

# Satan

## A Synopsis of Satan - Part 1

### Readings

- 1) 2 Corinthians 2:11 - "We are not ignorant of His devices."
- 2) Ephesians 6:11 - "Put on the whole armour of God that":
  - a) "Ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one" (v. 16)
  - b) "For we wrestle . . . against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (v. 12)

### Introduction

In the 70's there was a book written by Hal Lindsey, "Satan is alive and well on planet earth". No one who has the slightest iota of spiritual life would disagree with such a statement. Indeed now, some 50 years later, that truth is more evident than ever.

- a) Satan who is the most spirit destroying enemy any and every individual can face. This wicked individual rules a government totally opposed to God and His blessing and purposes in every way. He is determined at all costs to accomplish one major matter which is blinding of human beings while alive, and damning as many as possible with him to Hell. He knows nothing of truth or sympathy, concern for the eternal blessing of others, except to prevent that blessing and joy from ever happening. He and his demons (fallen angels) work relentlessly with utmost determination and zeal along two avenues:
    - ii) Prevent the unbeliever from getting saved
    - iii) Prevent the believer in living a life which brings glory to the Lord.
  - b) Every individual who is saved by the mighty victory of the Lord is a reminder and a re-emphasizing to Satan that he is defeated and, that unlike Satan, God can bring individuals to the place of loyalty to Him in love. Satan will seek to curtail, to damage, or destroy every saint who lives a life of transformation by the power of the Holy Spirit and having the spirit of Christ.
- 2) The Holy Spirit, through the apostles, has informed us that Satan can come against mainly the child of God in two ways, as a roaring lion or as an angel of light. We live in a world of earthly governments that are unwittingly controlled by Satan. He is blinding them to that which they are doing by their great "Reset", the gatherings at "Devos", the "New world order". They are in fact preparing the world for the man of sin.
  - 3) The Holy Apostle Paul wrote about Satan's devices (2 Cor. 2:11), his fiery darts (Eph. 6:12), and his wiles (Eph. 6:11). To the Corinthians he wrote in the context of forgiveness, "We are not ignorant of his devices" (2 Cor. 2:11). A major observation is that we are not a match for Satan.
  - 4) He has superior wisdom and knowledge to us, as well as thousands of years of, as it were, fine tuning his methods of working. Furthermore, he has an untold number of followers, some who are bound by God (Jude 1:6) and others who are free for his service.
    - a) It is of note that there is only one Devil, and when the KJV speaks about "devils" it is demons, i.e., people possessed with "devils" (Matt. 4:24) and unclean spirits (Mk. 5:13).

### The Reality of Satan

It is a major fact that if one is ever going to overcome, it must be believed that there is such an enemy, be they an individual or a government. The second matter is not only must one believe that no matter how they present themselves, they are the enemy and know their tactics. This necessitates seeing the enemy not as an object for jokes, or a character having a red body and leering grin with horns on his head. Furthermore, activities of the enemy must be seen for what they are, acts of rebellion against God. When I say "acts", there is included thoughts, words, imaginations, motivations, attitudes and goals.

# Satan

## A Synopsis of Satan - Part 1

### God's Description of Satan

In Genesis God names five things (Gen. 1:5, 8, 10) and later He gives to Adam the ability to name the animals. When God calls the light “Day” or the darkness He called “night”, the question is “Why?” Is light not a suitable name for the light period of the day? God has His reasons. When it came to the Evil one God also describes him in a variety of ways, all suitable to what He is and does.

