

THE DEVIL AND DEMONS

Chapter One

The Origin of Satan

It is not our purpose in this series of lessons on “The Devil and Demons” to try and prove the existence of a literal Devil. Whether you believe there is a Devil or not does not change Bible facts concerning a supernatural being.

The pictures we see of a vicious looking creature in the form of a man, with slanted eyes, pointed ears, horns, animal hoofs, a forked tail and carrying a pitch fork is taken from pagan superstition. This is a far cry from the description of the Devil that is presented in the Bible.

The Bible records a detailed account of a “created being” that begins with that dateless period of time between the perfect creation of the heaven and the earth (Genesis 1:1), and the desolation of judgment when the earth became waste, empty and void. (Genesis 1:2)

The reason for this period of time being rejected by many is that there is no recorded information dealing with this period of time. Information on this period of time is not necessary, for it has nothing to do with mankind today. But what took place concerning the Devil, from the time man was placed in the Garden of Eden until the end of time, has a great deal to do with mankind.

A good method of Bible study is to ask certain leading questions and then let the Bible give us the answers. Knowing there is a Devil, the first and most important question is, “where did he come from?”

There are a number of Scriptures that deal at length with the origin, or the creation of Satan, his fall, and his relationship to this age. The most credible evidence is found in the following Scriptures. Even though this is addressed to the “king of Tyrus,” it is by its character a direct reference to the person of Satan. There is no similar person to whom this description, revealed in this Scripture, could apply but to Satan.

**“Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.
Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.
Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.
Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.
By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled**

**the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned:
therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain
of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from
the midst of the stones of fire.
Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou
hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I
will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings,
that they may behold thee.” (Ezekiel 28:12-17)**

This Scripture records a great deal of information concerning the origin, or creation, of Lucifer and his position before he fell. These verses describe the early and latter career of Satan. His creation is referred to twice. In verse fifteen, it is stated that he was “created perfect,” and verse thirteen sets forth his perfection by using symbols of certain precious gems.

To get a clear picture of the creation of Satan and his fall, we should underscore some of the statements concerning him. First, we notice that he was “created.” In verse thirteen we read, “**...in the day that thou wast created.**” In verse fifteen we read, “**Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.**”

It is stated in verse twelve that he was, “**full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty**” In verse fourteen he is called “**the anointed cherub that covereth.**” By this the purpose of God is revealed.

While Satan, no doubt, had some authority on the earth in its original creation, the evident meaning of this verse is that Satan was created as a guard, or protector of the throne of the Most High God. It is stated in verse fourteen that he was “**upon the holy mountain of God.**” This “mountain of God,” of course, is a symbol of the center of God’s power and the throne of God. It was over this throne that Satan was set as a “covering cherub.”

We notice also that he had been in Eden, the garden of God. Now this, evidently, was another Eden, which was prior to the Garden of Eden in which Satan appeared as a serpent. This Eden is spoken of as being an Eden of “stones and fire.” The Eden spoken of in Genesis was one of vegetation. Satan was in this garden also, but not in his original state.

Now, of course, no king of Tyrus was ever in either of the “Edens” mentioned in the Bible. So the title must belong to Satan. This whole passage suggests a position of great authority, for which Satan was created and anointed. It was from this position that Satan, or Lucifer, fell.

Satan was created a free moral agent, capable of choosing evil, but not obliged to do so. That he chose evil must forever be his own condemnation.

From our text we can see that Satan, or Lucifer, was surrounded by the most beautiful surroundings, with sufficient motive for choosing good, yet it is stated of him in John 8:44, “**...he was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth...**” Our Lord further states, “**...there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.**”

Satan was created to be the highest officer in the court of Heaven. He was endowed with power and wisdom sufficient to guard the throne of God from every

possible enemy. He was created with glory and beauty that would exceed all other created beings. Not only was Satan created, he was the first of God's creation.

“Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?” (Job 38:4-7)

In Scripture Lucifer is called “the son of the morning,” or “morning star.” The Bible, however, is silent concerning the activities of Lucifer between the time of his creation, before the creation of the world, until we come to his fall as recorded in Isaiah.

