

## Who is Satan?

<u>2 Corinthians 4:3-4</u>: (NASB) <sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, <sup>4</sup>in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Good and evil. Throughout history there has always been a battle between the two and for many who hold a religion as sacred, this battle has its leaders. As Christians, we embrace God Almighty as the unequivocal Creator and Leader of all that is good and righteous, and we see Satan as the captain of all the dark forces that stand against God. So, just who is Satan? Is he a real being and if so, how did he get to be so evil? If God created all that is good, then how could God have created Satan, the father of darkness? Does Satan come from someplace else? Did God make a mistake?

We firmly believe Satan is real, alive and a source of great danger and destruction. We firmly believe God created the being who became Satan, and in spite of the diabolical influence of Satan on this world, God has everything under His own ultimate control.

Introduction, The History of the Devil, SBS Australia, Siren Visual

- (Narrator) Lucifer, Beelzebub, the Beast, Satan.
- (Crowd of people) Hail Satan, Hail Satan.
- (Man) When you say "Satan" to me, I think "god."
- (Narrator) He has been called many names. He has taken many strange and different forms. The idea of God's evil enemy has been around for thousands of years and it's still as powerful as ever, but where did Satan's story begin? Where did he come from and how did he become the Prince of Darkness?

To know who Satan is now, we need to understand who Satan was beforehand. How can we know this? The Bible gives us several clues...





<u>Isaiah 14:12</u>: (NASB) How you have fallen from heaven, O star of the morning <1966>, son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the earth, you who have weakened the nations!

**Star of the Morning:** Strongs #1966 heylel (hay-lale'); the morning-star

King James Version translates this as "Lucifer" (the king of Babylon)



We now have a name to reference. Satan was once known as *Lucifer*, a bright and "early" light in the heavens. When describing a created being as a *morning star*, we would infer that particular creation would have come before several others. Earlier creations likely had great position and power.



# Here we have God speaking to Job, challenging him to fully acknowledge the great power of God:

Job 38:3-7: (NASB) <sup>3</sup>Now gird up your loins like a man, and I will ask you, and you instruct Me! <sup>4</sup>Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? (the literal planet) Tell Me, if you have understanding, <sup>5</sup>Who set its measurements? Since you know. Or who stretched the line on it? <sup>6</sup>On what were its bases sunk? Or who laid its cornerstone, <sup>7</sup>When the morning <1242> stars <3556> sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

Morning: Strongs #1242 boqer (bo'-ker) 1) morning, break of day 2) morning 3) of end of night 4) of coming of daylight

Stars: Strongs #3556 kowkab (ko-kawb'); probably from the same as #3522 (in the sense of rolling) or #3554 (in the sense of blazing); a star (as round or as shining); figuratively, a prince

In other words, *morning stars* meant "The princes of the heavens in the very beginning." Presumably Lucifer is one of these plural morning stars, since he was called that in the previous Scripture we read from Isaiah. These angelic morning stars were in perfect harmony with God.

# Do we know anything about any other *morning stars*? Yes! Jesus says he himself is the Morning Star:

<u>Revelation 22:16</u>: (NASB) I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.

- Root of David The Lord over David (the root is where it begins; Jesus' pre-human existence was before David was alive).
- Descendent of David of the line that Messiah was to come from Jesus fulfilled this prophecy.
- Bright Morning Star The shining brilliance of the beginning of the creation of God.

We can start to get a picture of what it was like for Satan before his sin and darkness. Things at this point are bright, glorious and harmonious.



# If all was good, God-honoring and glorious, how did darkness and evil creep in?

# (1))God's servants, The History of the Devil, SBS Australia, Siren Visual

- (Narrator) More than 3,000 years ago in the deserts and pasturelands of the Middle East, unknown hands wrote the earliest chapters of the Hebrew Bible. If the Devil had a birthplace, surely it was here, somewhere in the book known to Christians as the Old Testament. In the oldest books of the Bible, a character called Satan does appear. But he's nothing like the Satan we imagine.
- (Man) When we read the Old Testament we find from time to time there is this strange, dark figure who pops up called "The Satan," and the word The Satan" is actually a title. The word means "the accuser," and to begin with it seems that The Satan is one of the angels or attendants in the heavenly court.

