Main Thought  Paradise is lost in this tragedy:  TEMPTER (1a), TEMPTATION (1b-5), SIN (6), CONSEQUENCES (7-8), JUDGMENT (9-19), and EPILOGUE (20-24).

JUDGMENT (9-19).

THE PUNISHMENTS FOR SIN (14-19).

In reverse order, God first curses Satan from whom no confession was sought for he had already been kicked out of heaven (Rev. 12:9).

1. THE SERPENT / SATAN (14-15).  This curse applies to both the SERPENT (the creature inhabited by Satan) and SATAN.

THE SERPENT (14).
• Cursed means banishment from the place of God’s blessing and the serpent was cursed more than the rest (Psa. 44:23-25).
• The serpent was apparently upright (dragon?) but now will be consigned to crawl on its belly and eat dust – our modern snakes.  This was abject humility (Psa. 72:9) and total defeat (Isa. 25:12; Mic. 7:17).  It will last even into the millennium (Isa. 65:25) even though they will be harmless (Isa. 11:8-9).

SATAN (15).
• This verse is called the PROTOEVANGELIUM — the first mention of the gospel in the Bible.  Even in the midst of punishment there is the hope of redemption (1 Cor. 4:5).
• God’s “I will” shows he is still in charge and takes the initiative (Rom. 5:20).
• Here enmity and antagonism is placed between people and Satan (1 Pet. 5:8) much like man’s aversion to vipers.
• COLLECTIVELY, there is enmity between the children of the devil (Matt. 23:33; John 8:44) and the children of God (1 John 3:8).
• INDIVIDUALLY, Cain would kill his brother Abel (4:8).
• More importantly, the “seed” of the woman was not Cain (4:1; 1 John 3:12) as she had hoped, but would be the “seed” promised to Abraham (15:4; Gal. 3:16) and David (2 Sam. 7:12).  The “seed” was specifically Jesus Christ who would defeat Satan (Rom. 16:20).  This is victory (1 John 5:4).
• To Satan, this would mean his ultimate demise (Rev. 20:10).
• To the woman who was deceived, it would mean she would be used to bring the Savior into the world (1 Tim. 2:13-15).
• Christ’s heel was bruised as he suffered on the cross (Matt. 26:31).  On that same cross, Christ DESTROYED Satan (Heb. 2:14).  He will one day crush his head (Rom. 16:20; 1 John 4:4) and throw him in Hell (Rev. 20:10).