“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, 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.” (Isaiah 14:12-14)

The most striking thing in this Scripture concerning Satan, the one thing that stands out above all others, is that he was created a very beautiful creature. This is still true today, even though he is a fallen creature.

In the Garden of Eden the Devil chose the most beautiful animal to be his tool and instrument to deceive. Contrary to the Bible pictures we see painted of the temptation in the Garden of Eden, the serpent was not a slimy reptile when he appeared to Eve, but one of the most beautiful creatures of the animal kingdom. It is also stated that the serpent had “power of speech.”

In II Corinthians chapter eleven, verse three, it is stated that **“...the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty...”** He used trickery, conniving and craftiness. This is still a trick of Satan today. He disguises himself “as an angel of light.”

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works. (II Corinthians 11:13-15)

It does not matter how religious, moral, refined or cultured you are, if you do not receive Christ Jesus as your Saviour Satan has accomplished his purpose.

**“But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:
In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds
of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious
gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should
shine unto them.” (II Corinthians 4:3, 4)**

Lucifer became Satan when he sought to overthrow God and become the supreme ruler of the universe.

**“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of
the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground,
which didst weaken the nations!
For thou hast said in thine heart, 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.” (Isaiah 14:12-14)**

This record shows that Satan became the first being to manifest a will opposed to God. There are five “I will’s” recorded in this brief narrative that reveal the true motive of Satan. He said:

- (1) I will ascend into heaven.
- (2) I will exalt my throne above the stars of God.
- (3) I will sit also upon the mount.
- (4) I will ascend above the heights of the clouds.
- (5) I will be like the most High.

By the deception of the Devil, that caused our first parents to sin, all sin, grief, death, hate, greed, corruption, wars and every abominable and disobedient act can be traced to this one being who said in his heart, “I will be like the most High.”

When Eve believed the Devil’s lie in the Garden of Eden, when he said “Yea hath God said,” and “ye shall not surely die,” sin entered God’s new creation.

**“Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world,
and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men,
for that all have sinned.” (Romans 5:12)**

In spite of man’s good intentions these conditions will prevail until the second coming of Christ.

Chapter Two

Lucifer's Fall

We have no way of knowing the length of time between the time Lucifer was created, before Genesis 1:1, **“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth”** and his fall, Genesis 1:2, **“And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep.”**

There are four words, found in verse two, whose definition fits like a glove the condition of the world immediately following the fall of Lucifer that is recorded in Isaiah chapter fourteen. The words are:

1. Form
2. Void
3. Darkness
4. Deep

The definition of the word “form” means “to lay waste, desolation or a worthless empty place.” The word “void” means “to be empty, to be in ruin.” The word “darkness” means “darkness, destruction and obscurity.” “Deep” means “an abyss, or a surging mass of water.”

This is certainly not a description of the world God created, recorded in Genesis 1:1. Nothing this imperfect could ever come from the hand of God. Therefore, we have every reason to believe that the condition we find recorded in Genesis 1:2 is the direct results of the fall of Lucifer. We can conclude, then, that Lucifer had authority over this primeval earth.

There are several Scriptural reasons to support this point of view. First, the statements made by Lucifer when he rebelled. He said: “I will ASCEND into Heaven,” “I will exalt my throne ABOVE THE STARS OF GOD,” and “I will ascend ABOVE THE HEIGHTS of the clouds.”

Heaven, the throne of God, is always spoken of as being UP. **“And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.” (II Kings 2:11b)**

Jesus went up into Heaven. **“And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight.” (Acts 1:9)**

Lucifer was below the throne of God when he rebelled. What other place could he have been below Heaven, but on the earth?

Second, it is not unreasonable to believe that the earth came under the judgment of God with the fall of Lucifer. This judgment would certainly not be the last. If you doubt this, read the record of what happened to the earth when Adam fell.

“And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life.” (Genesis 3:14)

“And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened

unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life.

Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it was thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.”

(Genesis 3:17-19)

All of what God created pertaining to this earth, “the ground, all vegetation, the animal kingdom and man” came under the curse. The curse may not have been as severe when Lucifer fell; there was, however, a drastic change from what God created, recorded in Genesis 1:3-31, and what we read in Genesis 3:17-19.

