

## Satan, Evil Angels and Demons

### I. Satan, Evil Angels and Demons

- A. Their Origin - *To deny the reality of the angelic world is to undermine the integrity of Jesus himself*, (Sam Storms).
- B. Their Rebellion - sometime between Gen 1:31 and Genesis 3:1, a rebellion in heaven must have taken place. 2 Peter 2:4; Jude 6
- C. Their Captain - Satan was created as a good angel in the beginning who led a rebellion of a third of the angelic beings. Jude 6; 2 Peter 2:4-5; Isaiah 14:12-15
- D. His name:
  1. “Day Star” is translated Lucifer in the KJV. The meaning in Hebrew is “light bearer” or “shining one.” If this is a reference Satan, it demonstrates that pride was the chief motivation for his rebellion – “I will be or make myself like the most high.”
  2. “Satan” (Hebrew and Greek = *adversary*) is the personal name of the Devil and he is the head of the demons or all evil angels (demons). Job 1:6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. Luke 10:18 "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.
  3. The Devil (Only NT) Mt. 4:1; 13:39; 25:41; Rev 12:9; 20:2).
  4. Beelzebul Mt 10:25; 12:24, 27; Luke 11:15
  5. Ruler of this world Jn 12:31; 14:30; 16:11
  6. Prince of the power of the air Eph 2:2
  7. The evil one Mt 13:19; 1 Jn 2:13
  8. The god of *this* world 2 Cor 4:4 – not god of *the* world (this world’s god)
  9. Apollyon Rev 9:11

### II. The Activity of Satan and the Demons

#### A. Satan

1. Originate sin and tempt others to sin (1) the fall Gen 3:1-6 (2) perpetual liar and deceiver and father of lies from the beginning Jn 8:44; 1 Jn 3:8 (see also 2 Cor. 11:3; 1 John 3:8; Rev. 12:9; 20:2,10)
2. Deceives as an angel of light - 2 Cor 11:14
3. Accuser of the brethren – Rev 12:10
4. Tempter (1) in the Garden Gen 3:1-6 (2) of Christ Luke 4:1ff (3) of Christians 1 Cor 7:5
5. Blind unbelievers - 2 Cor 4:4
6. Keep sinners enslaved hindering them from coming to Christ Gal 4:8

#### B. Demons – Some fell with Satan in the original rebellion and are being held for judgment Jud 6, 2 Pet 2:4,5

1. Old Testament: Demon activity is not often mentioned in the OT, but it appears that a great deal of idolatry was connected to demons. Dt 32:16-17; Psalm 106:35-37; Acts 19:13; Mt 12:27 - There is no evidence that they were successful.

