

## The Divine Seed King

Gen 3:15  
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### Introduction:

1. The problem with most studies of the Spirit is that they start in Acts.
2. However, everything written to the believers in the Early Church was rooted in THEIR Scriptures, which were the OT – not the NT!
3. **Rubik's** cubes, **Sudokus**, **cross word puzzles** & **mystery novels** have something in common – they're about solving riddles or mysteries.
4. The OT presents a series of riddles that is finally solved in the NT.
5. Today, I'll lay the foundation for the HS in the OT. It will be like doing a Rubik's cube in a flurry. Next fall, I have promised to do it slowly!
6. Learning to untangle these riddles will have great eternal value for you.
7. Use the Pause button! And review during your devotions this week.
8. Storyline of the Bible is driven by a handful of OT promises (covenants).
9. **They** are like **Russian nesting dolls**. As you open one you discover another, and then another, and then another.
10. They're all connected, have the same characteristics, and expand on each other.

### Chapter 1: The Fall and Covenant with Eve (c 4000 BC?)

1. In Gen 2:17 God warned Adam & Eve that if they ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, they would die (experientially know the effects of evil): physical, psychological, emotional, relational, & spiritual brokenness and death! They (and we) learned it experientially!
2. Death, murder, rape, domination, greed, hate, immorality, war, broken families characterized their world. God promised a rescue mission!
3. **Genesis 3:15 (NASB)** *And I will put enmity between you [devil] and the woman, And, between your seed and her SEED; HE [Eve's SEED] shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise HIM on the heel.*
4. 2<sup>nd</sup> per. pron. (you, your)=devil; 3<sup>rd</sup> per. pronouns (he, him)=Eve's SEED
5. Though there will be a battle between good and evil in the coming ages, God will raise up a single SEED of Eve (man) to defeat Satan!
6. But we're not told **HOW** the SEED redeemer will do it! We'll learn that later in the story. It won't be as simple as throwing Satan into the Abyss.
7. Gen 4-6 describes the progressive advance of evil until God halted it with a Flood.

8. But apparently you can't just stamp or **FLOOD** out evil, for when you do, evil springs right back up again!
9. Nor does the best social environment prevent it!
10. For after the **Flood** God rebooted the human race with righteous Noah, but shortly after he disembarks with his nice little family, he's drunk, naked and does something very shameful – we're spared details.
11. By the time you get to chapter 11 humanity is right back to where it was before the Flood, gathered to build a tower in Babel so they can access spiritual powers other than God!
12. The problem is deeper than we thought! Just **before** the Flood God said-
13. **Genesis 6:5 (NIV)** *The LORD saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.*
14. But see what God said immediately **after** the Flood AND after Noah's sacrifice to the Lord ...
15. **Genesis 8:21 (NIV)** *The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood.*
16. **There** were more problems than just the **devil** and his **evil line** ...
17. Also: **separation from God** (sacrifices), **heart problem & death** to fix!
18. So far, we don't know WHO the SEED is or HOW he'll fix all this.
19. But God said the SEED will come from Shem's line (Gen 9:25-27).

### Chapter 2: Abrahamic Covenant (2091 BC)

1. To infect the nations of the world, God chose Abraham (from Shem) and made an unconditional covenant with him, promising him 3 things!
2. **Genesis 12:1-3 (NIV)** *... go to the land I will show you. <sup>2</sup> "I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you ... and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.*
3. He would make them righteous (that's how you make a great nation, for righteousness exalts a nation - Prov 14:34) and then plopp them on a piece of land right at the juncture of 3 continents to infect other nations.
4. **Genesis 22:17-18 (NASB)** *... I will greatly multiply your SEED as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. <sup>18</sup> In your SEED all the nations of the earth shall be blessed.*

5. Out of the collective Seed (nation) will come a single Seed to bless the nations with salvation! We've narrowed it: the Seed comes out of Israel