1. He is called by a variety of names such as:
  - a) Apollyon (Rev. 9:11); The Accuser of our brethren (Rev. 12:10); The Deceiver (Rev. 12:9); The Great Dragon (Rev. 12:9); The Adversary (1 Pet. 5:8); Beelzebub (Matt. 12:24); Belial (2 Cor. 6:15); The Wicked One (Matt. 13:19); The Enemy (Matt. 13:39); The Father of lies (Jn. 8:44); The Serpent (Gen. 3:1) and the Old Serpent (Rev. 12:9); The Tempter (Matt. 4:3); Lucifer (Isa. 14:12); Satan (1 Chron. 21:1); A Lion (1 Pet. 5:8); The Anointed Cherub (Ezek. 28:14); The Prince of this World (Jn. 12:31); The Prince of the Power of the air (Eph. 2:2); The god of this age (2 Cor. 4:4).
  - b) Interestingly, the first descriptive term is “the serpent” (Gen. 3:1). God draws attention to his character, “subtle” and “beguiling”. Satan is the master of deception. He did it in Eden. None of these names are superfluous, they are God’s unveiling of His Satanic majesty. Why does God give him so many descriptive terms?
  - c) It is to be observed that some of these descriptions are used of individuals whose characteristics is that of Satan:
    - i) Pharaoh is called “the great Dragon” (Ezek. 29:3)
    - ii) Judas is called “the son of perdition” (Jn. 17:12)
    - iii) Haman is called “the adversary and enemy” (Est. 7:6)
2. It is soon observed that we have no idea what Satan and his associates are physically like, for God’s focus is on our understanding of his characteristics and the characteristics of those in fellowship with Him. It is irrelevant if they are fallen celestial beings or humans.
3. Since no where specifically we are told what he is like, in the books of Isaiah and Ezekiel God provides us with two shadows of him:
  - a) In both scriptures he is shadowed as a king (Isa. 14:13-14; Ezek. 28:12-14).
    - i) In the Old Testament the prophet Ezekiel takes up an oracle against the human ruler of Tyre, an arrogant person, smug enough to claim to be a god himself (28:2). God plans to bring this prince down a notch.
    - ii) But while Ezekiel preaches against this ruler, he seems to make several allusions to a similar story on a cosmic scale. In fact, the prophet says a few things that point all the way back to the Garden of Eden:

“You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God . . . you were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones” (28:12–14).
    - iii) Later in the oracle Ezekiel tells us that this being had a pride problem similar to the prince of Tyre’s: “Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendour” (28:17).

This being is punished, he’s expelled from Eden to a new domain, earth and the underworld.
  - b) In Isaiah’s parable against the king of Babylon.
    - i) The prophet Isaiah compares the arrogant king of Babylon to a particularly ambitious divine being who has “fallen from heaven” (Isa. 14:12).
    - ii) This character at one point said to himself: “I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the Most High” (Isa. 14:13–14).

# Satan

## A Synopsis of Satan - Part 1

iii) Heiser, in his notes, indicates that this passage reads like “an attempted coup in the divine council. . . He wanted to be “like the Most High” (elyon), but there can be only one of those.”

4. Perhaps the last place you’d look to find information about Satan is in a list of pastoral qualities. Yet, as the apostle Paul lays out the qualities he expects of church leaders, he makes specific mention of the devil. The apostle warns Timothy that any elder “must not be a recent convert or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil”.

### Get to know the enemy

Due to our localization situation, physically and consciously, we are greatly limited in knowledge and understanding. How much more true is this in the spirit world? From the scriptures we learn of two distinct kingdoms, God and Satan’s.

<b>God</b>		<b>Satan</b>	
<b>Kingdom of God</b>		<b>Kingdom of Satan</b>	
God is King	Psa. 95:3	Satan is King	Rev. 9:11
Principalities	Eph. 3:10	Principalities	Eph. 2:12 Col. 2:15
Powers	Eph. 3:10 Col. 1:16 1 Pet. 3:22	Powers	Eph. 6:12 Col. 2:15
Dominions	Col. 1:16	None of these positions are mentioned in the satanic government	
Thrones	Col. 1:16		
Authorities	1 Pet. 3:22		
Cherubim	Gen. 3:24		
Seraphim	Isa. 6:2		
Archangel	Jude 1:9		
Angels	1 Pet. 3:22		Demons (fallen angels)

# Satan

## A Synopsis of Satan - Part 1

**These two kingdoms are direct opposites, because their Kings are total opposites**

God		Satan	
Light	1 Jn. 1:5	Darkness	Col 1:13
Order	1 Cor. 14:40	Confusion	James 3:15-16
Holy	Isa. 6:1	Utterly corrupt and sinful	See above on that which God calls him
Magnifies Christ	Phil. 2:9	Dishonours Christ	Matt. 24:24
Seeks man's good	Psa. 73:1	Seeks man's eternal ruination	2 Cor. 4:4
Abundant life	Jn. 17:3	Death in its ultimate	Rev. 20:10
Omnipresent	Psa. 139:3-10	Localized	Matt. 4:3, 11 The devil could do this since he is localized
Omnipotent	2 Chron. 20:6	Defeated	Rev. 20:10
Selfless	Rom 8:32	Self seeking	Isa. 14:13

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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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