



Poisoned by a Decapitated Snake

Genesis 3:8-15

In a *Reader's Digest* article [*] we learn of a harrowing incident which took place in Texas in 2018. Jennifer, Jeremy's wife, was working in her garden when she spotted a western diamondback rattlesnake next to her hand. Hearing her cry of distress, Jeremy came to her rescue. He was able to

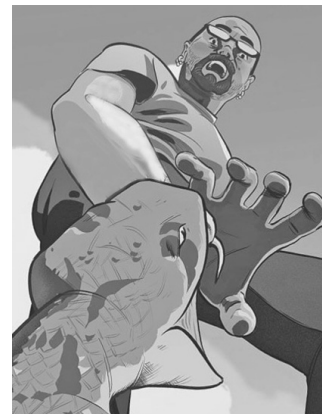
strike the reptile hard with a shovel, severing the head from the body. Ten minutes later he decided to remove the dead reptile, its head lying limp on the ground. As his hand drew near, the lifeless head, with lightning speed, buried its fangs into Jeremy's right hand down to the bone. Like a chicken with its head cut off, this creature still had reflexes and was able to inflict a deadly blow. It was amazing Jeremy lived. He barely made it to the hospital in time. Most people need four doses of anti-venom; Jeremy needed twenty-six! He almost died of kidney failure and two fingers had to be amputated.

Likewise, Satan, that old serpent, received a deadly blow when Christ died at Calvary. It was there that the serpent's head was crushed, and he was defeated (*Gen. 3:15*). Christ partook of flesh and blood "that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil" (*Heb. 2:14*). "The prince of this world is judged" (*John 16:11*) and stands condemned. Yet, even though the serpent received a head-crushing blow at Calvary, he is still able to do a great deal of damage and destruction as he "walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (*1 Peter 5:8*). He is a defeated foe, even though his final judgment is yet future (*Rev. 20:10*). God's children need not fear this enemy because "greater is He that is in you (the living God) than he that is in the world (that old serpent)" (*1 John 4:4*).

Praise God that only one dose of the marvelous anti-venom of the shed blood of Jesus Christ is needed to save each believing sinner from Satan's deadly venom!

[*] <https://www.rd.com/article/the-snakes-revenge/>

~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org



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