### Chapter 3: Mosaic Covenant (1446 BC)

1. Though more than 400 yrs separates Exodus from Genesis, it is quickly apparent that the storyline hasn't been broken.
2. God promised to make a nation of Abraham, give them Land, and bless the nations through them.
3. Exodus to Joshua tell us how these 3 promises were **PARTIALLY** fulfilled.
4. **Why?** After a difficult birth pains in an Egyptian womb, they were delivered through the waters of the Red Sea & brought to Mt. Sinai to establish a covenant or national constitution with the young nation.
5. **It was a wonderful covenant:** offered forgiveness through sacrifice, Law taught about the nature of God, and condition of humanity, etc.
6. At Mt. Sinai God told Israel for what purpose He had formed them:
7. **Exodus 19:6 (ESV)** ... *you shall be to me a kingdom of priests AND a holy nation.*
8. **Kingdom of priests:** they partially blessed the nations: Scriptures; living parable for nations to observe God's nature (deliverance, blessing & even judgment); brought the Gospel to the gentiles!
9. **Holy nation:**
  - a. Abrahamic Covenant: God promised to **unconditionally** fulfill the promises of a righteous nation, land, and blessing to nations.
  - b. Mosaic Covenant: was **conditional**. If they obeyed they would receive blessing; if they disobeyed, curses!
  - c. **Deuteronomy 28:15, 36 (ESV)** *But IF you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, THEN all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you...<sup>36</sup> The LORD will drive you and the king you set over you to a nation unknown to you...*
  - d. Makes sense! **How could God drive out the wicked nations** and give Israel the land if she were no better than they?!
  - e. Besides, **how can you infect the nations with a good germ** if you're no better than they?! That is why they were called & had to be holy!
  - f. So, God warned that if they disobeyed they would be driven out!
10. Israel agreed saying, "We will do everything the Lord has said" (Ex 19:8).
11. **PEOPLE** failed continually, incurring the curses of the Covenant:

- a. As Moses ascended the mountain to receive the commandments, the people broke the 1<sup>st</sup> commandment, by worshipping a golden calf! Many died.
- b. 10 of 12 spies incited the people to refuse to enter the Promised Land. The nation was sentenced to an additional 38 yrs in the wilderness till all that generation had died!
- c. Num 14:22 says people tested the Lord **10 times**!
12. **LEADERS** also failed continually, incurring the curses of the Covenant:
  - a. In his public anger the great Moses dishonored the Lord – and was disqualified from leading Israel into Promised Land.
  - b. Joshua another great leader, sinned when the Gibeonites used a ruse to trick him, b/c he didn't enquire of the Lord!
  - c. Judges (1350-1050 BC) – cycle of failure, judgment (invading armies), repentance, deliverance (judge), then failure again ....
  - d. Samuel-Kings (1050-586 BC) – written to demonstrate why Israel was finally driven out of the land!
  - e. Saul (dismal failure), David (adultery & murder), Solomon (idolatry)
  - f. **Kingdom split** into two (930 BC)
  - g. **N. Kingdom:** 19 evil kings and **exiled by Assyria (722 BC)**
  - h. **S. Kingdom:** 14 evil; 6 good kings. Even the good kings sinned, contributing to the downfall of S. Kingdom
  - i. They too were **exiled to Babylon** for 70 yrs. (605-537 BC)
13. 1000 yrs. as of nationhood proved that neither the people nor the leaders could keep the covenant.
14. So they forfeited the 3 promises and were exiled!
15. The Abrahamic & Mosaic covenants appear to CONTRADICT each other:
  - a. God unconditionally made 3 promises to Abraham: a great (righteous) nation, land, to **bless the nations with salvation**.
  - b. But in the covenant with Israel, God said that the nation would forfeit those 3 blessings if they disobeyed – it was conditional!
16. It was an impossible riddle! But God already had the answer!

### Chapter 4: Davidic Covenant (1000 BC)

1. 500 yrs. before Israel was removed from the land for the failures of the people AND leaders, God made a big promise to K. David.
2. David wanted to build a 'house' (temple) for God. Instead, GOD promised David he wanted to build David a 'house' (dynasty) instead!