#### Back to Job for more details:

Job 38:3-7: (NASB) <sup>3</sup>Now gird up your loins like a man, and I will ask you, and you instruct Me! <sup>4</sup>Where were you when I laid the foundation <3245> of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding, <sup>5</sup>Who set its measurements? Since you know. Or who stretched the line on it?

**Foundation:** Strongs #3245 yacad (yaw-sad'); to set (literally or figuratively); intensively, to found; reflexively, to sit down together, i.e. settle, consult

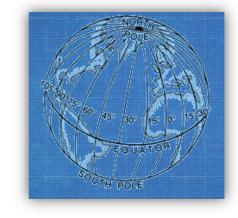
God described to Job the founding, design and blueprints of our planet.

<sup>6</sup>On what were its bases sunk? Or who laid its cornerstone, <sup>7</sup>When the morning <1242> stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

At the beginning (the foundation "blueprint" phase) and throughout the creation of the earth there was harmony, great joy and excitement in the heavenly realm. God was expanding His own creativity into another realm - a physical realm where life would be extraordinarily different!

At this time, Lucifer was a brilliant, beautiful, powerful and majestic Morning







Lucifer was created perfect. He was not "set up" or made as a flawed creation. So, why did he turn against God after starting on a godly path? When and how did it happen?



Once the creation of the physical world was underway (as described in Job), PERHAPS God revealed the significant details of the next phase of His creative plan - how the earth would be inhabited and how it would be overseen (arranged) from the heavenly perspective. This would be an exciting new development in which the angelic realm would participate. PERHAPS Lucifer's new job description was here laid out and PERHAPS it was here



that Lucifer's heart began to turn to darkness. Once he found out what his role would be, he began to see himself in a different light.

Revelation 13:8: (KJV) And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation <2602> of the world <2889>.

**Foundation:** Strongs #2602 katabole (kat-ab-ol-ay'); a deposition, i.e. founding; figuratively, conception

**World**: Strongs #2889 kosmos (kos'-mos); orderly arrangement, i.e. decoration; by implication, the world (in a wide or narrow sense, including its inhabitants, literally or figuratively [morally])

(More on this word #2602 is found in the Bonus Material.)

Foundation of the world - Not the physical planet, but rather, the conception or the orderly arrangement of the management of the planet and all the beings on it. Think of it like the plan for spiritual governing and oversight of the physical planet earth.

You do not need a plan of salvation while all is in perfect harmony. There was no need to reveal certain pieces of the plan before it was necessary - apparently, God provides on a "need to know" basis. Jesus was a willing sacrificial lamb from the moment there was a shadow of doubt cast upon the harmony of God's creation. "Who would do what" would have shown up somewhere during the process of the foundation of the world - the divine order and arrangement. Perhaps the revealed job description for Lucifer made him start to think on the wrong path.

Do we have additional justification for saying *world* does not mean just the planet earth?

<u>Matthew 24:21</u>: (NASB) For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the <u>world <2889</u>> until now, nor ever will.

World - how the human race was organized. Sin eventually brings unprecedented trouble to the orderly arrangement of God's creation.

<u>1 Peter 1:18-20</u>: (NASB) <sup>18</sup>knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, <sup>19</sup>but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. <sup>20</sup>For he was foreknown before the **foundation** <2602> of the **world** <2889> but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you.

God knew even BEFORE the orderly arrangement of things was put in place what would happen, and the provision for the sacrifice of the Lamb was already in place.



#### What can we learn from this?

- God really did know what pathway His created beings would take before they took it.
- God clearly arranged for an eternal object lesson to be taught as a result of these choices. It was not just for us earthlings but also for the heavenly host.
- God does not reveal things before they are needed to be known, making the lessons learned powerful and permanent.

## What did Lucifer's fall from grace look like?

Not an evil force, The History of the Devil, SBS Australia, Siren Visual

- (Narrator) This Satan has no power on his own; He does only what God tells him. Nor is he a horrible creature with horns and a tail.
- (Women) There's no kind of Prince of Darkness someone who's standing opposite to God (we disagree). Throughout most of the text there's no concept at all of an evil force.

Originally Satan did only answer to God, but he changed to the dark and wicked path of defying God. Any being who defies God goes down that same path.



