

## THE CURSE OF THE SERPENT

Adam, Eve and the serpent were directly involved in the insurrection of Eden. When it came time for God to pronounce a curse-judgment on all three of them, He judged them in reverse order (serpent, Eve and Adam).

While Satan was indirectly involved in this insurrection, he was not part of this curse-judgment. He had already received a curse-judgment for the insurrection in eternity past (Matt.25:41; Isa.14:12-15; Ezek.28:2; Rev.20:2; 12:9).

<b>This lesson will study five aspects of the Curse of Serpent from Gen.3:14-15.</b>
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### **1. The Hebrew word for curse-judgment used in our lesson text is (arar). Gen.3:14 is its first occurrence.**

“Arar is a pronouncement of judgment on those who break a covenant.” (Vine’s Expository Dictionary of biblical Words, pg.54)

“Arar curse is the most powerful decree expressed by an authority and by means of it a man or group that has committed a serious transgression is delivered over to misfortune.” (TD of NT, pg.411)

The arar curse decreed by God can only be annulled by God Himself (Jer.24:8-10; Mal.2:1-2).

For example the curse of Adam’s Original Sin (AOS) of (Gen.2:17) can only be annulled by the gospel of Jesus Christ.

(Gal.3:13) “Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us – for it is written, ‘cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.’” (Deut.21:23) (This is 1 of 13 judicial charges of AOS. [See “50 Things Free” on [www.doctrinalstudies.com](http://www.doctrinalstudies.com)].

### **2. We will examine the arar curse of the serpent by the following four homiletical points of history.**

- **Deed**        “Because you have done this.” (transgression history)
- **Decree**      “Cursed are you more than all cattle, more than every beast of the field.” (5<sup>th</sup> day of creation history)
- **Dust**        “On your belly shall you go, and dust shall you eat.” (perpetual history)
- **Days**        “All the days of your life.” (reptile history) - bite the dust (Eccl.3:20; Isa.65:25)

(Micah 7:17) “They will lick the dust like a serpent, like reptiles of the earth.”

The serpent became classified in Levitical Law as unclean (Lev.11:41-47). Only death will release it from this curse.

### 3. (Gen.3:15) gave a prophecy in the curse of the serpent that involves Satan.

“The great deceiver clothed himself as a serpent, one of God’s good creatures. He insinuated a falsehood and portrayed rebellion as clever, but essential innocent, self-interest. Therefore, the devil or satan, is later referred to as the Old Serpent.” (NIV, Gen.3:1; Rev.20:2; 2 Cor.11:3-4, 13-15)

We will examine three prophetic homiletical points of the serpent’s curse that is associated with Satan.

- **Spiritual enemy** “I will put enmity between you (satan) and the woman.” (Rev.12:9; Gal.4:4)
- **Spiritual seed** “Between your seed (satan) and her seed (Christ).” (Matt.13:36-43)
- **Spiritual conflict** “He (Christ) shall bruise you (satan) on the head, and you shall bruise Him on the heel.” (Isa.53:3-5; 2 Cor.11:3; Rev.20:2; 1 Tim.2:14)

### 4. Theologians refer to (Gen.3:15) as Protevangelism or the ‘first gospel’.

Protevangelism was part of the serpent’s curse, but not part of Adam or Eve’s curse.

We will examine it by three homiletical points involving the conflict associated with Protevangelism from (Gen.3:15).

- **Hostility conflict** Satan verses dispensational divine agencies throughout human history which woman to attack).
- **Heredity conflict** Satan’s seed verses Christ seed in the world (which child to attack).
- **Head and heel conflict** Satan’s head verses Christ’s heel (which area to attack) – Christ will attack from above and Satan from below.

### 5. During the Millennium, only the hostility part of the arar curse will be removed from serpent, but not the “belly and dust” part of the curse.

(Isa.65:25) “The wolf and the lamb shall graze together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And dust shall be the serpent’s food. **They shall do no evil or harm** in all My holy mountain says the Lord.”

(Isa.11:8) “The nursing child will play by the hole of the cobra, and the weaned child will put his hand on the viper’s den.” (Isa.11:5-9)

“Messiah’s reign in the yet future millennial kingdom will be characterized by harmony in the whole creation (Rom.8:18-22).” (Ryrie NAS, Isa.11:6-9)

“The offspring of the woman would eventually crush the serpent’s head, a promise fulfilled in Christ’s victory over Satan – a victory in which all believers will share.” (NIV, Gen.3:15)

(Rom.16:20) “And the God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.”