

From that time forth, as far as man is concerned, "dying it shall die." "Then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, 'Death is swallowed up in victory' . . . "Thanks be to God which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

To Adam came the embitterment of God's great gift of work, and the passing of the sentence of death upon his body, the drawing of his whole nature towards the earth out of which he was taken ; to Eve, the passing of pain and trouble across the great joy of her motherhood, and further, the diminution of her power. She had used her power to lead her husband to sin, and therefore she was to be subject to her husband, and he was to rule over her.

Lastly came the natural consequences of their sin—the loss of the immediate presence of God. This loss came not only upon themselves, but fell upon their descendants also.

The Final Victory.

We see everywhere that God's work which He at first pronounced to be good in man and in creation was withered by the poisoned breath of sin. But God's promise to Eve was fulfilled. The power of sin was broken by the death of Christ upon the Cross, and, from that time, the power of a new life passed with freshening influence over the souls of men. The quickening breath of Him who had won the redemption came, and still comes, in Pentecostal blessing, and wherever it passes, it revives souls withered by sin, and a new hatred of sin, and strength to withstand it, is born within them. Men are drawn back into the presence of God, and once more have the longing for purity, the hunger and thirst after righteousness, and the shrinking from whatever will hinder the spiritual communion of their souls with God.

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