<u>Isaiah 14:12</u>: (NASB) How you have fallen from heaven, O star of the morning, son of the dawn!

But wait! Are we out of line applying this imagery to Satan?

## Let us check the context:



<u>Isaiah 14:3-4</u>: (NASB) <sup>3</sup>And it will be in the day when the LORD gives you rest from your pain and turmoil and harsh service in which you have been enslaved, <sup>4</sup>that you will take up this taunt against the king of Babylon, and say, How the oppressor has ceased, and how fury has ceased!

This talks about the King of Babylon. Bible prophecy often has double meaning because it was relevant to what was happening at the time of the prophet, but also showing us something in the future as well.



#### Here is another instruction given to Isaiah who responds personally:

<u>Isaiah 6:8-10</u>: (NASB) <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then I said, here am I. Send me! <sup>9</sup>He said, go, and tell this people: Keep on listening, but do not perceive; keep on looking, but do not understand. <sup>10</sup>Render the hearts of this people insensitive, their ears dull, and their eyes dim, otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and return and be healed.

Isaiah was given instruction and obeyed. This literally happened to Isaiah.

# Jesus tells us that Isaiah's instruction was prophetic and meant to be fulfilled by *Jesus himself*:

Matthew 13:13-15: (NASB) <sup>13</sup>Therefore I speak to them in parables; because while seeing they do not see, and while hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. <sup>14</sup>In their case the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled, which says, You will keep on hearing, but will not understand; You will keep on seeing, but will not perceive. <sup>15</sup>For the heart of this people has become dull, with their ears they scarcely hear, and they have closed their eyes, otherwise they would see with their eyes, hear with their ears, and understand with their heart and return, and I would heal them.

Here Jesus says he speaks in parables because...and then he quotes Isaiah. He is saying, "While they were applicable in Isaiah's day, they are more relevant to me today."

With prophecy there is almost always a double meaning. This gives us authority to look at the physical meaning and fulfilling of what was spoken of by the prophets and then search for the expected secondary fulfillment.

While <u>Isaiah 14:3-4</u> applied to the literal king of Babylon, it was just a small picture of something much larger. Let us pay attention to the upcoming warnings because we could fall into the same traps that Lucifer did when it comes to a warping of power and responsibility.

# Back to Satan's fall - this gives us great insights into what went wrong:

<u>Isaiah 14:12-15</u>: (NASB) ...<sup>12</sup>You have been cut down to the earth, you who have weakened the nations! <sup>13</sup>But you said in your heart, I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, and I will sit on the mount of assembly in the recesses of the north. <sup>14</sup>I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High. <sup>15</sup>Nevertheless you will be thrust down to Sheol, to the recesses of the pit.

When you entertain sin in your heart and mind, only darkness and evil will eventually come out.

## Jesus elsewhere alludes to the imagery in Isaiah:

<u>Luke 10:18</u>: (NASB) And he said to them, I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning.

#### Lucifer began to entertain inappropriate thoughts:

• You said in your heart - Here is the thought process of the Fourth Clue. It was not just said in his head, but in his heart - the seat of emotions and everything that drives a being. (Inevitably we make decisions based on our heart even if our head tell us something different.)



- I will ascend into the heavens He was already arranged to be God's earthly representative for the human race (more on this later). He already had a very powerful position in the heavens. He was not giving credit for God putting him there.
- I will exalt my throne above the stars of God He was already one of the stars of God, but he wanted more. And when did God give him a throne?
- I will sit in the mount of congregation in the uttermost parts of the north Where God abides. He was positioning himself to rise beyond where was appropriate.
- I will ascend above the heights of the clouds Above the influence of God's presence with man. Lucifer's assigned responsibility (we will soon learn) was "beneath the clouds" within earth's atmosphere but he wanted more.
- I will make myself like the Most High Not replacing, but rivaling the Most High. Who gave him the right to do this self-promotion?

Lucifer was looking for a dominion, power and authority and to usurp the rights of his Creator who he was honored to represent and work for. He turned on God!

"If there is no God, the labels 'good' and 'evil' are merely opinions. They are substitutes for 'I like it' and 'I don't like it.' They are not objective realities." - Dennis Prager



- Satan as Lucifer was an early, bright and powerfully harmonious creation of God.
- He was one of two Morning Stars that we know of. He must have been quite special!
- His fall began in his heart and mind, perhaps once he learned the details of God's orderly arrangement for the earth.
- God knew what would happen, permitted it and provided the solution.







