

A Study of The Adversary

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake)

Introduction:

1. Since those who sin are of the devil (1John 3:8), we must:
 - a. Not give place to him - Eph. 4:27
 - b. Resist him - James 4:7
2. Satan is determined to get people to serve him.
 - a. He walks about as a roaring lion - 1Peter 5:8
 - b. He uses "wiles" - scheming - Eph. 6:11-12; 2Cor. 11:13-15
 - c. We must not be ignorant of his devices - 2Cor. 2:11
3. To properly resist Satan, we must be aware of him and the threat he poses.

I. WHO AND WHAT IS SATAN?

- A. The supreme evil spirit.
- B. The adversary. ("Satan," by definition means "adversary.")
- C. The old serpent - Rev. 12:9, 20:2
- D. Dragon - Rev. 12:7
- E. The god of this age - 2Cor. 4:4
- F. The ruler of this world - John 12:31
- G. The ruler of darkness - Eph. 6:12
- H. The accuser - Rev. 12:10
- I. The devil - diabolos - "false accuser, devil, slanderer"
- J. A liar and the father of lies - John 8:44
- K. A roaring, devouring lion - 1Peter. 5:8

II. SATAN THROUGH JOB'S EYES - Job 1:6-12

- A. He is accountable before God - Job 1:6, 2:1; Mark 1:27
 1. However unwilling he may be, like all beings in existence, he is subject to Divine authority. He is compelled to render an account to God.
- B. God knows his mind - Job 1:8
 1. God is not provoking him, but rather He already knew what was on Satan's mind.
 2. God already knew that Job was on the mind of Satan, because there was no one like Job.
- C. He is behind every sin committed on the earth - Job 1:7, 2:2
 1. His is an unceasing activity - 1Peter 5:8 - "Be sober, be vigilant"
 2. He is the author of most of the suffering in this world. He is not the author of all of it. Other reasons apart from sin for its existence:
 - a. The chastening of the Lord (correction) - Heb. 12:5-13
 - b. The training of the Lord (preparing the subject) - James 1:2-3
 - 1) Abraham offering Isaac - Gen. 22
 - c. The teaching of the Lord (an example for others) - James 5:11
 - d. Time and chance (random occurrences that are part of life under the sun) - Ecc. 9:11

- e. Because God is God, infinitely wiser than man - Job 36:22-23
 - 1) Spoken by Elihu. Sometimes God allows suffering to occur, and we may never receive a satisfying answer in this life. Be content to trust God.
 - 3. Anyone who believes all suffering is a result of sin makes the same error as Job's three foolish counselors - Job 42:7
- D. He is not omniscient.
 - 1. He cannot see into the mind of man.
 - a. He could not see into the mind of Job - Job 1:9-11, 2:10
 - b. He thought he knew what was in Job's mind, but he was mistaken and subsequently defeated.
 - 2. God can see into the mind of man, but He is divine; Satan is not.
- E. He can do nothing apart from the will of God
 - 1. Luke 22:31-32
 - 2. Sometimes permission is granted (Job, Peter); sometimes it is refused.
- F. With approval there is limitation.
 - 1. Satan was twice limited in regard to Job.
 - 2. He is limited in regard to us - 1Cor. 10:13
 - 3. Satan has absolutely no power against anyone beyond that which God allows much in the same way Pilate's power over Christ was only what God allowed - John 19:11
 - 4. He can't possess unwilling, faithful disciples
 - a. Luke 22:31-32; Matt. 12:43-45; Acts 19:11-17
- G. Satan has always been religious.
 - 1. He and his minions are orthodox in some of their beliefs.
 - a. A. W. Tozer said, "The devil is a better theologian than any of us and is a devil still."
 - b. James 2:18-19; Mark 3:11
 - 2. He is monotheistic. He knows there's only one God, but he doesn't worship Him.

III. COMMON DEVICES OF SATAN

- A. Blind the minds of people - 2Cor. 4:3-4; 1Tim. 4:1-3; 2Cor. 10:3-5
- B. Get people addicted to things of the world
 - 1. 1John 2:15-17; Gen. 3:6; Matt. 4:1-11
- C. Persecute those trying to do right - 1Peter 5:8-10; 1Thes. 3:1-5
- D. Get people to enjoy evil company - 1Cor. 15:33; Prov. 13:20; 2Cor. 6:14-18
- E. Discourage people through un-Christ-like Christians
 - 1. 2Cor. 2:6-11; 2Tim. 4:16-18; 3John 9-12

Conclusion:

- A. We must constantly be on guard against our adversary Satan
- B. At the same time, we must realize we can, with God's help, overcome him.

