

THE CURSE UPON THE EARTH

Adam and Eve were given the famous Tree Command of Gen.2:17 – “Don’t eat from it!”
Genesis 2:17 also contained the Consequent Clause for violation of it – “Dying you shall die!”
Violation of the Tree Command resulted in the following five arar curses of AOS.

- Curse upon the snake (Gen.3:14)
- Curse upon Satan (Gen.3:15)
- Curse upon the woman (Gen.3:16)
- Curse upon the man (Gen.3:17-19)
- **Curse upon the earth** (Gen.3:17)

Note that the curse upon the earth was associated with the curse upon the man (Gen.3:17-19).

This lesson will study FIVE aspects of the CURSE UPON THE EARTH
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1. It might help us understand how the earth was designed for mankind in order to understand why God placed the cursed of the earth under the curse of man (Gen.3:17-19).

The following four points explain how God designed the earth for mankind.

- The earth was designed by God for man to live on it (Gen.1:28; Ps.8:5-9; Heb.2:6-9).
- The earth was designed by God for man to live from it (Gen.1:29-30; 9:3; Ps.104:14-15).
- The earth was designed by God for man’s body to come from it (Gen.2:7; Ps.103:14).
- The earth was designed by God for man’s body to return to it (Gen.3:19; Ps.146:4; Eccl.12:7).

Note: the three reasons given for the curse upon the earth by the word are found in (Gen.3:17-19).

- Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten from the tree (Gen.3:17a).
- Because of you the ground is cursed (Gen.3:17b).
- Because from the ground you were taken and will return (Gen.3:19).

Note: these three reasons explain WHY God’s cursed the earth.

2. Scientific observation of the arar curse upon the earth is referred to as the second law of thermodynamics (All things living or non-living eventually wear out, run down, grow old, decay, and pass into dust; species extinction).

The present earth is running down and the amount of available energy is constantly decreasing (entropy).

“They (earth and heavens) will perish, but Thou remainest; and they all will become old as a garment, and as a mantle Thou wilt roll them up; as a garment they will also be changed. But Thou art the same, and Thy years will not come to an end.” (Heb.1:11-12; Ps.102:25-27; Rev.21:4/ first things)

“All flesh is like the grass, and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and flower falls off, but the word of the Lord abides forever. And this is the word which was preached to you.” (1 Pet.1:24-25)

“Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” (2 Cor.4:16-18) [Aging is a visual aid of this doctrine]

3. Noahic flood added two more features associated with divine judgment upon the earth (Gen.8:21-22).

- Ante-diluvian flood changed the global geography of the earth. Rainbow given as doctrinal visual aid (Gen.9:11-17).
- Post-diluvian seasonal cycles on the earth (Gen.7:21-22; 8:21-22; 2 Pet.3:5-7).

No matter how long the chain of secondary causes, the first cause is always God – “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” (Gen.1:1)

4. The arar curse upon the earth will be removed with the Second Coming of Jesus Christ (Rom.8:19-25).

“That the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God (Rom.8:21)

“The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed.” (Rom.8:19)

During the Millennium, the second law of thermodynamics and entropy will be greatly modified (Isa.11:6-9; 55:13; 65:20-25; Ps.72:15-16).

One doctrinal point is this – “a change of environment (time, places, people, etc) will not solve your spiritual problems.” (Heb.13:8; Matt.24:35)

Prov.8:22-31 reminds us that the WISDOM OF GOD existed before as well as through-out all its changes because He is eternal life and everyone who believes the gospel of Jesus Christ enters it (1 John 5:11-13; Job 38).

In the end, the earth will be refined by a global fire (2 Pet.3:5-13; Rev.21-22).

5. The present universe is under the sovereign control of the resurrected-ascended Lord Jesus Christ (John 1:1-3; Col.1:15-17; 2:22; Heb.1:2-3; 2:10).

“He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together (sunistem / perf.a.ind) (Col.1:17)”. This is the reason the corrupt earth does not disintegrate of itself.

“And upholds all things by the word of His power.” (Heb.1:3) Jesus Christ has the divine sovereign authority to overrule the fixed laws of God. “Yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him.” (1 Cor.8:6)

“We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.” (Rom.8:22-23, NIV)

“Worthy art Thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for Thou didst create all things, and because of Thy will they existed, and were created.” (Rev.4:11)