# Hell is not his home, The History of the Devil, SBS Australia, Siren Visual

- (Narrator) The Satan who makes Job's life a misery isn't a demon or even a bad angel (we disagree), and he doesn't live in hell (we agree).
- (Women) There wasn't any kind of concept of a hell like we have a place of fiery torment and torture. In fact, the ancient Israelites what happened when you died was really very little. You went to a place called Sheol and this was just a very dark, shadowy place, a sort of underworld where everybody who died went irrespective of whether you were good or bad.

Satan is beautiful, powerful and intelligent, but he is extremely dangerous. He knows how to get you to listen to him. It is much harder to resist a creature like this rather than one dark and ugly.

## The deadly spread of sinful ACTION

We believe the following texts to be clearly <u>symbolic</u> of Satan (as the king of Tyre), just as the Isaiah prophecy was.

This text reveals much of Lucifer's role in Eden and what went wrong as a result:

<u>Ezekiel 28:11-14</u>: (NASB) <sup>11</sup>Again the word of the LORD came to me saying, <sup>12</sup>Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre and say to him, thus says the Lord GOD, you had the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

(Source: Biblical commentary by McGee) Satan is a created being. He was created perfect in beauty. If you think of Satan as a creature with horns, a forked tail, and cloven feet, you are wrong. You have been reading the literature of the Middle Ages which has its origin in Greek mythology that goes back into Asia Minor...



Comments from our live chat: Do you think Satan is somewhat or perhaps hugely insane by now? I mean, only a madman would continue when he knows he's lost...or can't seem to recognize the truth.

Satan is locked in on something very specific. We will discuss this further as the program progresses.

<sup>13</sup>You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: ...On the day that you were created they were prepared. <sup>14</sup>You were the anointed cherub who covers, and I placed you there.

You were in Eden - clearly the Garden of Eden, referencing the time when Lucifer was put in charge of the Garden and its inhabitants.

Every precious stone was your covering - he was a great representative of the wonderful creative abilities of God.

The anointed cherub who covers - God gave Lucifer the responsibility to take care of the Garden, and he had direct responsibilities with humanity.

God gave the privilege of oversight of this physical creation to one of his highest and most respected beings of all of His creation, and his name was Lucifer.





A caller suggests: <u>John 8:44</u>: He was a murderer from the beginning...and the father of lies. <u>Matthew 6:23</u>: If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness! We can apply

that directly to Satan. He is the only creature whose annihilation is guaranteed per Revelation 20.

Let us look at the kind of honor Lucifer was given. He violated God's trust and has gotten so far away from God that he is not recoverable. Is that insanity or is he truly locked into the thinking that his way can work? To date he has had a lot of success doing it his way.

<u>Ezekiel 28:14-17</u>: (NASB) You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked in the midst of the stones of fire. <sup>15</sup>You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created until unrighteousness was found in you.

You were on the holy mountain of God - Throughout the Bible, mountains are symbolic of governments. He was part of the government of God with the responsibility of oversight/covering in Eden.

The stones of fire - Perhaps representing the brilliance of the jewels of God's creativity even before the earth was formed.

You were blameless in your ways - Not only what he did but what was in his heart. He was good...until unrighteousness was found in him.

<sup>16</sup>By the abundance of your trade you were internally filled with violence, and you sinned;

Perhaps this is saying that Lucifer did not keep the power and honor of his position within the heavenly host in a God-fearing way, but focused on what he was given rather than who gave it to him.

Therefore I have cast you as **profane** <2490> from the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. <sup>17</sup>Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, that they may see you.

**Profane:** Strongs #2490 chalal (khaw-lal'); properly, to bore, i.e. (by implication) to wound, to dissolve; figuratively, to profane (a person, place or thing), to break (one's word), to begin (as if by an "opening wedge")

Cast you as profane - He was trying to dissolve God's plans rebelliously. What a contrast between what Lucifer was given and what Lucifer chose to do with it. He was given authority, beauty, wisdom, splendor and privilege - he chose to take credit for all of it and demand more. That fall might have been subtle at the beginning but turned into something very damaging and eventually led to death.

