

# Satan

## A Synopsis of Satan - Part 2

### Introduction

In the previous paper there was consideration given to God's descriptive terms for Satan and the contrast between him and the Lord. This paper deals with:

- a) The aspirations of Lucifer
- b) The sin and fall of Satan
- c) The defeat of Satan

In a consideration of the enemy, it is my understanding that several matters must be observed:

- a) There must be an in believing in the reality of Satan and the unseen world, not just intellectual knowledge, but in heart.
- b) There must be a realization that Satan knows the scriptures and will use them to his advantage.
  - i) He used the word of God in Eden (Gen. 3:1).
  - ii) He used the word of God with the Lord's temptations (Matt. 4:2-22).
- c) There must be the understanding that Satan knows our perceived or real strengths and weaknesses.
  - i) Samson
    1. His strength was his strongest point (Jud. 16:6, 9, 12, 28).
    2. His weakness was his love of women (Jud. 14:3, 7; 16:10).
  - ii) Solomon
    1. His strength was his great wisdom (1 Kgs. 4:29, 30, 34).
    2. His weakness was loving many strange women (1 Kgs. 11:1).
  - iii) Peter
    1. His strength was his self-confidence (Mk. 14:29).
    2. His weakness was not knowing himself (Mk. 14:29).

### The Aspirations of Lucifer

Just as there are types or shadows of the Lord in the scriptures, so there are of Satan. Two kings in particular are drawn to our attention in Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28. The fall of these two men foreshadowed the fall of Satan. It is understood that while sin entered the world in Eden, it did not start there. It had erupted in the very throne room of God in the midst of holy surroundings (Lk. 10:18). On this thought ought we be surprised when we find praying is a battle? When praying we also are in the throne room of God doing that which is a blood bought blessing and exhortation (Heb. 4:16).

Through the aspirations of these two men one can learn about the aspirations of Satan who was at that time called "Lucifer". Not only did they want a higher place but were determined by aggressiveness to get it. Lucifer was discontented with the place God had given him and determined to do better for himself. It was a matter of pride and self determination manifested in the words of Isaiah 14:12-14.

- a) I will ascend into heaven.
- b) I will exalt my throne above the stars of God.
- c) I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north.
- d) I will ascend above the heights of the clouds.
- e) I will be like the most High.

It would appear that the particular position Lucifer longed for was that of universal praise or his ill gotten gain glory and undiminished deity. Despite his wisdom, he did not understand that it is one thing to have that which another has, but he could never be God. It was an act of utter foolishness for how could the created ever overcome the creator? As Isaiah and Ezekiel indicate, He had, by God, been given the highest rank in Heaven, but that was not sufficient for him. He wanted to be God! His aim was to displace God governmentally, a coup in Heaven, which he thought that if He could succeed at, then he would be magnified above all on the earth and in Heaven.

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### Questions

Since God is holy in all His works (Psa. 145:17), “all” means all, not most or some of. It is evident that the environment of Heaven was holy and Lucifer, when first created, was holy. How could he then sin, or begin the process of dissatisfaction with God’s grace, seeking self exaltation? The fact is, he like all of God’s intelligent created beings, was created with a free will. God never made any of them spiritual robots who just blindly functioned. At some point this magnificent being made a series of decisions, possibly beginning with the “I will ascend to Heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God (the angelic hosts), and finally, I will be like the Most high”. He made a moral decision. As if that was not bad enough, he was able to associate others with his evilness. Beyond that we cannot go because God has not revealed the answer to us.

It is not really accurate to speak of the sin of Satan for it was Lucifer who sinned, and in so doing became Satan. However, that is not as important as other matters concerning him.

- a) There are a number of decisions made by the Lord that, with the limitations of our minds, we cannot understand. God gives a very important scripture and advice when He revealed to Moses that, “The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law” (Deut. 29:29). For instance, why did God send a lying spirit (1 Kgs. 22:22) or why did He choose Judas who was a thief (Jn. 12:6), and why did He create the individual who became Satan? These are questions I do not have an answer for.

### How Art Thou Fallen?

What is meant by his “Fall?”

