

GOD'S SEED

Hatred is on full display across the world. We see it in politics, in extremist interest groups, in religion, on social media etc. As I reflected on this recently, I recalled that hatred was first mentioned over 6000 years ago in a garden in a prophecy about God's seed. God spoke to the serpent (the devil):

'I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head and you shall bruise His heel.' - Genesis 3:15

Enmity is defined as hostility, antagonism, rancor, animosity and hatred. Does enmity originate from God who is good? God is wholly righteous but in His Sovereignty, He has given mankind and angels the right to make moral decisions to obey or disobey Him. The by product of rebellion against Him reveals the antithesis between light and darkness, truth and error, life and death, faith and fear. good and evil, reason and rage, love and hate.

The above scripture is a prophecy about the enmity between the seed of Satan and the seed of the woman. We get glimpses of this hatred in the Old Testament as evidenced by Satan's war on God's people in order to thwart God's prophecy about a **coming liberator** who would crush the serpent's head.

'This is the Bible's first hint of a coming Redeemer. The use of **He** (Gen.3:15) shows that one person is meant. There is only ONE descendant of Eve who was born of Woman without being begotten of man. Here, right at the start of the Bible story, is this foregleam of Christ: and as the ages pass, Hints, Foregleams, Glimpses, Pictures and Plain Statements, become clearer and more abundant, so that, as we come to the end of the Old Testament, there has been drawn a fairly Complete Picture of Christ.' - Halley's Bible Handbook

Years later, King Herod was a conduit of Satan's hatred for God's Seed after the birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. An angel warned Joseph:

.....Herod is going to search for the child to **kill him**.....
When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was **furious** and he gave orders to **kill** all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under.....- Matthew 2:13,16

Herod failed to find and kill baby Jesus, but nearly three decades later, the devil found some other willing agents to channel his hate for the Messiah. For over three years the Jewish religious leaders persecuted Jesus, which culminated in the final week which included an illegal trial, flogging and finally a crucifixion. Satan was now sure the ancient prophecy from the garden about his own head being crushed was null and void, for Jesus was dead and buried. Blinded by hate, Satan had failed to acknowledge or fully understand the words of Jesus to his disciples just before the Passion Week.

The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds. The man who loves his life will lose it, while the man who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. – John 12:23-25 NIV

We are going up to Jerusalem and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priest and teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles, who will mock him and spit on him, flog him and kill him. Three days later he will rise.
– Mark 10:33-34 NIV

Only Jesus:

- * was born of the Holy Spirit via virgin birth
- * was always led by the Spirit and lived a sinless life
- * walked in perfect, selfless love and humility
- * fulfilled hundreds of Old Testament prophecies
- * was a perfect blood sacrifice for all of mankind
- * conquered death and arose in victory

Fueled by hate and deceived by his own pride, Satan failed to realize that killing Jesus was a **grave mistake**. Everyone knows that a seed buried can die and come back to life, but only in the plant kingdom. However, Jesus was from another kingdom, a superior one. His dead body was placed in a borrowed tomb, which was empty again after only three days. Jesus' resurrection was a surprise to everyone, including the devil. They had forgotten the words of Jesus at the tomb of Lazarus, 'I am the resurrection and the life.' and had also discounted the ancient prophecy by God about the Seed of Woman in Eden's garden. That seed was no ordinary seed, it was full of supernatural life, love and power.....
it was God's Seed.