Now that we know who Satan is, what does he do?

(1))Traditional Satan not from the Bible, The History of the Devil, SBS Australia, Siren Visual

• (Narrator) So, where is the Satan we know? Where's the fiend who's eternally at war with the forces of good? The monster who rules over the flames of hell and punishes sinners? Where is the fallen angel with his legion of demon helpers tempting humans to do evil things so that he can win their souls? If







Satan is much more devious because he is more beautiful, wiser, powerful and attractive than the Middle Age traditions would lead us to believe.

Chat response: Is he insane? We think instead he is locked into the idea that he can do it his way. He has had a lot of success along the way. He has followers who have made him "god" and much of the world follows him unknowingly. Perhaps he is thinking he can actually beat God!

## Tempting Jesus in the wilderness

Each aspect of the three temptations of Jesus addresses Satan from a different perspective, each of which helps us to understand who he is by what he does, which will help us to be on guard against him.

Matthew 4:1-10: (NASB) <sup>1</sup>Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted <3985> by the devil <1228>. <sup>2</sup>And after he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he then became hungry. <sup>3</sup>And the tempter <3985> came and said to him, if you are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.

The tempter: Strongs #3985 peirazo (pi-rad'-zo); to test (objectively), i.e. endeavor, scrutinize, entice, discipline
King James Version - assay, examine, go about, prove, tempt (-er), try



"The Temptation of Christ" by Tintoretto Date: 1579–1581 (Late Renaissance) Oil on canyas Satan tempts: He enticed Jesus to do something helpful to his body - something that was needful and made sense. Jesus (when he was called "the Logos") knew Satan when he was Lucifer - they were both Morning Stars. Notice how Jesus does not engage or debate him. What was Jesus' answer? "I am not here for the food; I am here to do the will of God."

<sup>4</sup>But he answered and said, It is written, man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God. <sup>5</sup>Then the **devil** <1228> took him into the holy city and had him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>and said to him, if you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, He will command His angels concerning you; and on their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, on the other hand, it is written, you shall not put the Lord your God to the test.

**The devil:** Strongs #1228 diabolos (dee-ab'-ol-os); a traducer; specially, Satan King James Version - false accuser, devil, slanderer

(Merriam Webster) **Traduce**:

to expose to shame or blame by means of falsehood and misrepresentation

**Satan traduces:** Satan tries to make things look one way when they are really another way, mixing truth with lies. Today we would call that "putting a spin on reality." He sought to expose a weakness of pride in Jesus by misquoting Scripture. Perhaps he assumed Jesus would think in the same prideful way as he himself thought...? Jesus instead had complete loyalty to God's will.





Chat Response: Locking on to something and seeing it your way is not necessarily insanity but instead the focus of, "I have this thing covered and can see an end result." Satan chose not to look above, and that is sick, especially when you

were created as high and mighty as he was. When you are part of the government of God, you are privy to His will in ways that others are not. He knew firsthand the masterful wisdom, creativity and foresight of God Almighty. He took all that was given to him and thought he was powerful enough to do it on his own. He is not going to let go and will go down fighting. Pride has a lot to do with it.

# Again Jesus does not debate him and instead simply quotes the Old Testament:

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, all these things I will give you, if you fall down and worship me. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to him, go, Satan <4567>!

Satan: Strongs #4567 Satanas (sat-an-as') (with the definite affix); the accuser, i.e. the devil (a borrowing from Hebrew and Aramaic meaning literally 'adversary')

**Satan accuses:** He accused Jesus of weakness. Satan stands in opposition to the stated purpose of God.

For it is written, you shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.

Jesus reminds Satan what humanity was instructed to do - the same thing the spiritual sons of God were instructed - serve God and Him only. But they were also given the ability to choose.

<u>1 Peter 5:6-9</u>: (NASB) <sup>6</sup>Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, <sup>7</sup>casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. <sup>8</sup>Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary <476>, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.

The Adversary: Strongs #476 antidikos (an-tid'-ee-kos); an opponent (in a lawsuit); specially, Satan (as the arch-enemy)

The devil is our opponent. He *prowls around like a roaring lion* - he wants to devour our desire to serve God only and replace it with a desire to serve him. We are not alone in our battle to maintain our integrity towards God. He is targeting footstep followers of Jesus to prevent them from being faithful. By so doing, he would think he could thwart the plan of God from being fulfilled.

