

Theme: Because of mankind's sin, the entire created order has fallen under the curse, and suffers the effects of the fall.

I. Intro – Let the Earth Produce???

A. Gen 1 – Let the earth produce.. it does

1. Picture of rich fertile ground
2. Ground longs to produce for man
3. CS Lewis – lamppost growing from dirt

B. Farming – not quite that way!!!

1. Plow the ground
2. Fertilize the soil
3. Pull weeds, remove rocks
4. Fertilize again, dust for bugs
5. Pull more weeds and water
6. Fight off birds, rabbits, deer, etc.
7. Eventually get a crop

C. What happened? The curse!!

II. Creation Is Under the Curse

A. Creation is under the Curse

1. Gen 3:17 – Cursed is the ground

2. Gen 5:29 – Ground the Lord cursed

3. Romans 8:19-21 – Creation frustrated, decay

4. Romans 8:22-23 – Groans, like believers

B. Creation placed under curse by God

1. Gen 3:17 – God pronounces curse

2. Gen 5:29 – Ground the Lord cursed

3. Romans 8:20-21 – God subjected it to curse

C. Creation placed under curse because of mankind

1. Gen 3:17 – Because you ate; cursed because of you

2. Romans 8:20 – not by its own will

III. The Nature of the Curse

A. The curse makes creation relatively unproductive

1. Genesis 3:17,19 – painful toil, sweat

2. Genesis 3:18 – produce thorns

3. Romans 8:20 – subjected to frustration

B. The curse makes creation subject to decay

1. Genesis 3:19 – dust to dust – decay

2. Romans 8:21 – bondage to decay

IV. The Reason for the Curse

- A. Man is the covenant head of creation
 - 1. Man is the covenant head (Gen 1:28; Ps 8:6)
 - 2. Covenant bless/curse (Rom 5:19; 1 Cor 15:22)
 - 3. Cursed because of us (Gen 3:17; Gen 6:13; Jer 12:4)
 - 4. Paul picks up idea from Gen 3 – (Rom 8:20, 22)
- B. The Fate of Creation & Mankind (for ill AND good)
 - 1. We work, develop, lead creation (previous weeks)
 - 2. Creation subjected to sin because of us (this week)
 - 3. Creation released only with us (Rom 8:19-21)

V. Applying the Word

- A. Do we see the far reaching effects of sin?
 - 1. Sin spread not only to humanity – all creation
 - 2. We see the effects of the fall everywhere
 - 3. Sin always has unintended consequences
- B. Do we see the effects we have in our sphere of responsibility?
 - 1. Adam's sin affected all under his control
 - 2. We all have spheres of responsibility

3. Our actions affects others – ill but also good

- C. The 2nd Adam – new covenant head – redeems all
 - 1. Jesus has come as our covenant head to bless
 - 2. Through Him creation will be blessed (Rom 8)
 - 3. As He restores us, creation will be restored!

The Consequences of the Fall on Creation

Genesis 3:17-19

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???? / All Creation Worships You - To the Glory of the Father
2 Corinthians 13:14

¹⁷ To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. ¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return." Genesis 3:17-19

¹⁹ The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. Romans 8:19-23

29 He named him Noah and said, "He will comfort us in the labor and painful toil of our hands caused by the ground the LORD has cursed." Genesis 5:29

28 God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Genesis 1:28

6 You made him ruler over the works of your hands; you put everything under his feet: Psalm 8:6

19 For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous. Romans 5:19

22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. 1 Cor 15:22

13 So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. Genesis 6:13

4 How long will the land lie parched and the grass in every field be withered? Because those who live in it are wicked, the animals and birds have perished. Jeremiah 12:4