3. **2 Samuel 7:12-16 (NIV)** ... the LORD himself will establish a house for you ... I will raise up your offspring (SEED) ... <sup>13</sup> **HE is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever ...**
4. Notice the SEED – same promise as to Eve AND to Abraham
5. But now we see that this SEED is a King b/c he has a kingdom (v. 13)!
6. This King will be able to manage what no other leader or king of Israel could do – prevent the Mosaic curses and fulfill the Abrahamic promises
7. How do we know? His kingdom endures forever – **no longer exiled!**
8. Thus, this King is the **MEANS** by which the promises to Abraham are kept & the exile-curses of the Mosaic covenant are prevented (Gal 3:16)
9. BUT – that means this King has to be righteous! Precisely!
10. 350 yrs. later, Jeremiah predicted that this King would be righteous!
11. **Jeremiah 23:5 (NIV)** I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King.
12. Yet, who but God is righteous? Exactly!
13. Which is why Jeremiah continued in the very next verse ...
14. **Jeremiah 23:6 (NIV)** ... he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.
15. This King can meet the conditions of the Mosaic Covenant b/c He is righteous, and He is righteous because He is God! He is a divine King!
16. Thus, the nation is able to endure forever, in the land, and the nations can be blessed!
17. **Psalm 72:11, 17 (NIV)** All nations will be blessed through HIM
18. One of the ways the God-King blesses the nations is by ruling them with wisdom (Jer 23:5), peace, justice, and righteousness (Isa 9:7).
19. What promise of hope for a world in desperate need of these 4!
20. We have the perfect **God-King** who can fulfill the promises of the Abrahamic Covenant and meet the conditions of the Mosaic Covenant.

### Chapter 5: New Covenant (c. 600 BC)

1. However, we still have a problem left in the RIDDLE. The PEOPLE!
2. They need: **forgiveness, ability to obey & presence of God!**
3. To resolve these 3 problems, Jeremiah predicted a **New Covenant**
4. **Jeremiah 31:31 (NIV)** I will make a new covenant ....
5. Here's how the New Covenant addressed the 3 problems.

#### First problem: the people needed forgiveness to avert judgment

1. After the Fall people had to make sacrifices to avert God's judgment.

2. But it would take an infinite number of animal sacrifices just for a distanced relationship with God b/c a lesser cannot pay for a greater.
3. Yet, in the NC God said HE would thoroughly cleanse them from sin.
4. **Ezekiel 36:25-27 (NIV)** I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities.
5. How? They needed a better sacrifice. One who was greater than them.
6. Isaiah explained it well ...
7. **Isaiah 11:1 (NIV)** A **SHOOT** will come up from the stump of Jesse (David's father); from his roots a **BRANCH** will bear fruit.
8. Israel had been cut down as a nation, as we saw earlier. Yet, from this "stump," as Isaiah put it, would come a new SHOOT or BRANCH!
9. The new Shoot or Branch would grow into a kingdom again!
10. Zechariah explicitly says this "Branch" is also called "Servant"
11. **Zechariah 3:8 (NIV)** I am going to bring my Servant, the Branch.
12. And Isaiah says that this Branch-King-Servant will be sacrificed!
13. **Isaiah 52:13-15; 53:5,10 (NIV)** My Servant will act wisely; He will be raised and lifted up (crucified) ... <sup>5</sup> HE was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities...the LORD makes his life a guilt offering
14. Not only does this Seed-Davidic King bring blessing to the nations with an eternal, wise, just reign b/c He is righteous.
15. He also blesses them by being their substitutionary Sacrifice so they can be forgiven and restored to fellowship with God! That's **SALVATION!**
16. **Isaiah 49:6 (NIV)** I will also make you (divine King) a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring my salvation to the ends of the earth.
17. ONLY God could pay the ultimate sacrifice, thereby bringing salvation!

