

THE ENMITY

Week One Devotional

**You Didn't Start This.
But You're In It.**

The old war in the new world, and how to stand in both.

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SCRIPTURE

Genesis 3:15

"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." (NKJV)

REFLECTION

Imagine a child born in a hospital while air-raid sirens scream outside. That baby didn't declare the war. Didn't choose the battlefield. Doesn't even understand the conflict. Yet before that child takes a first step, armies are already moving. That is Genesis 3 — and it is also your story. Before you told your first lie, there was already a liar. Before your first temptation, there was already a tempter. Genesis 3 pulls back the curtain on a truth we would rather not face: there is a war behind the wars, a voice behind the lies, a kingdom behind the rebellion. You may think your greatest battle is financial, or relational, or emotional. It is deeper. Paul reminds us, "we do not wrestle against flesh and blood." Your marriage is in it. Your mind is in it. Your calling is in it. You did not start this war — but you are in it. Genesis 3:15 hands us three realities that make sense of it: the voice, the war, and the victor.

ONE — THE VOICE

The first weapon fired in the biblical conflict isn't a sword — it's a sentence: "Has God indeed said...?" Satan doesn't begin by attacking Adam's body; he attacks humanity's confidence in the Word of God. If he can corrupt your relationship with truth, he doesn't need to destroy your life personally — you'll eventually

make the decisions that do it for him. He doesn't need to burn your Bible; he only needs you suspicious of it. Notice his strategy: God says, "Look at everything I've given you." The serpent says, 'Let's talk about the one thing you can't have.' He magnifies deprivation and minimizes abundance — which is exactly why gratitude, worship, and remembering what God has done are acts of warfare, not sentiment. Centuries later, the same tempter met a greater Man in the wilderness with the same tactic: "If You are the Son of God..." Where Adam fell surrounded by abundance, Jesus stood firm in the middle of a fast, answering every lie not with a feeling or an opinion but with "It is written." You cannot defeat a "has God said?" enemy with an "I kind of feel like" faith. You need a Word you trust more than your own reading of the moment — because, like a hotel scale that flatters you with a number you want to believe, not every reading corresponds to reality.

Takeaway: Every battle you fight begins as a battle over whether you still trust what God has said. Calibrate your life to His Word, not to whichever scale gives you the reading you want.

TWO — THE WAR

God's words to the serpent stop being personal and start being generational: "your seed" and "her Seed." Scripture develops this as two spiritual lineages, not two bloodlines — a family resemblance of rebellion versus a family resemblance of truth. From Cain and Abel to Pharaoh and Moses, to Herod and Bethlehem, a single conflict moves through all of history: no merger between light and darkness, no negotiated settlement between two kingdoms. And here the message turns personal for every parent in the room — the enemy doesn't need your son to become an atheist; he only needs him to grow indifferent. He doesn't need your daughter to hate Jesus; he only needs her to think Jesus is one option among many. Judges 2:10 describes a generation that "did not know the LORD nor the work which He had done." One generation

experiences God, the next hears about Him, the third forgets Him. The serpent thinks generationally. The church, and every home in it, had better think generationally too.

Takeaway: *This war isn't only about your soul — it's about what your children inherit. Fight today in a way that hands the next generation a faith strong enough to survive their world.*

THREE — THE VICTOR

Just as quickly as sin enters, God starts talking redemption. Before Adam even leaves Eden, heaven is already talking about Calvary: “He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.” This verse, the first gospel promise in Scripture, sets the whole Old Testament leaning forward toward one Man — not Cain, not Seth, not Noah, but eventually, through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, and David, to a virgin in Nazareth. At Calvary, it looked for a moment like the serpent had won: the Messiah scourged, pierced, dead, the tomb sealed. But Satan mistook a bruised heel for a defeated Savior. Sunday morning, life entered that body again, and Jesus walked out alive, carrying “the keys of Hades and of Death.” A snake with a mortal wound can still thrash — strike, coil, make noise — but movement is not victory, and noise is not authority. The Cross has already rendered the verdict. We do not fight for victory; we fight from victory.

Takeaway: *Whatever is thrashing in your life right now — deception, addiction, confusion, fear — is not proof you're losing. The outcome was settled at the empty tomb. Fight from that victory, not for it.*

THE TURN TO CHRIST

Christianity isn't bad people trying harder to become better. It's the announcement that a Champion entered a war we could never win, and conquered it from the inside. The first Adam reached for a tree and brought death; the Last Adam was nailed to a tree and brought life. The answer to Genesis 3 was

never self-help, better intentions, or positive thinking. It is Jesus — and Jesus alone.

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, I didn't choose the war I was born into, but I choose today whose voice I will trust. When I hear "has God indeed said," remind me that Your Word stands even when my feelings don't. Where the enemy is thrashing in my life or my family, help me see it for what it is — the noise of a defeated foe, not the verdict of a winning one. Thank You that Jesus took the serpent's greatest weapon and turned it into my greatest hope. I don't fight for victory today, Lord — I fight from it. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ACTION STEP & REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- 1.** Where is the conflict hottest for you right now — your mind, your marriage, your children, your faith, your calling, or a secret struggle? Name one battlefield, not ten.
- 2.** What is one "has God indeed said?" lie you've been believing more than you've been believing Scripture?
- 3.** What would it look like this week to fight from victory instead of for it in that one area?
- 4.** Who is one person in the next generation — a child, grandchild, or someone you mentor — you can point toward Christ this week, in word or example?

NOTES & JOURNALING
