

Daily Verse and Comment

Genesis 3:14-15

(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 dustAll the days of your life.

(15) And I will put enmityBetween you and the woman,And between your seed and her Seed;He shall bruise your head,And you shall bruise His heel."New King James Version

<u>Satan</u> had little trouble deceiving Eve and goading Adam to sin—just as he has swayed every other human being except Jesus to <u>sin</u>. However, he will not go unpunished for his part in deceiving the whole world. <u>God</u> makes this clear in <u>Genesis 3:14-15</u>, where he curses the serpent.

God says plainly that Satan would be put down; the woman's Seed— Messiah—would "bruise his head." The Hebrew word for "bruise," *qâmal*, means "to slay, kill." When a person's head is "bruised" in this way—given a killing blow—he dies, while the same blow on the heel causes pain and damage, but not death. God's curse on the serpent signals what the ultimate end of Satan will be.

Even so, we still must resist the Devil's daily, evil influences. He and his demons are still around. Despite putting a hedge around us, God does not forbid Satan to try to deceive us after <u>baptism</u>. He tried his best to turn Jesus

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from His course (Matthew 4, Luke 4), but our Savior showed us how to fight and repel him. Satan is still trying to deceive and tempt human beings, especially God's children, since they have been chosen to be part of the Family destined to take over his throne with <u>Jesus Christ</u>.

God will always be faithful to His character and to His promises, so Satan does not waste his time attacking Him. There are easier fish to fry—us. Some doubt still exists in Satan's mind whether we will endure to the end, so we must be strong and resist him in the faith (I Peter 5:9), remembering Paul's encouraging words in Romans 16:19-20: "I want you to be wise in what is good, and simple [pure] concerning evil. And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen."

The Greek word rendered as "crush" (*syntribô; Strong's* #4937) in verse 20 means "to break the power of, deprive of strength, debilitate." It can also be translated as "crush" or "bruise," as in <u>Genesis 3:15</u>.

— Richard T. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see: <u>The Binding of Satan</u>

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