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CURSE
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CAUSE
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THE CURSE

Ever wonder why life is so full of headaches and heartaches?

We go to work tired and we come home tired. We go to bed tired and we wake up tired.

Then when we get home something is always broke. The washing machine needs fixed, the roof leaks, the brakes are bad on the automobile, and so it goes.

Just about the time we have money saved for that much needed vacation the plumbing springs a leak, or one of the kids gets sick, and there goes the egg money.

It seems as though everything is wearing out and breaking down around us. We almost need two automobiles because one is always in the shop for repairs.

A limb just fell through the living room roof from that beautiful old tree that has adorned the front lawn for so many years. We had to pay an expert to remove the tree and there goes the milk money.

The family dog died of old age. It looks as though it might have made the cat happy, but the kids will miss old rover.

We know all of this sounds familiar because no one is immune from the curse, Everything gets old and wears out and eventually dies.

Grandpa did not live long after grandma died. The older we get, the more funerals we attend of close friends and relatives. It's sad but true.

The curse is far reaching and all encompassing. Everyone and everything is affected. There is no place to hide and all the money in the world will not buy your way out.

The scientific community, even though they do not realize it, has a word for it. It is called *entropy*.

Entropy is the word used to describe the second law of thermodynamics. The second law of thermodynamics, put simply, states that there is no new energy created. Everything is running down.

The word entropy comes from two Greek words. One is εν (en), and τροπε (trope). En is the Greek word for 'in', and 'trope', is the Greek word for turn.

Entropy means to turn inward.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

God does not change and does not turn inward. He is not running down or wearing out. The word turning in James 1:17 is the word trope.

God is not subject to the second law of thermodynamics, only man is running down. Man is subject to the curse, he is dying.

The earth and everything within the earth is subject to entropy.

Romans 8:22 For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

The whole creation together! Nothing is left untouched by the curse.

In Psalm 37:25 David said, *"I have been young, and now am old....."*

In Isaiah 40:8 we are told, *"The grass withered, the flower fadeth, but the word of our God shall*

stand forever."

The reason we are living under a curse is because God is perfect and true to His Word.

There is a reason for the curse.

THE CAUSE

Genesis 2:15,17 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat;

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

God gave Adam a commandment not to eat of the tree of knowledge. He told Adam he would begin to die. The word die in Genesis 2:17 means 'in dying thou shall die.'

In other words, dying would become a process. Man would begin to wear out and become old, and eventually die. ENTROPY: The second law of thermodynamics would take affect.

It is important to note that God told Adam to dress

The garden. That means to till the garden. Adam was to be the gardener. However, it was not intended to be work. It was intended to be fun and enjoyable. There was no sweat involved.

Genesis 1:27,28 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth....

Adam and Eve were supposed to be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth. Have children.

Eve was to have children. However, there would be no pain involved

There was no curse and no entropy. Adam was to till the garden and Eve was to have children and there was no work or pain involved

In Genesis 3:1-6 we have the account of the fall of man. They disobeyed God and sinned.

Disobedience is sin and sin is disobedience to God. God said do not eat of the tree of knowledge, and Adam ate. He disobeyed God.

Eve was deceived by Satan, (Genesis 3:1-6 2 Corinthians 11:3) and Adam listened to Eve (Gen. 3:6)

But Adam was the one who disobeyed God. He was the one who was told. (Genesis 2:17 Romans 5:14 1 Timothy 2:13,14 1 Corinthians 15:22)

God could have been a liberal democrat and said, "just forget it Adam, but don't let it happen again."

But God is just and holy and sticks to His Word. He means what He said. "For in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

In Genesis 3:1-6 we have the account of the fall of Adam. In Genesis 2:17 we have the warning. We also see that God had already told Adam and Eve to be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth, and Adam was to till the ground.

The Bible says that when Adam sinned and disobeyed God, all mankind has taken on the sin nature.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

1 Corinthians (a) For as in Adam all die

For as in Adam all die. Entropy; The second law of thermodynamics.

In Genesis 3:14-19 we have the account of the pronouncement of the curse.

However, we must remember, God did not establish the curse upon Adam. Adam brought the curse upon himself, God just confirmed it.

Genesis 3:14-19 And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life.

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; he shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.

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;

Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee: and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return to the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return

“Cursed is the ground for thy sake.” Adam brought the curse upon himself. He disobeyed God, and disobedience is sin.

