

**Introduction:**

- There is a scarlet thread running through history. It started in Eden with the death of an animal to cover Adam's shame. It's apex is at Calvary where the Lamb of God died and man's sin was atoned for! It finishes in Revelation where the beast is overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the Word of our testimony!
- The reason for the need of "serpent crushers" is that there is a battle raging. Deep hatred of man kind is being unleashed by hell. Sad part is so many are asleep!
  - *"They will crush you into the ground, and your children with you. Your enemies will not leave a single stone in place, because you did not recognize it when God visited you."* (Luke 19:44, NLT)
  - *"So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded."* (1 Thessalonians 5:6, NLT)
  - *"Don't let me drift toward evil or take part in acts of wickedness. Don't let me share in the delicacies of those who do wrong."* (Psalm 141:4, NLT)
  - *"So we must listen very carefully to the truth we have heard, or we may drift away from it."* (Hebrews 2:1, NLT)
- We are fearfully and wonderfully made Ps 139:13-16:
  - The devil hates us. We are born looking like God...innocent, pure, created in His image.
  - We are awesome and distinct. Each one unique! No copies all originals, and all valuable.
  - And we have a BOOK...of our destiny!
  - *"You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed."* (Psalm 139:16, NLT)

**I. A Constant Battle**

- A. Eve - enmity between you and your offspring. *"And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."* (Genesis 3:15, NLT)
  1. You will have to fight to make impact on the generations. It will not be given to you without a fight. The hatred between two seeds is real. If you were one of those last week who felt that God was not for you. Think again! It is the serpent who hates you! It is the serpent that has gone after you and hates your family line. Let righteous anger arise in you and make the serpent pay!
  2. Eve loses two sons. Able is murdered by his brother and Cain is sentenced to wander the earth. God appoints Seth...God's plan is being released in this third son.
  3. God moves through the ages. Moving toward fulfilling this word of crushing the serpents head/crushing his authority, by Messiah!
- B. Noah - all humanity has reached the tipping point of sin. God comes to destroy the earth.
- C. Abraham - has to battle and win by faith. Why? Because he has the promise of being the Father of many nations and especially from him coming Messiah. Gen 12:1-3/ Gal 3:16 seed of Abraham. You have promises and the devil does not want you to obtain them.
- D. Moses - the deliverer. Jewish sons are murdered and God calls for the release of His children or the death of an empire starting with the Emperors/Pharaohs son!
- E. Jesus at His birth, children are murdered as men search for the Christ child.

1. Joseph is warned in a dream. He was hearing from God. Hearing from God is critical when doing battle with the devil. The prophetic is a huge enemy of Satan! Because it is the voice of God in the earth! He hates prophetic people! He hates the anointing!
  2. Jesus is nailed to a cross and raised from a tomb! Victory!
- F. Paul the apostle preached that the old man must die or be put to death. It is part of the battle. You must die to yourself if you are growing in Him!
- G. At the end of the age there is a huge battle that is taking place and God will not be losing! Jesus will be returning and we will reign and rule with Him!
- H. This battle has been raging from the beginning. So lay hold of the promises and die to the flesh and overcome the evil one in Jesus' name.

## II. Our Weapons

- A. The Blood of the Lamb - Rev 12:11; Eph 2:13; Col 1:20; *"Just think how much more the blood of Christ will purify our consciences from sinful deeds so that we can worship the living God. For by the power of the eternal Spirit, Christ offered himself to God as a perfect sacrifice for our sins."* (Hebrews 9:14, NLT)
- B. The Name of Jesus - Acts 3:6 lame man walks. Acts 16:18 Demon comes out a psychic. Phil 2:10 at the name of Jesus all knees bow!
- C. The Word - It Is Written! That is who I am! Luke 4:8,10 Jesus does battle with Satan!
- D. The Power of the Holy Spirit - Acts 1:8 Power to be witnesses!
- E. The Power of Prayer - intercession, and in the Holy Spirit.
- F. The Book of Destiny. Ps 139:16 Comes from eternity. *"You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed."* (Psalm 139:16, NLT)
1. God saw me before I was. Before a book existed, God saw our substance. He saw and He wrote. So my prayer becomes...God grant me access to the book! Let me see. And He does, by letting me hear His voice...
    - a) Through Holy Spirit
    - b) Through His Word
    - c) Through prophecies
    - d) Through dreams and visions. He lets me know who I am and where I am going.
  2. Our destiny and purpose began through the prophetic nature of God as a seer. God saw us functioning in the earth realm before it was naturally there. IE. Jeremiah 1:5, Ps 139:15
    - a) Ephesians 1:11 tells us we have an inheritance connected to our destiny. *"Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan."* (Ephesians 1:11, NLT) When you find Jesus you are empowered to find and fulfill your destiny!
    - b) What is written in our books is according to His purpose. This means that God cannot get His purpose done on earth without His people reaching their destinies. He is fighting for you! And the serpent is fighting against you. We must not cause delay.