Again we see some one thousand, six hundred years later, according to the most reliable estimate, that because of the unprecedented wickedness of man, God once again brought judgment upon the earth.

“And God looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth.

And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; and, behold, I will destroy them with the earth.”

(Genesis 6:12, 13)

One hundred and twenty years later God kept His Word.

“And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.” (Genesis 6:3)

The final judgment of God, and by far the most complete, is yet in the future. This judgment will not be limited to this earth and its inhabitants, but to all that God created in the beginning.

“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.” (II Peter 3:10)

“Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat.” (II Peter 3:12)

“And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on

**it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them.”
(Revelation 20:11)**

The heavens and earth, as we know them today, will one day be burned up and shall pass away, and they will be replaced with a new Heaven and a new Earth.

“Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.” (II Peter 3:13)

We do not know how long this earth has been here, but one thing we do know, it will one day be destroyed.

Third, before we close this lesson, there is one other verse of Scripture we might consider that suggests the earth was occupied before Adam.

“And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.” (Genesis 1:28)

The word “replenish” in Genesis chapter one, verse twenty eight, is the exact same word that is used in Genesis chapter nine verse one.

“And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply, and replenish the earth.” (Genesis 9:1)

There is no doubt as to the meaning of the word “replenish” (to complete again) as used in God’s instructions to Noah, (Genesis 9:1.) Why then should one meaning be ascribed to one verse and a different meaning to the other?

I have no quarrel with those who believe the earth was created some six thousand years ago. To prove my point, may I remind you that not many years ago the religious world believed that the world was flat.

I accept what the Bible says, **“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”** I do not know, and neither does anyone else know, when this took place.

**“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
For by it the elders obtained a good report.
Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.”
(Hebrews 11:1-3)**

With their high-powered telescopes and the latest earth moving equipment they are not one second closer to finding the answer. All of the spying into the heavens and

digging in the earth for answers is not to verify the Word of God, but to disprove the Word of God.

We might wonder how God views those who are trying to remove any vestige of God from society. We find the answer in the second Psalm.

**“Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine
a vain thing?
The kings of the earth set themselves, and the
rulers take counsel together, against the Lord,
and against his anointed, saying,
Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away
their cords from us.
He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the
Lord shall have them in derision.” (Psalm 2: 1-4)**

The campaign against “the Lord and His anointed (Christ)” is getting worse with every passing day.

This is not the first time a nation has made an all out effort to erase every vestige of God from society; which brings up a very interesting question. What should be the Believer’s position toward this ungodly effort? Should Believers participate in demonstrations, campaign for political change or join a protest group?

There is absolutely no question as to the ministry of the Believers in these trying times. We are to preach and teach the Word of God!

**“And daily in the temple, and in every house, they
ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.”
(Acts 5:42)**

**“For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to
glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is
unto me, if I preach not the gospel!” (I Corinthians 9:16)**

**“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season;
reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and
doctrine.” (II Timothy 4:2)**

Let the politicians run the country; let the actors, comedians and athletes entertain the people. Let Believers continue to preach and teach the Word of God, and leave the judgment of the ungodly up to the only One who has the power to judge.

**“Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give
place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine;
I will repay, saith the Lord. (Romans 12:19)**

**“For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth
unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again,
the Lord shall judge his people.” (Hebrews 10:30)**

Chapter Three

Satan, the Deceiver

The Bible records the creation and fall of the most beautiful, intelligent and strongest of all God's creation, called in the Bible Lucifer, Satan and the Devil.

Between the dateless period of time of his creation and fall very little is known about the Devil. About all we know, or need to know, is recorded in Ezekiel chapter twenty-eight, verse fourteen.

“Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.” (Ezekiel 28:14:)

After Satan's first appearance in the Garden of Eden it is an entirely different story. The battle between God and Satan did not end with his failure to overthrow God. The battle is still raging today.

Besides being called, in the Bible, Lucifer, Satan and the Devil, there are a number of other names ascribed to Satan when man became involved in this battle.

“And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life.” (Genesis 3:14)

All of the following names describe some aspect of the Devil's character, motive and method of this battle. This is why he is called:

1. THE EVIL ONE
2. DRAGON
3. SERPENT
4. BEELZEBUB
5. TEMPTER
6. GOD OF THIS WORLD
7. PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR
8. PRINCE OF THIS WORLD.

