

“Cursed is the Ground for Your Sake”
[Genesis 3:17-19]

Background Scriptures: **[Deuteronomy 30:19-20]:** *I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessings and cursing: therefore, choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live.*

That thou mayest love the Lord thy God, and thou mayest obey His voice, and thou mayest cleave unto Him: for He is thy life, and the length of days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the Lord swore unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Issac, and to Jacob, to give them.

Note: **[3:24]: He drove them out:** Adam’s perfect relationship with God had been lost. He was now driven out of the garden, and a life of dependence on God in the midst of trials began. In addition, satan in some sense gained power over the world through the fall of Adam and Eve, the **N.T.** speaks of satan as being “*the prince of this world*” (**John 14:30; II Corinthians 4:4; I John 5:19**).

However, God so loved the human race that he determined to conquer satan by reconciling them and the world to Himself at the cost of the life of His Son.

Note “*god of this world:*” The “god of this world” refers to satan (**John 12:31; 16:11; Ephesians 2:2; I John 5:19**). Who holds power over much of the activity of this present age. His rule is, however, temporary and conditional. He continues only by God’s permissive will unto the end of history (**Revelation 19:11-20:10**).

Those who do not submit themselves to Jesus Christ remain under satan’s sway. He blinds their eyes/minds to the truth and glory of the gospel in order that they might not be saved. The solution to this fatal situation is to bind his activity through intercession and to preach the gospel in the power of the Spirit (**Acts 1:8**) in order that people may hear, understand and choose to believe and be saved.

Present/Future Glory
[Romans 8:18-25]

[8:18-20]

Note: All the suffering of this present age: sickness, pain, misery, disappointments, poverty, mistreatment, sorrow, persecution and trouble of any kind must be considered insignificant when compared with the blessing, privileges and glory that will be given to the faithful believer in the age to come (**II Corinthians 4:17**).

[8:21-23]

Note: Paul speaks of a threefold groaning of creation (**vs.22**) of believers (**vs. 23**) and of the Holy Spirit (**vs.26**). The “creation” {i.e., animate and in animate nature} has been subjected to suffering and **physical catastrophes because of human sin (vs. 20; Genesis 3:19)**. Thus, God has purposed that nature itself will be redeemed and re-created. There will be a new heaven and a new earth, a restoration of all things according to the will of God (**II Corinthians 5:17; Galatians 6:15; Revelation 21:1, 5**), when God’s faithful children receive their full inheritance (**vs.14, 23**).

Future Hope and Glory [Revelation 21:1-8]

[21:1]

Note: A new Heaven and a new Earth: The final goal and Biblical expectation of the redeemed are a new transformed and redeemed world where Christ lives with His people and righteousness dwells in holy perfection. To erase all traces of sin, there will be destruction of the earth, stars, and galaxies. Heaven and earth will be shaken and will vanish like smoke.

The stars will be dissolved and the elements destroyed. The new earth will become the dwelling place of both humans and God. All the redeemed will possess bodies like Christ’s resurrection body, ones that are real, visible, and tangible, but incorruptible and immortal (**Romans 8:23; I Corinthians 15:51-54**).

Final Thought: But if our gospel is hid, it is hidden to them that are lost: in whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. [**II Corinthians 4:3-4**].

(Ephesians 2:11-18)