- c) This is the reason why the devil fights against us, so he might apprehend our destinies. That is why I said last week: "If you do not have a righteous past or family line...You be the first!" Build it! Fight for it! Contend for it! Live in His presence for His glory! Make the serpent pay!
3. Two things we find in our book of destiny.
- a) Who we are. Our literal DNA, desires (as in what we like to do), talents, etc. God determines this to determine our impact on our generation and upon those to come. It is in co-operation with His plan. (DYMI)
- b) The second thing written in our book of destiny is the span of our life and what we are to accomplish. We are told the *days were fashioned for us before there was any of them*.
- (1) We also see in Ephesians 2:10, "*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*"
4. Comments from a seer. Pat Hollaran. Shared with us what he sees at the birth of babies. Is 32:18 *"At the two hour mark after a baby is born. Angels come. The baby receives his guardian angel. Other angels come and presents swords, gifts, scrolls, mantles, etc. They are not given they are presented. Those angels then turn outward and form a shield around the baby as the book of destiny is given. Demons also come at the two hour mark because they want to see so that they can reach into the scroll of the family line and pull up sins, curses etc that they can activate in that child's life. But angels hide that from the demons and the demons are carried away and their scroll burned! So prepare the room at the two hour mark for this angelic encounter."*
- G. How different would our choices be if we did everything with eternity in mind?
1. So often we think that our choices do not hurt anyone. That mindset comes from not having a view of eternity. If you knew that your choices would give legal ground to demons coming at the birth of your children, grandchildren, or great grandchildren to bring accusation...do you think you might choose differently?
2. IE. Why did God choose Joseph and Mary? Bible says they both were righteous. They both were holy and pure. Do you think it made a difference to God whom He chose to bare the Christ child? Do you think it mattered to God who the parents of His Son were going to be? Do you think it matters to God who you are as a parent to the children God has given you?
3. Let me ask another sobering question. IF you were asked to raise the Son of God how differently would you parent? What changes would you have to make? Put yourself in Joseph's shoes....or Mary's shoes.
- a) How do you raise the Son of God?
- (1) Exceptionally carefully! Yes! The bar is being set high! Feeling bad? Repent! Get up and go!
- (2) You find every scripture in the scrolls that pertaining to Him to make sure He knows them and that you are imparting them to Him. You would not want to miss anything!

- (3) You live in very intimate relationship with Him. (Communication closes the generation gap.) You take the Word. You live the word. You explain why we don't do as other down the street do.
- (4) You keep close watch on the relationships that He has.
- b) How would you measure the success of what you are doing? Strictly according to the Word.
- c) How would you live before this baby? You would make sure there is nothing in your life opposing the ways of God. (I mean, you have God living in your house. And you know how feely little kids talk! And what He might say to the Father!)
- H. If I am going to impact a generation, I must be aware of the book of destiny and I must (by body, soul and spirit), live and walk according to the Word of God. Because, who I am literally becomes very very important to the following generations!

### III. My Mission—See My Family As God Sees Me and My Children

- A. I was created to be a serpent crusher therefore I must co-operate with God/Work with Him and not against Him.
1. When Adam and Eve sinned death entered the picture. It looks as if the serpent had won. Eternity had been halted in Adam and Eve. They died spiritually and they would die physically.
    - a) But God had already released a plan and that had not changed. Reproduce and take dominion!
    - b) That man and woman would reproduce. That seed would carry a specific purpose.
    - c) A purpose aimed at crushing the serpents head. Can you imagine hells joys and Eve's heartbreak when their child Able is murdered and their first born Cain wanders away? Satan laughs for the plan of God has been shut down. Sin was at work!
    - d) Then comes Seth! – Appointed by God! The purpose of God would continue! A serpent crusher!
  2. Two purposes of the generations:
    - a) First to ensure that a Messiah would enter the world in the 'fullness of time' and totally destroy the power of the enemy! 1 Cor 15:55 No more sting of death.
    - b) The second purpose of generations is to bring God's life and light into the dark world of humanity from generation to generation. This can only be done by sons of the Second Adam, Jesus Christ!
    - c) When God looks on a newborn child He sees the promise of the seed! He sees the hope of generations...a seed with the potential to continue crushing the serpents head.
  3. I must live to be a serpent crusher! I must be the first impacted by God, before the generations that follow me. To be a serpent crusher I must live in and with the presence of God.
    - a) Have your own intimate personal relationship with God...up to date, filled with Zoe!
    - b) Walk in his ways. Heb. Halak - *halakhah* refers to walking out your life in a way that reflects/expresses God's Word. You develop halakhahs according to how you apply

biblical truths to all facets of your life...education, finances, ethical decisions, and expression of your faith. It is your visible walk with God that affects every area of your life.

