

NEW COVENANT CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

SERMON NOTES

December 7, 2025

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The Advent Series: Hope Genesis 3:15

When humanity made the worst mess in history—when sin contaminated everything, when death spread like a stain through creation—God didn't stand at a distance and clean from the outside in. He put His promise right there, right in Genesis 3:15, right in the middle of the curse, right in the conversation with the serpent.

The solution must enter the mess to solve the mess.

Today we're exploring one verse—Genesis 3:15—and discovering God's pattern for bringing hope out of chaos. A pattern that shows up in Eden, in Bethlehem, and will show up again when Christ returns.

The Story: Humanity's Catastrophic Fall

Genesis 3 records the most catastrophic failure in human history—except for the crucifixion of Jesus, which was humanity's attempt to destroy God Himself. But Genesis 3 is where it all began.

Think about the timing. God had just finished creating a perfect world:

- Genesis 1:31 - "God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."
- No death. No pain. No shame. No separation.
- Perfect fellowship between God and humanity
- Perfect harmony in creation
- Perfect purpose: "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth."

And then came the fall.

The Strategic Attack

And notice WHO the enemy targeted: Eve. Not randomly. Not because she was weaker. But because she was STRATEGIC.

God had already given the mission: "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth" (Genesis 1:28). Satan heard that. He observed God's plan—it involved reproduction, filling the earth with image-bearers of God.

So, Satan did the math: "If I corrupt the CONDUIT—the one who carries the capacity to multiply—before reproduction begins, then when they DO multiply, they'll spread corruption instead of God's image."

Satan targeted Eve because of her reproductive capacity. She wasn't an afterthought in his strategy. She was THE target. The conduit of God's multiplication plan.

And he struck before they'd had children. Genesis 4:1 "Adam knew his wife, and she conceived"—that happens AFTER the fall. Satan got there first.

Understanding the Promise/Hope Relationship

We're not preaching "hope" as some general optimism. We're preaching THE PROMISE—the objective word God spoke.

People confuse biblical hope with worldly optimism. Worldly hope says, "I hope things get better. Fingers crossed. Maybe it'll work out." That's wishful thinking.

Biblical hope is different. Biblical hope is confidence based on God's PROMISE.

Think of it this way:

- The PROMISE is objective—God spoke it, whether we feel hopeful or not
- HOPE is subjective—it's how WE respond to the promise while we wait
- The PROMISE is the anchor (what the rope is tied to)
- HOPE is us holding the rope (the tension we feel while waiting)
- FAITH is trusting the anchor holds (confidence in the Promise-Keeper)

Three Elements of Biblical Hope

Hope requires three things:

- A Promise - God must speak
- Expectation - We must believe He will fulfill it
- Waiting - Time passes between promise and fulfillment

And all three are present in Genesis 3:15.

THE PROMISE is in Three Movements:

- Where God PLACED it
- How God PERFORMED it
- When God will PERFECT it

And as we watch God's faithfulness to His promise across generations, HOPE will be produced in us—not because we're trying hard to be optimistic, but because we're seeing a Promise-Keeper in action.

PRAYER

Father, we thank You that You are a God who puts hope in chaos. You don't wait for us to clean up our mess before You offer Your solution. You enter our mess. You put the promise right in the middle of our worst moments.

For those here today who are in their Genesis 3 moment—in their chaos, in their failure, in their pain—help them see that this is exactly where You specialize. This is where You put hope.

Give us the strength to hold the rope. To maintain the stretch. To hope until You return.

We're waiting, Lord. Like Abel. Like Abraham. Like Mary. Like every faithful generation before us.

We're holding on. We're expecting. We're hoping.

Come quickly, Lord Jesus. Perfect what You've promised. Complete what You've started. Crush the serpent's head fully and finally.

Until that day, may we be found faithful. Holding the rope. Living in hope.

In Jesus' name, Amen.