Lucifer and Fallen Angels: Is There Sin in Heaven?

(Compiled by Paul R. Blake. Developed in part from an outline by Charles Hodge)

I. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT ANGELS?

- A. Angel in the OT is "malakh" or Malachi; "a messenger."
 - 1. Angel in the NT is "angelleon"; "one who is sent with a message."
 - 2. Angels take a form that facilitates the message.
 - a. Beings in the presence of God with incorruptible forms
 - b. Beings of power with unusual appearance and forms
 - c. Seraphim and cherubim with wings
 - d. Those that appear as ordinary men - *Gen. 18; Heb. 13*
 - e. Those that appear as a vision - *Matt. 1:20*
 - f. The influence of a church in the community - *Rev. 2 & 3*
 - g. Ordinary men sent with a message (prophets)
- B. Angels are created by God.
 - 1. *Psalm 148:2-5; Neh. 9:6; Col. 1:16*
- C. Angels are holy.
 - 1. *Mark 8:38; 1Tim. 5:21*
- D. Angels are uncountable.
 - 1. *Matt. 26:53; Heb. 12:22; Rev. 5:11*
- E. Angels are distinct from all other created beings.
 - 1. *Psalm 8:4-5; Heb. 1:3, 2:9-10, 16-18*
- F. Angels are without a Savior.
 - 1. *Jude 6; 2Peter 2:4; 1Peter 1:12*
- G. Angels are not to be worshipped.
 - 1. *Rom. 1:24-25; Col 2:18*
- H. Satan has angels.
 - 1. Messengers, not fallen angels. Fallen angels are in chains awaiting judgment - *Jude 6; 2Peter 2:4*.
- I. Characteristics of angels:
 - 1. They are without reproductive gender - *Matt. 22:30*.
 - 2. They are immortal - *Luke 20:34-36*.
 - 3. They are strong, not omnipotent - *2Peter 2:11; Psalm 91:11-12, 103:20; Dan. 6:22*
 - 4. They are highly intelligent, not omniscient - *2Sam. 14:20; 1Peter 1:12; Matt. 24:36*
 - 5. They are beautiful, usually robed in white - *Matt. 28:3; Luke 2:9, 7:30; Acts 1:10*
 - 6. They can appear ordinary - *Heb. 13:1*.
 - 7. They speak sometimes with a voice of thunder - *1Cor. 13:1; John 12:29*

II. "IS SATAN A FALLEN ANGEL?"

- A. No. The passages that speak of a fallen angel cast out of heaven do not speak of Satan; they speak of kings cast down from the pinnacle of power.
 - 1. Exegete Isa. 14:12-23 - a man who is king of Babylon.
 - 2. Exegete Ezek. 28:2-19 - a prince who is the king of Tyre

3. Exegete Luke 10:17-20 - "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven."
 - a. Prophetic "saw"; it was an event that was coming. Satan would be judged and lose his power in this world.
 - b. Prophetic "heaven" means a position or pinnacle of power.
 - b. John 12:31, 16:11; Eph. 2:2; Heb. 2:14; 2Thes. 2:3-9; Rev. 20
 - c. Context speaks of how much greater the power of righteousness is over the power of evil; Jesus speaks prophetically of the instantaneous fall of Satan from a position of power in this world upon the resurrection of the Christ from the dead.
 4. Rev. 12:7-10 - "war in heaven"
 - a. In order for this to be literal heaven, Satan would have to have gone back to heaven after the ascension of Jesus, fought the war, and then be cast back to earth before the siege of Jerusalem by the Romans. Between 34 and 67 AD.
- B. Conflicts with Satan as a fallen angel doctrine:
1. Problem 1: If Satan is a fallen angel, then God created him. Implies:
 - a. God is ultimately responsible for our suffering.
 - b. God made something evil.
 - c. God is mean spirited.
 2. Problem 2: "God created Satan good and he later became evil" Implies:
 - a. There is sin and temptation in heaven - *Rev. 21:4, 27.*
 - b. Evil existed before Satan.
 3. Problem 3: "Satan led a rebellion against God." Implies:
 - a. That God does not have the strength to control Satan.
 4. Satan is not a fallen angel; fallen angels are kept in chains until judgment.
- C. "Well, where did he come from?!"
1. The Bible does not reveal it - *Deut. 29:29.*

III. "DID THE FALLEN ANGELS SIN IN HEAVEN?"

- A. What does the Bible say about fallen angels?
 1. Job 4:17-19; 2Peter 2:4; Jude 6
- B. What do we know?
 1. That God has the authority to charge angels with error.
 2. That angels have sinned.
 3. That they left their proper abode and domain in order to do so.
 4. That angels are bound in chains in hell reserved for judgment.
- C. One must add to the scriptures to put the angels in heaven when they sinned.
 1. This contradicts the clear teaching that there is no sin in heaven.
- D. "So where were they when they committed sin?"
 1. It is not made clear where they actually were; we can only be certain it was not in heaven. They were not in their proper domain and abode when it happened.

