 분리됩니다. 그래서 저는 여러분께 겸손히 주님 앞에 나아가 죄를 고백하기를 권합니다. 그렇게 할 때 주님

께서 여러분을 가까이 끌어 당기시고 다시 진정한 친밀한 교제를 누릴 것입니다. 여러분은 죄가 여러분을 사랑하시는 하나님 아버지로부터 분리시키도록 내버려 두겠습니까?

2 Our only hope is Christ

In some ways we might see Genesis 3:15 as being God's declaration of war against Satan. It's God saying to the "Accuser" that from this point on we are at war. Who does God send out to fight in this war? Does He send out His creatures? Of course not. We are weak, puny and pathetic. Could you imagine us trying to fight Satan! He would make "mincemeat" out of all of us. God knew that Satan was a powerful adversary and that was why He sent His son. Our Lord and saviour crushed his head. Satan for all his bluster proved nothing to Jesus. So may we never forget the reality that Jesus is our only hope. We cannot save ourselves. It is Jesus and only Jesus who can save us.

2 우리의 유일한 소망은 그리스도입니다

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