



## HOPES & FEARS – PART 1

# THE PROMISE IN THE CURSE

## GENESIS 3

### THE HUMAN CURSE

#### GENESIS 3:16-19

<sup>16</sup> To the woman he said, “I will make your **pains in childbearing** very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. **Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.**”

<sup>17</sup> To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate fruit from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat from it,’ **Cursed is the ground** because of you; through **painful toil** you will eat food from it all the days of your life. <sup>18</sup> It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. <sup>19</sup> **By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.**”

**You have been deceived.  
You will suffer with physical pain and relational strife, and social oppression.  
The natural world will be a burden. Basic needs will require painful toil.  
Your labors will end in death.**

### THE SERPENT CURSE

#### GENESIS 3:13-15

<sup>13</sup> Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?”

The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

<sup>14</sup> So the Lord God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this,

“**Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life.**

<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; **he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.**”

**You have fallen. You are in a losing battle.  
It’s dirt and dust and disgust from here on out.  
Your days are numbered and you will be crushed.**

### THE PROMISE

#### GENESIS 3:15

<sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; **he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.**”

**The Son of Man is coming, the seed of the woman will be born, and he will eventually destroy you.**

#### HOPES & FEARS...

**How has my world and my life been broken and diminished by deception?**

**How am I being deceived even now?**

**How is this deception diminishing my life, and the lives of my family and neighbors?**

**Where is my hope?**

**How do my hopes and fears come face to face in Jesus?**