However, the name that best describes Satan's plan, purpose and goal is the word DECEIVER. Because of the success of the Devil's first use of this tactic there has been no reason for him to change.

In the following Scriptures we have the record of the first appearance of Satan in the new creation. He was more subtil, or “cunning” than any beast of the field.

“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of

**the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?
And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:
But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.
And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die.” (Genesis 3:1-4)**

It is no coincidence that the debate between Eve and Satan was over the truthfulness of the Word of God. Satan scored the greatest victory over God’s creation when he questioned the Word of God. “Yea, hath God said” has been echoing throughout the land ever since, and has become the very foundation of, not only secular society, but all false religions as well.

The first revision of the Word of God did not come about in the last few years, but started in the Garden of Eden, following the creation of the first man and woman.

Not only did the Serpent question the Word of God “yea, hath God said?” But he followed this up by accusing God of lying.

God said:

“But the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.” (Genesis 2:17)

Here is Satan’s translation.

“And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die.” (Genesis 3:4)

Now, I ask, who was right? Make no mistake; God meant exactly what He said! There is a saying, “God, said it, I believe it, and that settles it.” No, “God said it, and that settles it, period,” whether we believe it or not.

The deception used by the Devil was to attack the very foundation of truth, the Word of God. He was so successful, therefore, it is no surprise to hear skeptics use the same method today.

Right here is where Eve made her fatal mistake. She should have called Satan a liar and walked away. When we hear “yea hath God said?” and “ye shalt not surely die,” we too should not listen.

**“If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:
For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.” (II John 1:10, 11)**

The “wolves in sheep’s clothing” may word their phrases a little different; however, it still has the same meaning. When God says **“Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God,”** that is exactly what He means. There are no exceptions.

There are three fatal mistakes made by mother Eve, and recorded in the narrative in Genesis chapter three, verses one through four, that should be a lesson for us today.

First, doubting, or questioning the Word of God by saying, **“Yea, hath God said.”** It is a short distance between questioning the Word of God to an outright denial of the Word of God.

Second, **“Ye shall not surely die.”** It is even a shorter distance from denying the Word of God to adding something to the Word of God. Eve said, **“neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.”** God never said “neither shall ye touch it.” This was added by Eve.

Third, one of the most dangerous things man can do is to add something to the Word of God. Whether it is church creeds, rituals, articles of faith or official rulings, sooner or later the addition will be accepted above the Word of God.

The Devil did not deny the Word of God. To put what he said in modern day parlance he said, “God is a God of love, and He would never do what you thought He said He would do.”

We close this third lesson by taking a closer look at Scriptures that reveal the satanic system of this age.

There are those who believe that Satan is the direct cause of sin in every person, but this is not supported by Scripture. Satan said, “I will be like the Most High.” Satan’s ambition is to have authority over the whole world system. Satan’s influence comes from without. The Bible teaches that sin comes directly from the heart of fallen man.

“For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within and defile the man.”
(Mark 7: 21-23)

“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one.”
(Romans 3:10)

“But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.” (James 1:14)

The first act of the Devil is to keep a person from being saved.

“But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.” (II Corinthians 4:3, 4)

The second act of the Devil is sowing “tares” among the “wheat.”

“The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.”
(Matthew 13:39)

This is one of the most ignored teachings in the Church today. These “tares” are not the “works of the flesh,” as assumed by many. The works of the flesh is recorded in Galatians chapter five, verses nineteen through twenty-one. The tares are identified in II Corinthians chapter eleven, verses thirteen through fifteen.

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.” (II Corinthians 11: 13-15)

“Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.” (I Timothy 4:1)

This same warning is sounded in second Peter chapter two, verse one.

“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.” (II Peter 2:1)

The Scripture echo’s the same warning in First John chapter four, verse one.

“Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.” (I John 4:1)

However, we can find no better description of the activities of a “tare” than that recorded in Matthew chapter seven, verse fifteen.

“Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.” (Matthew 7:15)

Jesus calls them WOLVES disguised as SHEEP. They are the follows of the Devil, masquerading as the “children of light.” Notice how fundamental their message is.

“Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? (Matthew 7: 22)

The success of these “wolves in sheep’s clothing” depends upon how similar their message is to the Word of God. It is a well-known fact that all false religions claim the

Bible as their text book; yet they deny it's most important teaching, the Deity of Christ. Therefore the Word of God is only used as bait to get you hooked. Once you are hooked, they soon turn from the Bible to another book.

“I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.” (Galatians 1:6-9)

Chapter Four

Satan's Ministry

In our fourth and final lesson on “The Devil and Demons” we take up the subject of which the Bible has a great deal to say; but not much is being said about demons in religious circles today. In light of the Devil's ministry during this age, the reason the Devil and demons are ignored is obvious. The primary goal of the Devil and demons in this age is religion.

**“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.”
(II Corinthians 11:13-15)**

There are at least three Bible truths revealed in these Scriptures.

1. There are spirit beings, called “the ministers of Satan.”
2. Satan is identified as their leader.
3. The ministry of these followers.

The Bible declares, in a number of places, the presence in this world of spirit beings, called demons. The question is, where did these spirit beings come from?

Even though their presence is well known to all Believers, their origin is difficult to trace. As we have seen, they are in complete agreement with the Devil's plan and purpose.

They were not created by the Devil, for he does not have the power to create. Therefore, there is only one source for their creation. They would have to have been created by God. They were not created “demons,” but like Satan, they were created perfect. Satan fell because he chose not to abide in the purpose for which he was created.

**“Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.”
(Ezekiel 28:15)**

It is therefore reasonable to assume that when Satan fell he took a number of angels with him. We are told in second Peter, chapter two:

**“For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment.”
(II Peter 2:4)**

We are told this same thing in Jude, verse six.

“And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.” (Jude 1:6)

Both these Scriptures concur on one point. Whatever the sin was of “not keeping their first estate” and “leaving their own habitation,” these angels are not allowed to be free, but are bound in chains (reserved in chains of darkness) waiting their eternal judgment. Meanwhile a host of other fallen angels became demons and are still free to serve Satan. We note also that there are degrees of wickedness among these demons today.

“When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.” (Matthew 12: 43-45)

We know from Scripture that Satan is the “god of this world.” We know also that he and his emissaries still have access to God.

“By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.” (Ezekiel 28:16)

God said, “I will cast thee out.” This is a prophecy that will be fulfilled at some future date.

Satan had access to God in the day of Job.

“Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them.” (Job 1:6)

In Luke chapter twenty two, verse thirty-one we see that Satan still had unchallenged access to God in the day this was spoken.

“And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat.” (Luke 22:31)

We read in Revelation chapter twelve, verses ten and eleven:

“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. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto death.” (Revelation 12:10, 11)

These Scriptures tell us that near the end of this age the Devil and his angels still have access to God. However, this event will end the Devil’s direct access to God, and will be the beginning of the end for all of the God-hating, Christ-rejecting people on the earth.

After the Rapture of the Church Satan will be allowed another effort to accomplish his sole mission, from the time of his first appearance in the Garden of Eden, to establish a political and religious system under his complete control. This cannot happen until after the Church has been taken away in the Rapture.

“Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition; Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. Remember ye not, that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming.” (II Thessalonians 2:3-8)

There is a “restraining force” in the world today that hinders the Devil from completing his plan. The same as Noah held back the flood, and Lot held back the destruction of Sodom, so too, the Church is holding back the efforts of Satan.

The only thing that is keeping this old world afloat is the presence of Born Again Believers, who are the “light of the world,” and the “salt of the earth.”

Pay-day is coming for the Devil and his demons. Their doom is sealed.

“And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.” (Revelation 19:20)

“Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.” (Matthew 25:41)

Satan will be bound in what the Bible calls “the bottomless pit,” for one thousand years.

“And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, And 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.” (Revelation 20:1-3)

Here is the record of the final effort of Satan to accomplish his goal, but this too will end in failure.

“And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.” (Revelation 20: 7-10)

To stand in this evil day we need the “whole armour of God.”

“Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace. Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.” (Ephesians 6:13-18)

