

PROPHECY IS POETRY, NOT NEWSPRINT Genesis 3:14-15

Genesis 3:14-15 ¹⁴ So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. ¹⁵ And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring {15 Or seed} and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

This is the first prophecy and the first gospel

- a prophecy of conquest and a gospel of victory

It refers to very real people and very real events

The snake is Satan

The seed is Jesus

The bruising is the crucifixion

- do not make the mistake of thinking that the crucifixion was Satan's victory

Colossians 2:13-15 ¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

1 Corinthians 2:6-8 ⁶ We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷ No, we speak of God's secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. ⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

It uses highly figurative, imaginative language to talk about these very real subjects

Is Satan literally a snake?

Do snakes or demons literally eat dust?

Did either the snake or the woman produce a literal seed?

Has Satan ever had a literal head?

Did Satan literally bruise Jesus' heel?

- applying this prophecy to the nail that went thru Jesus' feet is a red herring
- point of prophecy is the profound difference... heel vs. head

Throughout the rest of Scripture, we'll find prophecy is more figurative than literal, more like a poem or a drama than like a newspaper article or the evening news

- cf scenes from "The Passion of the Christ"

→ Jesus in Garden crushing serpent's head

→ teardrop falling from heaven and rocking the foundations of the earth

- "only-begotten Son"