

THE WOMAN'S CURSE

As a result of Eve's participation in the insurrection of Edenic Law, a three-fold curse was pronounced upon womanhood (Gen.2: 17; 3:16).

1. **Labor Pain:** "I will [greatly multiple] (rabah / hiphil infin and hiphil impf) [your pain] (itsabon) [in childbirth], in pain you shall bring forth children."
2. **Love Pain:** "Yet your [desire] (teshuqah) [intense craving of soul] shall be for your husband."
3. **Leadership Pain:** "And he shall [rule] (mashal / kal impf) over you."

Note that all three areas of the curse upon the woman is associated with a woman's decision to have a husband and children.

This lesson will study FIVE aspects of the WOMAN'S CURSE

1. Note that this three-fold curse was linked to the blessing given earlier to womanhood.

The Labor pain part of the curse was added to this promise (Gen.9: 1, 7). "And God blessed them; and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'" (Gen.1: 28)

The Love and Leadership Pain parts of the curse were added to these promises. "Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.'" (Gen.2: 18) "This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." (Gen.2: 23)

2. As a result of the curse of the woman, copulation became a bittersweet experience for women.

Bitter – menstruation, pregnancy, and birth pains (Isa.64:6/ filthy rags).
Sweet – birth of child and menopause (John 16:21-22).

The curse of the woman effected the following three categories of womanhood.

- § Female (neqebah) menstruation (Gen.1:27; 3:16).
- § Wife (ishah) intense craving towards husband (Gen2:21-23; 3:16).
- § Mother (em) travail with children (Gen.1:28; 3:16).

(Prov.17: 25) "A foolish son is a grief to his father and bitterness to her who bore him." (Prov.23: 25; 31:28; Isa.49: 15)

3. The curse of the woman was classified as unclean during her menstruation and childbirth under Leviticus law (Lev.12; 15:19-33; 18:19; 20:18; Isa.64: 6).

(Lev.12: 2) "When a woman gives birth and bears a male child, then shall be unclean for seven days, as in the days of her menstruation shall be unclean." (Lev.12: 4) Blood purification was thirty-three days for a male child.

(Lev.12: 5) “But if she bears a female child, then she shall be unclean for two weeks, as in her menstruation; and shall remain in the blood of her purification for sixty-six days.”

(Luke 2:22-24) Mary kept this law with the birth of Jesus Christ. She offered the less expensive offering (Lev.12:8)

(Rom.6: 14; 10:4). In shadow Christology, Mary was closing the Leviticus offering for unclean since Christ is the end of the Law

4. In the church age, there is NO purification rite for unclean and clean of Levitical Law. (Acts 10-11; Col.2: 16-23).

“And again a voice came to him a second time, ‘What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy.’” (Acts 10:15)

“You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a man who is a Jew to associate with a foreigner or to visit him; and yet God has shown me that I should not call any man unholy or unclean.” (Acts 10:28)

“And when they heard this, they quieted down, and glorified God, saying, ‘Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life.’” (Acts 11:18)

“Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.” (Gal.3:24-26)

“Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” (2 Cor.7:1)

5. All members of the human race come into the world through the place of cursing – the womb.

Even Jesus Christ came into the world through the place of cursing – womb of Eve. He did not come into the world through procreation but through the conceptual power of the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:33-35).

Pregnancy and travail in childbirth are reminders of the fall of Adam and Eve’s participation in it (Gen.3:16). They remind us that we are born physically alive but spiritually dead (Rom.5:12). They remind us that we are in need of regeneration or spiritual birth through the gospel of Jesus Christ (Titus 3:5; John 3:1-8)

§ Physical birth takes us from physical life to physical death (Heb.9:27).

§ Spiritual birth takes us from spiritual death to spiritual life (John 5:24; Col.1:13).

It was divinely decreed that the Savior of the world would come through the curse of the woman and NOT the curse of the man. What Eve lost in Paradise, Mary couldn’t recover in world. It took God’s son to restore fallen, unrighteous man to a holy God (Matt.1:20-25; Gal.4:4; 1 Tim.2:5-6, 14-15; Rom.1:16).