Just how deep is Satan's corruption and how can we be protected from it?



- (Narrator) So, where did people first get the idea of an ultimate evil being? Three and a half thousand years ago in ancient Persia, where Syria, Iraq, and Iran are now, there were many gods good and evil until one man, a religious teacher called Zoroaster, reduced the whole complicated cast of character to two.
- (Man) Zoroaster is a revolutionary primarily because he in one sense personifies these ethical categories into a good god, Ahura Mazda, and a bad



god, Angra Mainyu. And this is an idea that forms the basis for later concepts of dualistic thoughts, in other words the separation between good and evil.

#### (More information on Zoroaster in the Bonus Material.)



Zoroaster appears in the famous fresco "School of Athens" by Rafael (1509–1511) shown holding a starry globe

#### The father of lies and murderer:

<u>John 8:44</u>: (NRSV) You are from your father the devil, and you choose to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

He was responsible for death coming to humanity. This is the evil from which we need to stay far away. The first lie in Scripture was in Satan's heart when he said, I will be like the most High. The second was his promise to Eve, You shall not surely die. He is the father of lies in both the spiritual and earthly realms.

#### The ruler of this world:

<u>John 12:31-32</u>: (NRSV) <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the **ruler of this world** will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.

Satan and God are not in a tug-of-war for souls. Jesus refers to Satan as the ruler of this present evil world. He usurped the kingdom of this world which God permits along with evil and its consequences for a short period of time for eternal lessons. Satan will not win.

<u>2 Corinthians 4:3-4</u>: (NRSV) <sup>3</sup>And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In their case the **god** <**2316**> of this **world** <**165**> has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

**god:** Strongs #2316, theos, theh'-os; of uncertain affinity; a deity, especially (with 3588) the supreme divinity; figuratively, a magistrate

**World:** Strongs #165, aion, ahee-ohn', an age Thayer's Definition: Period of time, age



An age has a beginning, middle and end, so this is actually a scripture of hope. Satan is a god, a mighty one, with a terminal period of time to exist. He has forfeited his right to life by being contrary to the will of his Creator.

#### The prince of the power of the air:

Ephesians 2:1-2: (KJV) <sup>1</sup>And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins: <sup>2</sup>Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.

It is interesting that in today's world with so many things people worry about, high on that list is airborne diseases. A biological agent once airborne can go everywhere and contaminates and permeates. Satan is *the prince of the power of the air*. He can permeate and contaminate at will unless you find a way to stand up against him. This also contradicts the false notion that somehow he is in the center of the earth doing terrible things to souls. He is watching over humankind, actively trying to mold things his way. He has the ability to permeate and destroy.

So, we see he has gone from being mighty, privileged and wise to being as far as we know, the greatest defector from the grace and benevolence of God in all of God's creation. There no longer is any good thing in him for he has taken all that was good and polluted it with godless ego and darkness. His power, drive and intelligence can and will only lead to death!

Romans 6:23: (KJV) The wages of sin is death.

This applies on both the human and spiritual plane of being.



#### Protect yourself and in so doing, let us protect one another!

Ephesians 6:10-18: (NASB) <sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. <sup>11</sup>Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. <sup>14</sup>Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, <sup>15</sup>and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE; <sup>16</sup>in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. <sup>17</sup>And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, (Cover your thoughts! That is where evil can take root!) and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup>With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints...

Realize our adversary is more powerful, devious and creative than we can imagine. He is something to be afraid of, but once we have the will of God and armor of God, we do not have to fear him as long as our heart is set in doing God's will, God's way and with the tools He gives us.



# So, who is Satan? For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions... Think about it...!



# And now <u>even more</u> to think about... only in the Full Edition of CQ Rewind!

#### A little information on Zoroaster: Wikipedia

Zoroastrianism was the official religion of Persia (Modern Iran) and its distant subdivisions from 600 BCE to 650 CE. Zoroaster is traditionally dated from 628 to 551 BCE, and he is dated by scholars as a contemporary or near-contemporary of Cyrus the Great. The religion named after him is not attested to historically until the 5th century BCE, where it appears in Greek sources...

