

# Crushing The Head of Satan

Gen. 3:15

By Mark Hatfield

**“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.”**

I remember growing up on my grandfathers’ farm and I often spent time working in the garden with him. Periodically we would run across a snake and I would tell my grandfather, “I want to kill it”. I would then come up with all kinds of creative ideas for how I would end the life of the snake. “Grandpa, let me hit it with a stick” or “Grandpa, let me stomp on it.” Of course, my grandfather had the wisdom to know that the harmless snakes near his garden only did good things for his crops by killing varmints and critters that attempted to destroy his crops. So we left the snakes alone, but I have never let go of that desire to go serpent stomping. I just don’t like snakes. How many of you feel that way about snakes? Today we are going to talk about one snake that we all need to stomp.

## Introduction

1. There are many things that we do together in our assemblies that are very meaningful to me. Sharing in the Lord’s Supper has to be at the top of that list. But running a close 2<sup>nd</sup> is when the children sing out their songs on Tuesday nights. I love the innocence in their voices and the purity of their hearts when they praise God.
2. Several of the songs that they sing, make reference to beating up the devil, rolling over him in our gospel chariot and having the devil even sit on tack. While some may find these lyrics to be silly or even “childish” I want to share with you today just how important it is that we too crush the head of Satan in our lives as adults that are in the Lord.
3. Most people remember the prophecy from Genesis 3:15 where the Bible speaks of Jesus (the seed of woman), bruising the serpent (the devil) on the head, while the serpent (the devil) would bruise Jesus (the seed of woman) on the heel.
4. Our understanding of this text is that when Jesus went to the cross and died, He destroyed the curse of sin and when He rose from the dead He overcame death and conquered the one who had the power over death (the devil).
5. There is a passage though that would suggest that the battle between the seed of woman (the rest of mankind) and the serpent (the devil) is not over. We still have some serpent stomping to do.
6. In Romans 16:17-20 we read, “Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them. For such men are slaves, not of our Lord Christ but of their own appetites; and by their smooth and flattering speech they deceive the hearts of the unsuspecting. For the report of your obedience has reached to all; therefore I am rejoicing over you, but I want you to be wise in what is good and innocent in what is evil. **The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.** The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.”
7. Let us consider today how our God of peace is using His people to crush Satan under our feet.

## **I. Jesus Crushed Satan under His Feet**

- A. Jesus rendered the devil powerless even though he had the power of death
1. In Hebrews 2:14-15 we read, "Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives."
  2. Because of His humble service in coming to this earth to die for our sins, Jesus took all of the control that the serpent had over death and now He can give us the victory. We can share in the likeness of His resurrection.
- B. Jesus literally destroyed the works of the devil.
1. In I John 3:7-8 we read, "Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous; the one who practices sin is of the devil; for the devil has sinned from the beginning. The Son of God appeared for this purpose, to destroy the works of the devil."
  2. When Jesus died He officially obliterated the works of the devil. There is nothing that the devil has any authority over anymore.
- C. Jesus demonstrated His ability to resist the devil
1. In Matthew 4 Jesus is tempted three times by the devil to see if He would give in and sin. In all three scenarios, Jesus used the scriptures to resist the temptations.
  2. In this Jesus shows us that not only is it possible to withstand the devil's temptations, but that when we do, Satan had no choice but to flee.
  3. It is interesting to note that in the passage the devil appears as a serpent. Jesus wasn't going to give in to the serpent, like Adam and Eve had done in the garden of Eden.
- D. Jesus casts out the ruler of this world.
1. In John 12:31-33, Jesus stated clearly, "Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself.' But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die."
  2. The death of Jesus is what we are here to remember today. Jesus said that when He was lifted up He would draw all men to himself.
  3. Some will not come to the Lord, even though they have heard about Jesus and His death. That doesn't mean that Jesus our Lord has been unsuccessful. As a matter of fact anyone who chooses not to come to Him will realize just how successful Jesus was, because when you live in sin and have to face the final judgment bar, not only will it be too late to come to Jesus but you be cast into hell with the devil and his angels.
  4. Jesus didn't die to save your soul and destroy Satan's power over your life only to have you despise His sacrifice and live in the very sin that He died for on the cross. If judgment is upon this world and the ruler is cast out only to be destined for eternal destruction, let me advise you to make a choice and come to Jesus so that you are not eternally lost. Think about what He did for you on the cross and let Him draw you close to His side.

## II. We Must Crush Satan under Our Feet

### A. Jesus told his disciple that they had the power to tread on serpents

1. In Luke 10:18-20 the text reads, "And He said to them, 'I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.'"
2. We need to realize that Satan has no power over us unless we give it to him. While he might be able to tempt us and send trials our way, we know that the Lord promises a way of escape from each and every one of them (I Cor. 10:13).
3. The next time that Satan attempts to bring chaos into your life, remember to tread on that old serpent. Say as Jesus said, "Go Satan" or "Get behind me Satan" (Matt. 4:10; Mark 8:33). Make the devil flee from you or just give him a taste of the sole of your shoe (James 4:7).

### B. Jesus told His church about how they can overcome the trials of the devil

1. In Revelation 2:10, Jesus said, "Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life."
2. We may have to face some really tough times in life, but the Lord knows what we are going through and He is saying that even if we have to die for what is good and right, at least we know the outcome of our faith is eternal life.
3. Some of you are going through those times right now. Are you going to let the devil win and ruin your progress in the faith? The Bible tells us of those in the church in Pergamum in Revelation 2:13 "I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is; and you hold fast My name, and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells"
4. When things get difficult, God knows right where you are and just how Satan is trying to attack you (Luke 22:31). It is our job to stand firm and learn to defend ourselves from the fiery darts that he hurls at us (Eph. 6:10-17). When people allow their faith to fail, the Bible explains to us who is behind it all (Mark 4:15-20). It is Satan! This serpent does not help the gospel crop so I am going to stomp this one. No apology to grandpa!
5. Why don't you crush his head under your feet by the power of the God of peace? Perhaps when the devil attempts to bite us and inject his venom we should spiritually follow the example of Paul and cast him into the fire where he belongs and eventually will spend eternity (Acts 28:5).
6. Paul shared a concern with brethren and said, "But I am afraid that, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds will be led astray from the simplicity and purity {of devotion} to Christ. (II Cor. 11:3).

7. Remember it was to Christians that Paul said in Romans 16:19-20, “For the report of your obedience has reached to all; therefore I am rejoicing over you, but I want you to be wise in what is good and innocent in what is evil. The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.”

### **Conclusion**

1. There will be many opportunities to crush the head of the serpent between now and eternity.
2. When we choose right instead of wrong, we beat the devil up. When we teach someone and they obey the gospel, we get in our gospel chariots and roll right over him. When we praise God and ignore Satan, if he doesn't like it, he can sit on a tack for all I care. Right kids?
3. As we conclude, I can assure you that one place where we give a crushing blow to the head of the serpent is when we gather each week to remember what Jesus did to forever render the devil powerless. Do you think Satan is happy right now? Not at all! Because he knows that every child of God in here is renewing their dedication Christ and every guest among us is hearing a proclamation of the gospel.
4. Take that Satan! Let us now partake of the Supper of the Lord and praise God for the victory that we have over death and the devil.