Conclusion:

- A. Is Satan a fallen angel who led a rebellion against God and was kicked out of heaven? No, there is no sin in heaven.
- B. Are the Devil's angels, fallen angels who were cast out of heaven? No, they are reserved in chains in perdition until judgment.
- C. Did fallen angels sin in heaven? No, they sinned outside of their proper domain and abode.
- D. Is there sin in heaven? No!
 - 1. Rev. 21:27 - "But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life."
 - 2. And God has the power to make that rule stick!

The Devil's Deadly Devices

Introduction:

- A. 17 Devices Satan Uses Against Us
- B. 2Cor. 2:11 - What weapons will the Adversary use to snare our souls?

I. THE DEVIL'S DEADLY DEVICES

- A. Disappointment
 - 1. To the knowledgeable Christian, all disappointments are opportunities to become stronger, and must be this way, or Satan will gain an advantage. It is a weakness that gives him access - James 1:2-4
- B. Discouragement, second stage of disappointment
 - 1. Disappointment leads to discouragement - Deut. 1:21, 28
- C. Despair, the third stage of disappointment and discouragement.
 - 1. It can destroy a Christian life - 2Cor. 4:8
- D. Doubt - Gen. 3:1; 1Tim. 2:8
- E. Disbelief, the fully developed form of doubt - Gen. 3:4-5; Heb. 3:12
- F. Distraction. One can be side-tracked from God's perfect will by family or job.
 - 1. The real enemy of the best is not the worst, but the good - Matt. 14:30
- G. Double Mindedness, in Greek means to be "double souled."
 - 1. James 1:8, 4:8; Matt. 6:24; Eph. 4:14; 1John 2:15-17
- H. Dishonesty
 - 1. We can be dishonest by:
 - a. lying or cheating
 - b. holding back certain facts
 - c. being less than we should be as preachers, parents, or workers,
 - 2. 2Cor. 4:2 - Dishonesty is a product of either fear or greed.
- I. Deceit - 2Thes. 2:8-12; 2Cor. 2:17, 4:1-2; Jer. 17:9
- J. Dullness, means sleepiness to the things of God - Heb. 5:11-14; 1Cor. 3:1-3
- K. Deadness results from unchecked dullness - Rev. 3:1
- L. Defame - How often are Christians guilty of criticizing or belittling other believers? If we have something against a believer, tell him to his face -
 - 1. Psalm 101:5

M. Discord

1. Far more faithful churches have been split over discord than doctrine. Some trouble-maker begins promoting his hobby or her gossip in a local church, raising questions and doubts in the minds of people, doubts that otherwise would have never been entertained.
2. How effectively Satan uses this tool, and how painful it will be at the judgment seat of Christ for the carnal sowers of discord.
3. To sow discord is to forget Proverbs 6:16-19

N. Defilement with the things of the world.

1. God insists upon clean vessels. A believer who defiles himself with the things of this world can never be fully used by God, regardless of his education, ability, energy, or experience.
2. 1Cor. 3:16-17

O. Discontent

1. One of Satan's favorite lies is to tell people that things will be better if they go elsewhere -- change marriage partners or congregations
2. 1Tim. 6:8; Phil. 4:11

P. Delay is used to postpone salvation and service to God - Psalm 119:60

Q. Disobedience.

1. There are two famous men in the Bible named Saul.
 - a. Both were from the tribe of Benjamin - 1Sam. 9:2; Phil. 3:5
 - b. One was tall and impressive; the other short and unimpressive
 - c. OT Saul began as God's friend and ended up as God's enemy.
 - d. NT Saul started as God's enemy but ended up as God's friend.
 - e. OT Saul went to the witch of Endor in his hour of death.
 - f. NT Saul turned to the Word of God in his hour of death.
2. What made the difference between these two men?
 - a. The Old Testament Saul was disobedient - 1Sam. 15:22-23
 - b. The New Testament Saul was obedient - Rom. 6:14-18