#### Second problem: the people needed ABILITY to obey

1. Remember God said that "every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood" (Gen 8:21). The NC would fix this too!
2. **Ezekiel 36:26 (NIV)** I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you. I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. **But how?**
3. Isaiah told us a divine King would be the Sacrifice to cleanse from sins.
4. Ezekiel tells us that the One who sprinkles the nations with the blood of His own sacrifice, is the same One who gives us a new heart (Paul's new nature) that gives us the ability to obey!

**Third problem:** the people needed PRESENCE & POWER of Holy Spirit

1. **Ezekiel 36:27 (NIV)** *And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.*
2. B/c of sacrifices God dwelt among them in the tabernacle & temple
3. But now God promises to dwell MUCH closer – in new temples – US!
4. And now we know that this Holy Spirit also comes from this divine King!

### **Chapter 6: New Testament (6 BC)**

1. But **WHO** is this Seed-King **who will reign, who will sacrifice Himself, who will give us hearts to obey, who will give us the presence of HS?**
2. The OT gives us 300+ clues.
3. A chief clue is that He would have a special anointing of the Spirit!
4. **Isaiah 42:1 (NIV)** *Here is my SERVANT, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him ....*
5. Anointing is our English translation for the Hebrew Messiah or Greek Cristos. (Christ is a transliteration of Cristos). **Christ means “anointing!”**
6. The last OT prophet, Malachi (430's) said that the Lord would send a messenger ahead to identify Him.
7. **Malachi 3:1 (NIV)** *I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. THEN suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant ....*
8. When we open up our NT's (400 years after this prophecy) we read that the angel Gabriel appeared to Zechariah, a temple priest.
9. Gabriel informed him that he and Elizabeth, would have a son (John the Baptist), who would be this forerunner-messenger! (**Lk 1:16-17**)
10. John identified Jesus as the **Sacrifice** AND the **Anointed One** (Messiah)
11. **John 1:29, 32 (NIV)** *John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ... Forgiveness!*
12. John knew who the Messiah was b/c he was told that it would be the One on whom the Spirit descended.
13. **John 1:33 (NIV)** *I would not have known him, except that the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, 'The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.'*
14. This happened when John baptized Jesus in the Jordan (Lk 3:21-23).
15. He is the mediator of the New Covenant – died in order to continually forgive people and to continually baptize them in the Spirit.
16. And John says that THIS is the One who will baptize us with the Spirit!

### **Summary:**

1. God promised that a Seed would crush the devil. But there was MORE to that than just throwing him into the Abyss.
2. Already, by the time we get to Gen 6 we find that there's banishment from God, progressive evil, death, and a heart inclined only to evil!
3. God promised a **Divine Seed-King** who would resolve ALL of that!
4. **He's called variously:** Seed, Prophet, King, Son of God, Servant, Sacrifice, Ruler, Branch, Son of man, Messiah (anointed One), etc!
5. **OT Story line:** tells us **WHAT** He would do & **HOW** He would do it!
6. And the NT identifies this mysterious Person – it is JESUS!
7. **First Coming:** Jesus secured forgiveness, a new heart (His nature) presence & power of HS. We receive these 3 at salvation.
8. **Second Coming:** Jesus will judge all evil, give us resurrection bodies, and rule eternally in righteousness, justice, and peace.
9. Jesus had just risen from the dead and joined two disciples on their way to Emmaus. As they wondered at what this all meant, Jesus taught them
10. **Luke 24:27 (NIV)** *Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.*
11. When He disappeared, they asked each other ...
12. **Luke 24:32 (NIV)** *Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?*
13. I worshipped as the Spirit of Jesus opened the OT Scriptures for me to see Him beginning with Moses, through the former and latter prophets.

**Reflection:** Thank Jesus for how He is the **Seed, Prophet, King, Son of God, Servant, Sacrifice, Ruler, Branch, Messiah** (anointed One)

### **PRAYER**

**Hand over to Zac Pearson**

**Wait 5 seconds smiling at the camera.**