2. New Testament: Demonic activity was prevalent in the NT - One of the marks of Jesus as Messiah was he took control over Satan and the demons
  - All Authority: Jesus has all authority in heaven and earth Mt 28:18-20 his authority (*exousia means absolute prerogative, right, power, kingship - the power of rule or government (the power of him whose will and commands must be submitted to by others and obeyed) –* (Thayer Greek Lexicon)
  - Goal: Go make disciples of all nations –(1) Jesus set this as the goal of the church Making disciples must happen through his disciples (the church) because Jesus has the authority to make it happen. The nations *ethne* will be transformed by the preaching of the Word. (2) God the Father is on the same mission of evangelism Psalm 2:7, 8
  - Problem: – the nations are blinded by Satan (the god of this world) 2 Cori 4:3-4
  - Solution: Jesus must gain the victory over the devil to make this happen (Gen 3:15 is the key). Hence the invasion or intrusion of the kingdom of God into the kingdom of darkness (Satan). Note the theme of the NT as Psalm 2 is carried out.
    - (1) The Temptation by the Devil – Jesus overcomes
    - (2) The Binding of Satan by Jesus (the strong man) Mt. 12:28-29; Rev 20:2-3
    - (3) He demonstrated power of the kingdom of darkness by casting out demons. The power was transferred to his disciples (Mt 10:8; Mark 3:15). Luke 10:17-18
  - Something to think about: The Purpose of the binding in Rev 20:1-3 - “so that” the purpose clause “he [Satan] might not deceive the nations any longer (1) the preaching of the gospel will be successful in making disciples 2 Cor 4:5-7 (2) the nations headed by Satanic forces gathering to make war against the kingdom of God (Rev 19) will never succeed
  - ❖ Here Christ is arguing that his power over the demonic world, far from being proof of his alliance with Satan, is proof of Satan's defeat. He is declaring that He has bound the strong man. Yes, to be sure, Christ acknowledges that Satan still has an organized kingdom, which "stands" according to Mt12:26.
  - ❖ Nothing Jesus says implies that Satan will henceforth be inactive in this world. But he is bound and defeated to the extent that he can stop neither the arrival nor the advance of the kingdom of God. "The kingdom has come." The proof of this, Jesus points out, is that Satan cannot stop the deliverance of those who had been previously under his domination.
  - The Demonstration of Jesus' power over the devil – Jesus' ministry of casting out demons was proof positive that his kingdom was overpowering the Devil's kingdom
  - The Casting out of Satan at the cross John 12:31-33; Hebrews 2:14-15
  - The Resurrection seals the deal *The whole of Satan's kingdom is subject to the authority of Christ*, (J. Calvin).
  - The Apostles carried on this activity of dominion over the demons during Jesus ministry and after his ascension. Luke 10:17-18 said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.
  - ❖ Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Ja 4:7; Be watchful 1 Peter 5:8-9; God protects. John 5:18-19; Put on the whole armor of God Eph. 6:10-18

3. Demon possession – many believe that demon possession based on ancient myths and other explanations that denied their actual possession of humans. One of the major works of Jesus was overthrowing the king of Satan by exorcising demons. There is no reason to doubt that demons currently possess unbelievers.
  - Can believers be demon possessed? Demons in some sense took control of certain individuals before they became believers. These demons indwelt them in some way since they “came out” of their victims. Satan also entered into Judas (Jn 13:27). A Christian can surely be demonized or come under the influence of demons, but they can never be inhabited by them. The Holy Spirit will not share his dwelling place with demons. *To be totally controlled by a demon or demons would be to be dominated by a demon. This would mean that the practice of sin would be habitual which the Bible says cannot be the mark of a believer – 1 John, Romans 6:14 (4 and 11), (Berkhof, ).*
  - Can believers be demon oppressed? Yes, there is plenty of biblical warrant to support that we are in a constant battle with Satan and his forces of evil Eph 6:11-13; 4:26, 27; Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Ja 4:7 1 John 5:18-19; Luke 22:31-32
  - Can we expect similar demon activity today as in the days of Jesus? Grudem has a helpful section on this subject (ST, p421-22):
    - (1) Pagans sacrificed to demons then and no less now (1 Cor. 10:20) 1 Timothy 4:1
    - (2) Opposers to sound doctrine under the influence of the devil then and now 2 Tim 2:24-26
    - (3) Opposers of Jesus are followers of the devil then and now John 8:44
    - (4) Hostile deeds of unbelievers in the whole world under demonic influence then and now 1 John 3:8, 10, 12, 19; Revelation 12:9
4. Can we cast out demons today and if so how? The Word of God is the means for dealing with sin and Satan – if Satan is to be cast out it would be through the instrument of God’s Word. Satan has power in this world but he is like a dog on a leash; like the lions on chains in Bunyan’s Pilgrim’s Progress. 1 Peter 5:8
5. Can Satan or demons read your mind, put thoughts in your mind? Do they know the future? *...we should not think that demons can know the future or that they can read our minds or know our thoughts, (Grudem, ST, 415).* Here are some of the reasons behind that statement:
  - God alone knows the future Isa 46:9-10; demons do not know the hour of Jesus’ return Mk 13:32
  - God and Jesus know the thoughts of humans, but there is no indication that demonic beings have this ability. Grudem refers to Daniel speaking on the dreams of king Nebuchadnezzar Dan2:27-28; 1 Cor 2:11