B. I must be able to recognize His voice

1. Ministry to children, our own or others is mechanical if it is without the voice of God. When ministry to children is mechanical our children hear echos and not a Voice!
2. John the Baptist lived with his ear to the ground. He was listen for the sounds of heaven. Listening for the footsteps of God. Listening for the Word of the Lord. The crowds came not because he had a 30 minutes message...they came because he fire. When he spoke a man's spirit would be stirred in him. We can do that without children. If you have been in the fire you will come out with the fire on you!
3. IE. Jim Durf, John Mongerson, - they impacted my life. When they spoke it went beyond a lesson book. VBS - song. Mrs. Nielson: When a man loves the word of God.
4. Eli, in 1 Samuel, could not recognize God's voice. But Samuel did!
  - a) 1 Sam 1:11 Samual ministers to the Lord. 22, grew before the Lord. 3:1 He ministered to the Lord, 3:19-21 He grew before the Lord and none of his words fell to the ground. All Israel knew He was a prophet and the Lord revealed himself to Samuel. 4:1 and the Word came to all of Israel.
  - b) Samuel was raised up for David/for the purposes of God.

C. Prayer: George Barna—*Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions* He studied the church that he the best results of seeing children find God, grow through teen years, and become young adults that were still serving God.

1. He wrote: "The most important resource we believe was the amazing amount of prayer for children and parents that was evident at the most effective ministries to children."
2. Make sure you place a premium on prayer. Our Lord answers the prayers of the righteous – those who love, trust and obey Him. Your greatest source of power and hope for parenting is Jesus, and your prayers evidence that you believe this.

D. Evaluate where I am at as a parent. George Barna in his book *Revolutionary Parenting* describe three types of parents.

1. Revolutionary - these are 'radical believers'. Meaning that God is first and foremost in their priorities of life. Everything comes from their deep conviction to love, obey and serve God. They have deep intimate relationships with their children. This kind of parenting is intentional.
2. Evangelical - The main focus of these parents is to see that their children are born again. They are not intentional about relating with there children because they are so wrapped up in 'godly' activities. (Church, Christian School, etc)
3. Nominal - These people consider themselves "Christian" but have neither a life-changing relationship with Jesus nor a hunger to grow in His ways. They could be described as passively religious rather than being actively transformed by the Spirit into Christ's likeness.

4. The most important faith practice your children can glean from you is your dependence on Lord Jesus, and equally important, your desire to daily yield to His Spirit and grow more like Him.

#### IV. Our Goal: Crush the Serpent's Head! Victory!

- A. Save souls – a generation is made up of people and God loves people.
- B. Equip the Saved
- C. Send the equipped
- D. Win for the Lamb that was slain the rewards of his sufferings.

#### Conclusion:

- Be willing: to work really hard. There is no 'magic' wand of change; to overcome ruthless resistance; to cry often; to enjoy and rejoice over little movements forward; to endure long nights and times of nothing happening.
- Prayer regarding the courts of heaven/books of destiny. Robert Henderson.

*"Lord, as I come to stand before Your Courts, I thank You that I have a book in heaven. Thank You so much that You thought of me before time began and wrote my destiny and purpose in a book in heaven. As I stand before You, I declare in Your Courts, "I want all that is in my book. I want to fulfill my destiny that is connected to Your purposes on the earth." Lord, that which you saw concerning me before time began, I ask that this might be "my life." I choose that which you have chosen for me. As I stand before Your Courts, Lord, I lay down my life. As best I can, through the power of Your Spirit according to Romans 12:1, I present myself as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you. I ask also that according to Ephesians 4:1, I might have a walk worthy of the calling that was determined for me, written in the book in heaven." I also ask, Lord, that any case or accusation the devil would have against me before Your Courts would be silenced by the blood of Jesus. Lord, I thank You that Your blood speaks for me, and I agree with its testimony according to Hebrews 12:24. Lord, I thank You that Your blood grants God the legal right to forgive me, remember me, and redeem me to the purpose that is in my book. Just as Peter's destiny and purpose was secured from the Courts of Heaven, so, Lord, I thank You that my destiny is secured as well. Lord, I declare before Your Courts that I am Your servant, so please use me. I ask that my life might count for the kingdom of God as it is recorded in the books of destiny in heaven. Lord, I also ask that according to Ephesians 2:10, I might walk and live as Your workmanship. I realize, Lord, that Your grace makes me Your work of art and a display of Your splendor and glory. I ask before Your Courts that I would live in the rhythms of Your grace. I ask, Lord, that You would take me "out of the grind of life, and put me into Your groove." Lord, would You now bring about my empowerment through Your Spirit that from Your strength, I could fulfill all that is written in the books of destiny for me. Lord, I desire with great passion to fulfill Your will. Please accept my request before You and let all that would resist my petition be revoked. Thank You, Lord, so much for loving me. I look forward with expectation to fulfilling all that is in my book in heaven. In Jesus' name, Amen!" Robert Henderson; Courts of Heaven.*