

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

God said “I will PUT enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.” - Gen. 3:15

HOW did God PUT this enmity?

Why did God purposefully do this?

How are enmity and wisdom related?

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

There is an interesting relationship between **enmity** and **wisdom** in the bible. But in accordance with God's eternal purpose, HE gave something **ELSE** to man that caused one of these terms to come into existence, but which also enables man to attain the other.

Both relate to the format (or the manner) in which God's will is revealed in our bible.

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

- **Genesis 3:14-15** - I will put ENMITY between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

## **What is 'enmity'?**

Notice some passages where the word is found, and then notice the contexts.

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

- [Gen. 3:15](#) - And I will put enmity ...
- [Num. 35:21](#) - Or in enmity smite him with his hand, that he die: he that smote [him] shall surely be put to death; for he is a murderer: the revenger of blood shall slay the murderer, when he meeteth him.
- [Numb. 35:22](#) - But if he thrust him suddenly without enmity, or have cast upon him any thing without laying of wait,
- [Ezek. 25:15](#) - Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because the Philistines have dealt by revenge, and have taken vengeance with a despiteful heart, to destroy [it] for the old hatred;
- [Ezek. 35:5](#) - Because thou hast had a perpetual hatred, and hast shed the blood of the children of Israel by the force of the sword in the time of their calamity, in the time [that their] iniquity [had] an end:

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

- **Luke 23:12** - And Herod and Pilate became friends with each other that very day, for before this they had been at **enmity** with each other.
- **Rom. 8:7** - For the mind that is set on the flesh is **hostile** (enmity) to God...
- **Eph. 2:15-16** - by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the **hostility** (enmity)
- **James 4:4** - Do you not know that friendship with the world is **enmity** with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.
- **Gal. 5:20** - enmity; or 'hatred' (KJV)

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

From these texts, we see what it was that God put: **HATRED**  
Enmity is the opposite of love (*agape*).

- HOW did God put enmity? HOW can this enmity make us wise?

What do we learn about ENMITY from Genesis 3?

- **The Purpose:** punishment for the devil for his actions in causing man to disobey God.
- **The Parties:** between “you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring.”
- **The Results:** “he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”
- HOW did God place (put) this enmity?

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

The way in which God put this enmity is also the means by which we can become wise.

The parties: “your offspring and her offspring”.  
This is a key to understanding the relationship between enmity and wisdom.

- (what “offsprings” would have hatred between them?)

**‘offspring’...i.e., thy seed & her seed - - - WHO?**

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

- What did God 'put' that clearly shows the distinction between those who are of Satan's seed and Christ's seed?
- He gave something which results in enmity (i.e., hatred; opp. of love)

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

- God gave commandments!
- Are we not told that in the beginning, Satan sinned? (1<sup>st</sup> John 3:8)

Isn't sin disobedience?      Disobedience  
to WHAT?

Notice elsewhere, what is said of commandments as they relate to living wisely (wisdom) and to enmity:

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

- 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:5 - but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him:
- 1<sup>st</sup> John 3:24 - Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.
- 1<sup>st</sup> John 5:2 - By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments.

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

Jesus identified a disciple as follows: one who HEARS and FOLLOWS His teachings. To them He will give eternal life. Eternal life is their reward for hearing and following His teachings, not what makes them a disciple.

One becomes AND remains a disciple by following the Shepherd's instructions.

**\*Hearing and following the Shepherd is NOT EARNING eternal life! - John 10:27-28**

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

Notice also from John 17:6, 8, 14, 17:

- 6 - I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.
- 8 - For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them
- 14 - I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.
- 17 - Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

- **Commandments were given to distinguish God's children from Satan's. The keeping of them differentiate between the two. The one who has no respect or regard for those commandments will naturally hate those who do. They cannot walk together! They cannot agree! There can be NO fellowship!**
- **As long as God's children walk in the light (Psalm 119:105) he will be protected by the source of that light. Glory to God for His love in giving man these blessed commands!**

# ENMITY AND WISDOM

Consider the questions I have asked previously:

- **How valuable is the gospel message to you?**
- **What are you willing to do to understand it?**
- **What price are you willing to pay to know it?**
- **How much are you willing to sacrifice of your life to know truth?**
- **Lastly, what plans do you have once you learn truth?**