

How did the Fall of man made in God's image affect the rest of earthly creation?

Then to Adam He said . . . "Cursed is the ground because of you Both thorns and thistles it shall grow for you" (NASB; Gen. 3:17, 18).

For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now (NASB; Rom. 8:20-22).

The Fall of man made in God's image affected the rest of earthly creation by subjecting it to God's curse of futility and slavery to corruption.

Futility refers to creation's inability to fulfill entirely that for which it was created. Animal and vegetable life needed man for their perfecting, even before the Fall (Gen. 1:26; 2:15). But after it, *We may think of the whole magnificent theatre of the universe together with all its splendid properties and all the chorus of sub-human life, created to glorify God but unable to do so fully, so long as man the chief actor in the drama of God's praise fails to contribute his rational part* (C. E. B. Cranfield, *The Epistle to the Romans*).