

## A Blessed People on a Cursed Earth

### Genesis 3:17 (KJV)

<sup>17</sup>And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;

### CURSED IS THE GROUND BECAUSE OF YOU

The entire earth is cursed because of man's sin and disobedience. God says in sorrow shalt thou eat of it. That word means labor, toil, pain, worrisome -- all of those things.

### Genesis 3:18-19 (KJV)

<sup>18</sup>Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;  
<sup>19</sup>In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Man's entire habitation is now cursed. Instead of abundant fruit, man now has abundant thorns. Instead of blessed trees, man has cursed trees. Man went from living in paradise in a blessed Garden of Eden where everything was perfect, perfect climate, with no unbearable heat, no high humidity, no lightning strikes, no earthquakes, no forest fires, no tornados, no hurricanes, no freezing blizzards, NO HIGH GAS PRICES. In reading in Genesis, chapter 1, following each creation day, God declared it to be good. There was nothing defective, and all things were created for good. He created every kind of vegetation, bush, tree, grass, and called IT good.

### Genesis 1:10-12 (KJV)

<sup>10</sup>And God called the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters called he Seas: and God saw that it was good.

<sup>11</sup>And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, *and* the fruit tree Yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed *is* in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

<sup>12</sup>And the earth brought forth grass, *and* herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

God created every kind of fish and sea creature and declared that good.

HE CREATED ALL TYPES of animals -- elephants, hippos, gorillas, SO ON. everything was perfect and complete, created by GOD, with man and woman placed in the center of all that was perfect. Sadly, it didn't stay good for long.

Romans 5:12 (KJV)

<sup>12</sup> Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Adam sinned and death entered the world, but the Bible declares that all men have sinned. God made life but now there was a new thing that entered into the world -- death, bringing it decay, discomfort, disease, disaster. Everything was affected, changed, including the weather. It's a cursed earth. There were no tornados or hurricanes before sin entered the earth. Those things did not exist before sin. There were no FEARS OR worries in the Garden of Eden.

The Garden contained a variety of food. All that Adam had to do was pick what he wanted to eat. There was no having to work for one's food. The water supply was pure and unpolluted. There were no harmful germs or bacteria, no chemicals in food or water. There was no cause for concern about health, teeth, eyesight. There was no sickness until sin entered and changed everything. Now the earth is cursed. Briers and thorns are now abundant with man having to make a living the best he can by the sweat of his brow, requiring very hard labor.

But did you notice? The curse is not work. The curse is the thorns & thistles & pain & death. The curse is blood & sweat & tears, not work.

Every year some of you become enthusiastic gardeners. You grab your hoes, & with a PEP IN YOUR STEP, you turn over the ground & plant the seeds. You just know that this will be your year to have a bumper crop of all those great vegetables you love to eat freshly picked from the garden.

But it is not long until weeds have come, & bugs are eating away at your plants, & you're sweating profusely, & you begin to lose your enthusiasm for gardening.

Work can be fun. But when you put work together with thorns & thistles & other parts of the curse, then it often is not much fun any more.

Maybe it is the same in your line of work. If you didn't have a disgruntled boss always looking over your shoulder, if you didn't have co-workers with whom you don't get along, if you didn't have projects that were so hard, your work would be the most enjoyable thing in the world.

Work without thorns & thistles is fun. But when you put the thorns & thistles in, then it becomes a burden, doesn't it?

I was looking across the field the other day how the weeds just grew, I didn't plant them I need grass not weeds. Weeds grow in your life automatically. sow more grass seed, more grass will grow.

man is no different, The bottom line is that man lives on a cursed earth and is subject to time, age, disease and death himself.

So we know that the ground is cursed because of adam's sin, right

Look at this

### **Exodus 3:3-5 (KJV)**

<sup>3</sup> And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

<sup>4</sup> And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

<sup>5</sup> And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

What made it holy? God's presence was there! If one walked on that mountain today, there would be nothing holy about it. It's the presence of God that makes the ground holy. Where the Lord is that place becomes holy because of His holy presence. This isn't holy ground because a church building sits on it. The building doesn't make it holy. What makes it holy is the presents of JESUS CHRIST. WHAT MAKES YOUR GRPOND IS THE HOLY GHOST IN YOU.

WHAT MAKES THIS CHURCH SPECIAL is when the saints of God assemble, Jesus says that He is there in their midst.

God says that the saints are not to forsake assembling themselves together. It's just not the same when one sits in front of the television. He is the Lord of the lampstands but not the Lord of the boob tube. Here we are a blessed people, living on a cursed earth.

### **Galatians 3:13 (KJV)**

<sup>13</sup> Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

"Cursed is everyone that hangs on a tree". This does not mean that a man is cursed because he is executed upon a tree, but rather that a man who is executed upon a tree is there because he is cursed, having been judged as a lawbreaker. Jesus Christ was the lawbreaker, taking the place of the transgressor; therefore, He was cursed (condemned) to die as the unlawful and disobedient sinner. The purpose for Jesus Christ bearing the curse was to open the door of blessing to all men. Christ bearing the curse was the way to fulfilled His promise to Abraham: that all nations would be blessed in him. Christ bearing the curse is also the way that He gives the promises

made to Abraham to the world. Any man who believes in Jesus Christ— is given the blessings of the promised land eternally.

We're a blessed people living on a cursed earth.

Don't be mistaken, The curse of Genesis 3:17 is still here. Look around, disease, famine, tornados, hurricanes, crime, murder, rape, greed, SO ON,

Because of Jesus Christ our lord and savior we are a blessed people on a cursed earth. He has redeemed us and given us precious promises

**“Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust” (2 Peter 1:4).**

**“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Cor. 5:17).**

Only through the Lord Jesus Christ does the believer have the blessings of peace, of sins forgiven, eternal life, peace with God, the grace of salvation, eternal life, . Who among us can deny that we are blessed? In spite of the trials, the difficulties, the hardships, the troubles, the aggravations, the irritations, believers are blessed. Cause for rejoicing is in the fact that one is saved and forgiven, and one has been grafted into the family of God, born again, given new life.

What are God's People to Do?

God's people are to trust Him. We're a people of God, servants of God, lovers of God. That's supposed to characterize each and every one, however, that does not exempt us from tribulation. God's people are not exempt from difficulties, afflictions, hardships, suffering and problems. In no place in the Bible does one find that the people of God are exempt because they belong to Him. Some have gotten the idea that because the saints are favored and privileged, trials and tribulations should have no part in them.

**Psalm 34:19 (KJV)**

<sup>19</sup> Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.

### **John 16:33 (KJV)**

<sup>33</sup> These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Despite the fact that we live on a cursed earth, we are a blessed people. We will go through trials and troubles. What are we to do? Trust God to deliver us out of them all.

### **James 1:12 (KJV)**

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

### **1 Peter 4:12-13 (KJV)**

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

<sup>13</sup> But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

It's not strange. There's nothing unique about it. God's not punishing you. It's just that we live on a cursed earth. It's just life on a fallen, a broken planet. Trials, troubles and tribulations are actually the way into the kingdom. Paul said:

### **Acts 14:22 (KJV)**

<sup>22</sup> Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.

There are simply things we go through that are beyond our control. However, there are things we can control. We can control our attitude and mind. Every individual governs where he allows his mind to go and what he thinks upon. Also under the OUR control is the mouth and what comes out of it. The people of God should not be given to speaking negative doubt and unbelief, blaming God, accusing God, doubting God. Our circumstances, however, cannot be entirely controlled because we live on a broken planet. We live on a cursed earth.

We must guard our hearts. We must guard our minds, guard our attitudes, guard our speech, guard our spirit, and at all times and in all things trust God. Trust God.

### **Proverbs 3:5-6 (KJV)**

<sup>5</sup> Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

<sup>6</sup> In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

### **Revelation 22:3-5 (KJV)**

<sup>3</sup>And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him:

<sup>4</sup>And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

<sup>5</sup>And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

No more curse and we will be a blessed people in Paradise. . Until then, what are we to do? Trust the Lord -- every step, every day, every hour, every minute, every moment, every breath, every heartbeat. Trust the Lord for He is faithful. He has never failed us and He will not fail you now. We are a blessed people in spite of the fact that you live on a broken, CURSED planet.