- a) The Lord said, “I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven” (Lk. 10:18). It is my understanding that three matters are indicated in this expression:
  - i) he fell like lightning, that is speed
  - ii) or he fell like lightning as being bright
  - iii) or it was a sudden fall, and perhaps all three.
- b) 1 Timothy 3:6 indicates pride led to his fall. He was puffed up with personal positioning failing to see that in rebelling against God would lead to his ruination. This is why Paul writes the warning to the choosing of elders (2 Tim. 2:26).
- c) Aspects of “falling”:
  - i) Fallen from grace (Gal. 5:4).
  - ii) Physical fall, the young man (Acts 20:9-10).
  - iii) To come upon to die (1 Chron. 21:14).
  - iv) Satan fell positionally (Lk. 10:18).
  - v) Respectively (2 Sam. 18:28).

He had and still has access to Heaven so he is not fallen from being able to enter Heaven. In the Old Testament he came with the sons of God and in Heaven (Job 1:6; 2:2). Furthermore, in Revelation he is spoken of as being at war in Heaven with Michael and being cast out with his angels (Rev. 12:7-9). He is the “prince of the power of the air” (Eph. 2:2). We are not told when he was cast out, but it indicates he was restricted in his entrances and no longer dwelt there.

### When did he fall and how many sided with him?

We cannot give a precise time, but in a broad time frame:

- a) When God rested, all He had made was perfect.
- b) How long after God created the heaven He created the celestial beings and government we do not know (Gen. 1:1; Col. 1:16).
- c) The duration between the creation of the Heaven and the creation of the earth and the starry universe we do not know.

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- d) From when God created the earth without form and void until He began the “furnishing and beautifying it” we do not know.
- e) How long Adam and Eve were on the earth before the fall is an unknown. It was evidently after God’s declaration, “And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day” (Gen. 1:31), which was after the creation of man. Therefore, the fall of Lucifer had to be after man had been created.
- f) On this we must be careful and not go beyond that which the Scriptures say. We do know some of the governmental leaders in Heaven sided with him for there are in his government principalities, powers and “ordinary angels” (Eph. 2:12; Col. 2:15).
- g) In Revelation 12:4 it is recorded that the dragon, that is Satan, draws a third part of the “stars of Heaven”. It is normally taken that this is a third of the angels, but this leaves several questions:
  - i) Where are the angelic hosts spoken of as the stars of heaven thus substantiating this interpretation?
  - ii) Does Daniel 8:4 have a connection with this?
  - iii) What has the casting of the stars to earth got to do with the woman and the birth of the child?
  - iv) Is this child the Lord or from Isaiah 66 is it Israel?
  - v) It has been stated that according to Revelation 12:8, when his tail drew a third of the stars of Heaven, a third of the angels fell. However, the passage does not say angels. It says stars of heaven and every other time this expression is used it always refers to the literal stars of the heavens. To say that Mark 13:25 and Revelation 6:13 indicate angels is foolish interpretation. To say these in Revelation 12:4 are the fallen angels is without biblical support.

Those who sided with Satan, where are they now?

- a) The scriptures reveal those fallen angels are in four categories:
  - i) Those who are free to roam the earth and possess humanity and animals (Matt. 8:30-32), affect the weather (Mk. 4:39). There is only one devil and the Greek word (daimonizomai) indicates a supernatural spirit, demon (Mk. 1:34).
  - ii) Those who are in Hell, in Tatarus, held in chains of darkness (2 Pet. 2:4).
  - iii) Those who are restricted but will be unloosed (Rev. 9:14).

Since the fall of these celestial beings did not make them physically ugly or did they lose the governmental position they had, Satan is still their king (Rev. 9:11), there are the principalities (Eph. 2:12; Col. 2:15) and powers (Eph. 6:12; Col. 2:15).

#### The Unshakable Throne of God

Satan learned that God’s purposes were far superior to Satan’s proposals. The “I will’s” of Satan were presumptuousness without moral right or ability. God’s “I will’s” are moral promises and with all righteous authority. He has it recorded in Ezekiel, “I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God” (Ezek. 28:16); “I will destroy thee” (Ezek. 28:16); “I will cast thee to the ground” (Ezek. 28:17); “I will lay thee before kings” (Ezek. 28:17); “I will bring forth a fire from the midst of thee” (Ezek. 28:18). God declares, “Hell from beneath is moved for thee” (Isa. 14:9)

- a) The pronouncement of judgment in Isaiah 14.
  - i) Brought down to Hell, to the sides of the pit (v. 15).
  - ii) Hell from beneath is moved for thee (v. 9).
  - iii) He is fallen (v. 12).
  - iv) Cut down (v. 12) (to fall as a tree).

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**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.  
John 16:13**

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