We must remember, Adam was just a man. If Adam had not failed, another man at another time, would have.

Instead of being a happy gardener in a perfect world, Adam and all mankind is now living with sorrow, thorns, thistles, and the sweat of the brow; until we, “return to the dust.” Entropy.

Sorrow.....all the days of our lives. When Adam sinned, time as we know it, began. Adam would have lived forever in the garden if he had not failed.

It takes time to die. It is a process. “For in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.” Adam and Eve began the aging process, and time as we know it began.

Eve would now bring forth her children in sorrow and pain.

As a matter of fact, God said he would multiply her sorrow. It is bad enough to add sorrow to sorrow, but multiplication really adds up.

Every woman who has had children knows the pain involved. Every man who has had to feed his family and who has had a square meal knows how hard it is to come by.

The consequences of the curse are far reaching. If we could we would fill a multitude of pages with the ramifications of the curse mentioned in Genesis 3:14-19.

However, this writer is subject to the second law of thermodynamics. He is wearing out and running down. He is in the aging process and running out of energy.

Before we continue, allow us to point out that not only was all creation affected physically, there is a mental aspect.

Adam and Eve lived in a perfect environment. Since they were not aging, there was no pain.

Human emotions as we know them did not exist. Since there was no sin, there was no knowledge of sin.

Because there was no knowledge of sin, there were no emotions that accompany sin, such as anger, guilt, hate, fear, depression, and so on.

Immediately following their disobedience, man and woman began to age. Suddenly, they had to be overcome with human emotions they never knew before.

They felt shame when they knew they were naked.
(Genesis 3:7

They felt guilt and hid themselves from God.
(Genesis 3:8

They acquired the well known attribute of blame.
(Genesis 3:12,13)

We all know how to blame others for our failures.
"It wasn't my fault!" "I didn't do it!" "She did it!"
"He did it!" "They did it!"

Along came jealousy and envy. Cain was jealous of Abel and became angry. (Genesis 4:4-7)

Anger led to the first recorded murder when Cain slew his brother. (Genesis 4:8)

Then when Cain was rebuked by God for his actions we see denial and self pity. (Gen. 4:9-13)

Then of course there must have been remorse For Adam and Eve with one son killing the other.

Human emotions. Cain was cast out to fend for himself in a hostile environment. He felt despair and rejection. This was only fitting for Cain who had just taken a life.

However, Cain felt his punishment was too great, and we already see the foundation of the A.C.L.U., and those who feel capital punishment is too harsh.

Mankind, now filled with the knowledge of sin, has all the human emotions that accompany sin. Then follows depression, and unhappiness, and stress.

Along with mental anguish and stress comes more physical illness. We all know stress causes physical illness.

DENIAL AND A CUP OF COFFEE

Because we would rather not 'fess up' to the problem, we have self denial. In our attempt to find happiness we make trips to the psychiatrist who tells us to blame Mom and Dad

Mankind spends his entire life denying he is dying, and denying he is a sinner. He refuses to accept guilt, therefore, he cannot deal with it. Because he cannot deal with emotional problems, he spends his time and money going to a secular counselor, who cannot deal with his own emotional problems.

Because man refuses to deal with physical death, he is unable to face the inevitable.

We will do everything to avoid the reality of a future fate that faces us all.

Many people are so afraid of death they have their bodies freeze dried and placed in a container. It is called cryonics. Some have their entire bodies frozen, while some have their heads frozen, and some have other parts of their bodies frozen.

They do all of this in hope that someone will find a way in the future for them to be revived and live forever.

Some hope their brain will be restored and transplanted in another body and therefore they will live forever.

Freeze dried! Like a cup of folgers. Just a gallon of hot water, and presto, a large cup of instant person.

Unfortunately, it will not work. There is no cure for the second law of thermodynamics. The curse has been passed on to all humanity. "Thou shalt surely die."

And while we are in the process of dying, there shall be hard labor and labor pains.

Freeze dried, kiln dried, hung out to dry, cured on a stretcher, or nailed to the cabin wall, dead is dead.

There is another, and probably the most important, effect the curse had on humanity. That is the eternal effect. God tells us in the Bible that physical death is the result of sin, yet there is life after death

However, since God is perfect and hates sin, no sin is allowed in His presence. Since no sin is allowed in the presence of God, neither is any of mankind upon death.

Because of Adam's failure, all mankind is now guilty.

Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin, and so death passed upon all men, for all have sinned.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

It is very clear by these verses that because of Adam two things entered into the world; sin and death. We have no control over the fact that we are sinners and we are going to die.

It's a done deal. Sometimes life is impossible, then we are dead. However, all is not hopeless!!

THE CURE

In Genesis 2:17 and 3:1-24 we have an account of the curse and the cause.

In the same portion of Scripture we also have the cure given.

Someday God will lift the curse and there will be no more death. In the meantime we are all subject to the curse.

In this short booklet we need to be brief, yet informative.

The curse is that Adam's disobedience not only brought death upon mankind, it also condemned God to the same fate.

Please! Do not be alarmed. God is not in the process of dying, neither is He subject to entropy, yet Adam condemned God to death. It is true. Read it for yourself.

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; he shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

In this portion of Scripture, God is speaking to

Satan. He is the one who deceived Eve. God said He would put enmity (warfare) between his seed and the seed of the woman.

Satan's seed are all those who reject Christ and God. (ref. Matthew 3:7 John 8:44 1 John 2:22,23)

The seed of the woman is the Lord Jesus Christ. (Galatians 3:16 4:4)

Satan would bruise the heel of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is part of the curse. God is condemned to be bruised.

Four thousand (4000) years later part of that prophecy was fulfilled. Jesus Christ was nailed to a Cross and Satan bruised Him, just as God foretold.

God took upon human flesh. Jesus Christ was God in the flesh. (ref. John 1:1,14,18 1 Timothy 3:16)

Since sin cannot be paid for by sin, and Satan and mankind are sinful by nature, the curse cannot be lifted by man.

Only God can lift the curse of sin and death. However, since God is eternal and will never die, He took upon Himself flesh and blood in order to

become subjected to death.

1 Timothy 1:15 This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

Only God can lift the curse. Jesus Christ was God in the flesh. He still is God, and always will be God.

How do those who deny Christ is God justify themselves?

Only God can forgive sin. (ref. Ephesians 1:7 4:32 Colossians 1:14 2:13)

Being that sin cannot be paid for by sin, the one who pays the price must be sinless and perfect.

Therefore, Christ must be God because He was sinless and perfect. (ref. 2 Corinthians 5:21 Romans 5:18 Hebrews 4:15 1 Peter 1:19,20)

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God took upon Himself the effects of the curse. He subjected Himself to like pain as man brought upon himself.

A perfect, just, and holy God, could not condemn man to death without suffering Himself.

What an amazing God!!

"The wages of sin is death..." We have earned it, yet, God says eternal life is a gift. It is free through Jesus Christ the Lord.

Romans 5:1 Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

God loves His entire creation. He showed His love toward us, even though we are sinners, by the death of Christ on the cross.

If we have faith in Christ, we are justified, and have peace with God.

There is no peace with God as long as the curse of sin and death separate us from God.

In Romans 5:6 we see something very important. Without strength would indicate we do not have the power to save ourselves.

And, "in due time Christ died for the ungodly." Christ's death on the cross provided eternal life for all mankind throughout history, including Adam.

Whosoever trusts in God's salvation is saved from eternal death. Christ's death on the cross took place on God's timetable, not mans. In due time.

Sometime in the future God will put an end to the curse altogether. There will be no pain and agony or physical death.

The difference between the death of Christ and man is that being God, death could not hold Him.

Someday, death as we know it, will cease to exist. We do not know when that will be, however, for those of us who believe in God's Word, we know it will happen.

1 Corinthians 15:20-26 But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept.

For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive;

But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.

Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father, when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.

For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

The last enemy to be destroyed is death. Death as we now know it will be destroyed. There will be no more death when the curse is lifted. Since there is no more death, there is no more sin.

This event is yet future. While we wait for this glorious time period in God's history, we are still under the curse.

Yet we know that since by man (Adam) came death, we also know that by Christ came life.

Someday all will be as it was in the garden. There will be no more sin and disobedience. There will be no more sweat, thorns, thistles, pain, murder, or anything that is contrary to God.

Since there will be no more sin and disobedience, there will be no more human emotions as we know them.

There will be no more envy, jealousy, strife, hatred, animosity, and all the other human emotions that cause suffering. (Revelation 21:1-5)

As we just read in 1 Corinthians 15:24 there is an end coming. Jesus Christ will "deliver up the kingdom to God, even the Father."

In Genesis 3:15 God condemned Himself to death. Then He came the first time and died on the cross. He has a name. It is the Lord Jesus Christ.