Life: Zoroaster initially learned the trade of a cobbler and lived by the rivers of Bactria. By the age of 30, he was a preacher of monotheism and his followers were adherents of Ahura Mazda (Wise Lord).

He received revelations and saw a vision of Amesha Spenta, and his teachings were collected in the Gathas and the Avesta. His teachings of the Golden Rule and as a shaman had gained him much attention among the leading figures of his time.

...Zoroaster emphasized the freedom of the individual to choose right or wrong and individual responsibility for one's deeds. This personal choice to accept as or arta (the divine order), and shun druj (ignorance and chaos) is one's own decision and not a dictate of Ahura Mazda. For Zarathustra, by thinking good thoughts, saying good words, and doing good deeds (e.g. assisting the needy or doing good works) we increase this divine force as or arta in the world and in ourselves, celebrate the divine order, and we come a step closer on the everlasting road to being one with the Creator. Thus, we are not the slaves or servants of Ahura Mazda, but we can make a personal choice to be his co-workers, thereby refreshing the world and ourselves.

#### Satan, the ruler of this world has a destiny:

<u>John 12:31-32</u>: (NRSV) <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.

#### Satan, the accuser of our brethren has a destiny:

Revelation 12:10-11: (KJV) <sup>10</sup>And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. <sup>11</sup>And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

#### Satan - the Devil, has a destiny:

Hebrews 2:9-14: (NASB) <sup>9</sup>But we do see him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely, Jesus, because of the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. <sup>10</sup>For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things, and through whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to perfect the author of their salvation through sufferings... <sup>14</sup>Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil...



# Satan is to be bound during the 1,000 years of Christ's reign...

Revelation 20:1-3: (KJV) ¹And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ²And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, ³And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.

#### ...and then destroyed

Revelation 20:10: (RVIC) And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where are also the beast and the false prophet; and they shall be put to the test day and night for ever and ever.

All New Testament uses of Strongs #2602: "foundation/conceive"

<u>Matthew 13:35</u>: (KJV) That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation <2602> of the world.

<u>Matthew 25:34</u>: (KJV) Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the **foundation** <2602> of the world:

<u>Luke 11:50</u>: (KJV) That the blood of all the prophets, which was shed from the **foundation** <2602> of the world, may be required of this generation;

John 17:24: (KJV) Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation <2602> of the world.

<u>Ephesians 1:4</u>: (KJV) According as he hath chosen us in him before the **foundation <2602>** of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

<u>Hebrews 4:3:</u> (KJV) For we which have believed do enter into rest, as he said, As I have sworn in my wrath, if they shall enter into my rest: although the works were finished from the foundation <2602> of the world.

Hebrews 9:26: (KJV) For then must he often have suffered since the foundation <2602> of the world: but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Hebrews 11:11: (KJV) Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive <2602> seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.

<u>1 Peter 1:20</u>: (KJV) Who verily was foreordained before the **foundation** <**2602**> of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

Revelation 13:8: (KJV) And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation <2602> of the world.

Revelation 17:8: (KJV) The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation <2602> of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.



# These are all in contrast to the concept of "the foundation of the earth:"

Hebrews 1:8-10: (NASB) <sup>8</sup>But of the Son He says, Your throne, O God, is forever and ever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of His kingdom. <sup>9</sup>You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your companions. <sup>10</sup>And, You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation <2311> of the earth <1093>, and the heavens are the works of Your hands.

Foundation: Strongs #2311 themelioo (them-el-ee-o'-o); to lay a basis for, i.e. (literally) erect, or (figuratively) consolidate

**Earth:** Strongs #1093 ge (ghay); soil; by extension a region, or the solid part or the whole of the terrene globe

## A few more texts showing what the "world" represents:

<u>Matthew 25:31-34</u>: (KJV) <sup>31</sup>When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: <sup>32</sup>And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: <sup>33</sup>And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup>Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world <2889>:

<u>Matthew 13:34-39</u>: (NASB) <sup>34</sup>All these things Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables, and he did not speak to them without a parable. <sup>35</sup>This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things hidden since the foundation of the world. <2889> <sup>36</sup>Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him and said, Explain to us the parable of the tares of the field. <sup>37</sup>And he said, The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man, <sup>38</sup>and the field is the world; and as for the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil one; <sup>39</sup>and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels.