

The Superlative Trilogy: God Performs

THE DRAMA OF SALVATION FROM GENESIS TO REVELATION

BY VICTORIA SARVADI, TH.D.

I was inspired by Jeremiah 1:12 to write this article as a literary elucidation, not a scholarly essay. I write my thoughts of the historical biblical Testaments as if I am surmising a cinematic work of a prequel and three subsequent sequels. Certainly, God has been performing. Enjoy!

Moreover, the word of *ADONAI* came to me, saying, ‘What do you see, Jeremiah?’ I answered, ‘I see an almond branch.’ Then *ADONAI* said to me, ‘You have seen correctly, for I am watching over my word to *perform* it’”

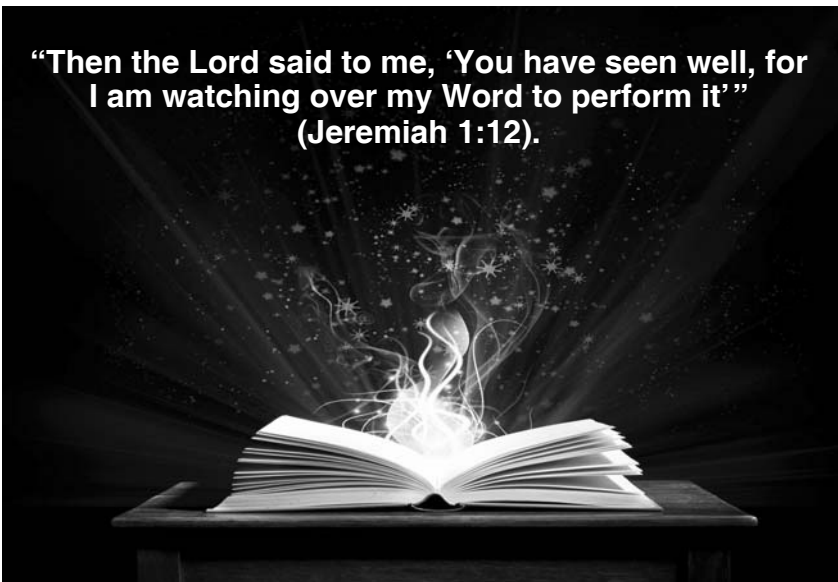
(Jeremiah. 1:11–12, TLV).

Every Spring, healthy trees and flowers perform with impeccable timing, bursting forth in vibrant color, rich fruit, and pure delight for the beholder. In Israel, the almond tree is always the first to perform, and like the faithful almond tree, God likens himself to a performer—an exquisite achiever. His effort and execution are always perfect, and he never misses a cue.

THE PREQUEL: THE GENESIS ACCOUNT

A blockbuster performance for millennia, the awesome and majestic protagonist, All-Powerful God, has created his own perfect, fantastical paradise wherein he dwells. He shares his heavenly and idyllic mountain with wise and beautiful angelic beings that he meticulously designed. These magnificent creatures were made to serve, protect, and implement the commands of God. They were fashioned to make sensational music and song, with voices of layered melodies and harmonies that saturate the atmosphere. They were a bedazzling and stunning handiwork covered in magnificent jewels and fiery stones.¹

“Then the Lord said to me, ‘You have seen well, for I am watching over my Word to perform it’”
(Jeremiah 1:12).



And then God created another world (located just beneath his mountain). And to live and rule in this realm, he made another special creation, a different creature—the *adam*. Formed from the composition of the earth, this marvelous creature was to represent God and his ways on his most unique planet. God then separated the *adam* into two entities. Complimentary confidants, these companions shared thoughts and ideas. They communicated notions and conceptions and shared intimately the many concepts that God was teaching them.

ENTER THE ANTAGONIST

The most beautiful and cunning angelic creature² that the Creator had ever made became jealous of these new ruling creatures on earth. He envied their ability to procreate and thereby co-create with God. He coveted their position of rule and dominion over the prodigious gift called Earth.

So, he premeditated a cunning plan to engage the humans in conversation. His mere presence was intoxicating as he flashed his dazzling gem-covered hands before them bearing delicious and intriguing enticements to experience. Tempting them from his wares and merchandise, he mesmerized them by his words and charmed them with his promises.³ They were convinced that they could be like him, making their own plans and strategies. They could be their own gods.⁴ By biting into his ruse, they became so spellbound that they blatantly defied their Creator. They broke their bond with their God and instead trusted in a new teacher. Their rebellion initiated the consequence of death. Their dominion was forfeited to their new god, and their glory was lost. They were sent away from God's Presence, bemused, and subjected to every wile of Satan and the wicked authorities that had hijacked the domain of Earth.

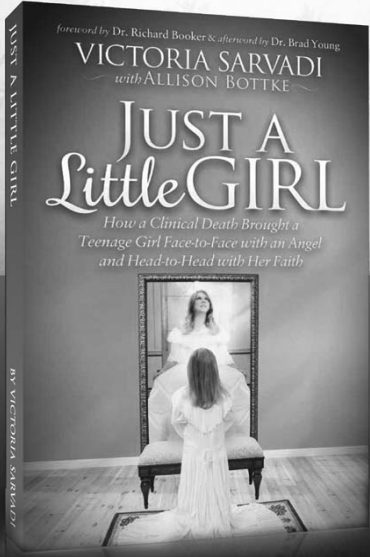
Are you captivated by this story so far? Apparently, many people have been! The Bible, is the best-selling book of all time with nearly 4 billion copies sold in just the last 50 years. The sensational narrative continues in what I see as a trilogy. And, by the way, we are all actors in this fantastic saga.



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tion of the second performance of God. Read the complete work in the book of Acts followed by commentaries in all the Second Testament Epistles.

The Third Chronicle of the Trilogy: The Restoration of the Kingdom, Yeshua Comes Again. Coming on the stage of Earth, Yeshua will soon engage in His most commanding Performance ever. The Prophets of old, and the manuscript of John written on Patmos highlight much of this performance that is soon to be played out right before your eyes. You don't want to miss it – in fact all eyes will see it.⁵

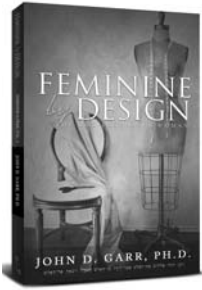
THE WAY BACK TO LOVE, A STORY OF REDEMPTION: A BIBLICAL ERUDITION OF THE FIRST TRILOGY.

God, man's Creator, offered within spatial existence two choices: the election of his Sovereign Goodness, which precedes blessing, or futile self-rule, which always lacks perfect

In Israel, the almond tree is always the first to perform, and like the faithful almond tree, God likens himself to a performer—an exquisite achiever. His effort and execution are always perfect, and he never misses a cue.

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wisdom. Though he desires man to choose him, many will not do so.

The first couple, swayed by the antagonist, elected to go with self-rule. Self-government is separate from God and always ends with destruction and death. Creation was told to obey the Creator so that things would go well, otherwise there would be consequences and penalties for rebellion. Adam and Eve chose vainly.

As the new creation struggled to regain their footing on earth, subjugated under a different kingdom ruler, they suffered and writhed in pain. Because they chose to listen to the deceiver, the cunning one that hoodwinked them and stole their kingdom inheritance, they agonized and grieved.

God warned the adam creature not to take into his mind the idea of deciding what is good or evil on his own. Evil is deceptive and often looks beautiful and inviting. God knew that humans needed his counsel, guidance, and wisdom. He knew that if his ingenuous creation had to depend on their own understanding, they would face great pain, destruction, and, sooner or later, death. Humans were no match to the wisdom of angels. Man was created to expressively depend on their God. He's their counselor; how-

The Eternal One came into time and dwelt with man in the form of another Adam, incarnate in a son of man. He came teaching and sharing hope and life, declaring the message that God desires to restore man unto himself. The Redeemer told his followers that they needed to be born again—that is, born of the Spirit and unto eternal life.

ever, the *nachash*⁶ usurped the position. Their disobedience brought them separation from eternity and death.

Disobedience proved several things. Humans are vulnerable to the wise tactics of fallen angels; they can be distracted by desire and beauty; they can be lured into promises of power; and they can be placated and manipulated—swayed to forfeit faith in the promises of God by voices of opposition and doubt. They are trapped in a web of Satan's merchandise and influenced by every demonic power. They are vulnerable and defenseless. They need a Savior.

With the choice to obey Satan, humans were forbidden to enter God's Mountain. It was then that God removed his Mountain and their special garden that was planted on the east side called Eden.⁷ Satan and his cohorts were also banished and began to live among humans. They taught them some of their wisdom—sorcery, pharmakeia, alchemy, astrology, forging metals, and warfare. Humans passed on to their children the influence of fallen angels—greed, envy, gluttony, immorality, pride, and anger.

God was all but forgotten except for among a remnant. Humanity was imprisoned by their captors and was subject to their constant subterfuges. They forgot they were sons and daughters of the Great King. They needed a teacher—they needed a Savior. Above all, they needed a greater one to come on their behalf and pay the penalty of sin and death that was the result of their mistake—that is, a Redeemer.⁸

God is eternity. He is outside of time and not imperiled by what time brings—degeneration, decomposition, deterioration, and death. The Eternal One, however, came into time and dwelt with man in the form of another Adam. He was incarnate in a *son of man*. He came teaching and sharing hope and life. He declared the message that God desires to restore man unto himself. He taught them that that he would have to die on their behalf but because he was God, he would conquer death and rise again in glory.

The Redeemer told his followers that they needed to be born again—that is, born of the Spirit, not of the First Adam but of the Messiah, the Second Adam, the redeeming Messiah who will pay the demand for their sin and disobedience. If they would bow before him, make him their King, and choose him over the hijacked angelic kingdom of earth, they would, in turn, die with him (in their worldliness) and have the promise of resurrection into eternal life.

Being born into the Kingdom of God establishes the new believer as a citizen into the higher kingdom authority and no longer subject to the spiritual authorities and principalities of the earth "Therefore, if anyone is in

Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people's sins against them. And he has committed to use the message of reconciliation" (2 Corinthians 5:17–19).

THE SECOND CHRONICLE OF THE TRILOGY: SUPREME POWER TO NAVIGATE AMONG HOSTILES, THE HOLY SPIRIT.

In this next sequel of the **Superlative Trilogy** that is now showing on earth, the Redeemer, Yeshua, has sent his born-again family a powerful Spiritual Helper to guide them through the perilous dark kingdom that proliferates in influence of media, entertainment, and education and compels obedience through ungodly governmental control. Though the Redeemer sits in eternity outside of time interceding on our behalf and waiting until the restoration,¹ his Holy Spirit dwells with his people in their dimension of time and space. The Holy Family has grown in number into a great Holy Nation spreading the good news of the Messiah's suffering and death that satisfies the debt of sin and creates the way for anyone who desires to be born of the Spirit.

In order to equip this growing Holy Nation during their walk through time on planet earth, God's Word implores believers to be baptized in the Holy Spirit.² A baptism is a picture of new birth coming out of water, and while it is in obedience that one follows in a water baptism declaring to the spirit world they are born again, it is also incumbent on the new believer to ask for the baptism of fire.

Being baptized in the Holy Spirit first burns up fleshly motivations and selfish inclinations. Then it fills and equips the new creature with power or gifts from the supernatural realm. They are made able to navigate through the dark world by a spiritual light that guides them. These unseen functions of the Spirit are similar (but greater than) what is known as a Guidance and Positioning System (GPS) in the natural realm. Believers are led to people, destinations, and opportunities. They are equipped with Godly wisdom and knowledge when they need it—wisdom that is freely given by God and does not come from books or academics.³ Their Spirit-led prayers bring healing and deliverance to those in need.

THE THIRD CHRONICLE OF THE TRILOGY: THE RESTORATION OF THE KINGDOM, YESHUA COMES AGAIN.

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creatures. This intense finale involves a dramatic rescue of God's children from Satan's furious assaults against them and then along with the hosts of heaven, the King of the Universe annihilates Satan and his kingdom. He brings his Eternal Holy Mountain back to earth and triumphantly restores the planet to Paradise. Be watching and waiting as this performance will soon manifest.¹

This literary parody of historical record and biblical prophecy presents our God as the Great Performer. His Word does not come back void. It will accomplish all that it has been sent out to do.

"They will come and declare his righteousness to a people yet to be born; indeed, he has accomplished it!" (Psalm 22:31). 

¹ Luke 2:9–14; 1 Thessalonians 4:10; Revelation 12:7; Ezekiel 28:13.

² Ezekiel 28:12.

³ Ezekiel 28:13, 16; Genesis 3:1–7.

⁴ Genesis 3:5–6.

⁵ Revelation 1:7.

⁶ Genesis 3:1ff. The Hebrew word translated "serpent" in Genesis 3:1 is *nachash*, which literally means "cunning or deceptive one" (not a reptile).

⁷ Genesis 2:8; Ezekiel 28:13–17; Micah 4:1–2; Revelation 22:10 (the return).

⁸ Romans 6:23.

⁹ John 3:1–13.

¹⁰ Acts 3:20–21.

¹¹ Luke 3:16; Matthew 3:11; Luke 11:13.

God's Word never returns void. It performs what he intends.

Learn more about Dr. Sarvadi's extensive library of inspirational, informative, and challenging materials that are posted at www.thebethanycenter.org.

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