He is coming back someday to redeem the earth. It belongs to Him. He created it. He gave it over to sin and corruption for a season.

The entire creation will be judged and cleansed. (Revelation 20:7-14)

The earth has been corrupted by sin and will be cleansed by fire. (Revelation 21:1 2 Peter 3:10-13)

When Christ comes back and removes the curse all will be well. All things will be new. (Revelation 21 and 2 Peter 3)

The scientist will be out of a job!

There will be no more entropy. No more second law of thermodynamics.

Until the Lord comes back to redeem the earth, we are still under the curse of sin and death.

Many things must take place according to the Word of God. The rapture must take place first.

This is the next big event on God's time table.

Then there will be seven years of tribulation. During this time God will judge the earth.

Following the seven year tribulation will be one thousand years of peace. At this time Christ will rule upon the earth as King of Kings.

When the one thousand years are ended, there will be a brief war when Satan is loose, he will be cast into the lake of fire, and remain there forever.

Then will be the great white throne judgment. All the lost (those who have never trusted Christ as Savior) will stand at the great white throne judgment.

Finally, the earth will be burned with fire, or a great heat of some kind, and the new heavens and earth will come into existence. (2 Peter 3;10-13 Revelation 21:1)

CONCLUSION

All of these things are yet future. In the meantime we must live on this earth under the curse. The curse is sin and death.

Psalm 89:48 What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? Shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? Selah.

Everyone and everything is wearing out and dying. Thorns and thistles are a result of the curse.

If it were not for the curse, the world would be a putting green.

If we did not maintain our lawn, it would soon produce thorns and thistles

The cause for all of this, and so much more, is sin. Adam disobeyed God and sinned. When Adam sinned, the curse of death fell upon all mankind.

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

No one can hide from the curse. We live under the curse. Yet there is no need to allow the curse to overcome and dominate our lives.

John 16:33 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.

We are all sinners, and death is inevitable. Human emotions run wild and are devastating to many.

Because so many people allow their emotions to run their lives, they ruin the lives of others.

This is the way of the world. We cannot change or alter it in any way. The Lord calls it tribulation, or, trouble.

As we go through this life, there will be tribulations and problems. Then, at the end of it all, there is death.

Jesus said, "but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

John 5:24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation, but is passed from death to life.

1 Corinthians 15:20 But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept.

1 Corinthians 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive;

Jesus Christ was condemned to death. He had to die for His creation.

He died on the cross, and shed His blood for mankind and the world..

However, He rose from the grave. Death could not hold Him. Being God, He was not held accountable to death.

Therefore, Jesus Christ promises to those who trust Him as Savior, that death has no hold on them.

Because Christ rose from the grave, so shall all those who believe in Him. Is it any wonder He said, "be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

The cure for the curse is to believe on Christ as the one who paid for our sin and promises eternal life.

In Revelation chapters twenty one and twenty two the Lord gives us an account of a future event.

It is a picture of the new heavens and new earth. It will be a garden of Eden, so to speak.

In Revelation 21:1 John saw a new heaven and earth.

Revelation 21:4 And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away.

Revelation 22:3 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;

Revelation 22:7a Behold, I come quickly

In the new heaven and earth there shall be no more tears, sorrow, pain, and no more death.

Why?

Because there shall be no more curse!!!

We live in the here and now. Someday there is a by and by. Here and now is death and sorrow because of that darned ole curse.

By and by is future. We must live and think in the here and now

But we may look forward to the by and by with the Lord Jesus Christ ... and He is "coming quickly."

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Jesus Christ was God in the flesh. He created all things. He created the world. He loved His creation.

He created man and woman. He loved them enough to shed His blood on the cross for them.

We cannot avoid being overcome by the curse. However, we can spend eternity with Christ in a perfect environment.

For God so loved the world (your name here) that he gave his only begotten Son (Jesus Christ the Lord) that whosoever (your name here) Believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

The gospel is that Christ died, was buried, and rose

Again for the forgiveness of sin to all who believe in Him.

If you would like to have complete forgiveness of sin, and spend eternity in heaven with Jesus Christ, try putting your name in the spaces.

The world is you. Whosoever is you.

Putting your name in the space will not save you, faith in Christ will.

We have added the space as an illustration.

The curse is death and sorrow.

The cause is sin and disobedience.

The cure is Jesus Christ and believing in (trusting) Him.