



Give the devil his due

IS THE "SATAN" AND "LUCIFER"
OF THE CHURCHES A HOAX?

By Sheldon Emry

Give The Devil His Due

Introduction

Pastor Sheldon Emry was a man who was both admired and hated.

As a leader in the battle for truth, he caused people to think for themselves by raising questions that demanded answers; — questions that people often ignored or overlooked. In his sermons he would answer those questions in a unique way, using logic and common sense. He had the foresight and courage to act on the truths he had discovered in the face of blind overpowering tradition. He went far beyond what most pastors of his time dared to do. As a result, he inspired a new generation of Patriot Christian pastors to continue in the same spirit of his ministry, to fight the battle for truth.

In 1967, Pastor Emry began his Christian ministry with a focus on some very important suppressed history — the true identity of God's chosen people: the Anglo-Saxon, Celtic and kindred peoples (the Christian nations). However, he did not limit his search for truth to this area alone.

Pastor Emry tackled other tough subjects: such as economics, the “immortal soul,” the “rapture,” health and nutrition, the “supernatural Satan,” and current events, interpreted in the light of the Bible. In all cases, he had a talent for presenting the other side of the argument that had been hidden or suppressed. Even in the latter years of his ministry, he spotted and exposed, in his newsletter, several con games and scams directed against the Patriot Christian movement.

In April 1978, after several months of careful study, Pastor Emry delivered his

eight taped sermons revealing the true meaning of the words “devil” and “Satan,” as used in scripture. He later commented that at the time he decided to speak out on the subject, he was not sure how his audience would receive this seemingly-new and radical information. However, almost the entire local congregation, as well as most of the people on his tape ministry, could immediately-see the truth in what he said.

And yet, in some circles of the Patriot Christian movement, Pastor Emry's eight sermons exploded like a bomb! There were those who just would not accept the “no supernatural Satan” explanation, even in the face of facts. Pastor Emry's most vociferous opponents to these Give the Devil His Due sermons, were usually believers in that doctrine known as “Seedline.”

“Seedliners” promote a form of “Identity” that is built mainly upon the notion that a “supernatural Satan” had sexual relations with Eve in the Garden of Eden, spawned Cain and from thence-the “Jewish race.” If it was proven that there really was no “supernatural Satan” in existence, then most of the “seed line” theology would fall apart. They would be forced to give up belief in their second god (“Satan”); and they would have to take a more realistic approach to the Jewish problem. However, most were unwilling to do this.

Some “Seedliners” suggested that since Pastor Emry had set forth such “blasphemy,” he, also, must be a descendant of “Satan's seed,” or in other words, a Jew secretly-infiltrating the Patriot Christian movement. This absurdity led

to an even more daring assertion that maybe Pastor Emry was in reality “the Antichrist,” himself. Still others felt there might be an infectious outbreak of “demon possession” in Pastor Emry's church.

But despite outlandish superstitions and rumors, Pastor Emry continued to speak out in sermons, his newsletter, and by promoting books on the subject. He realized the far-reaching and grave implications the “Supernatural Satan” doctrine was having on Christianity. It promoted another god, causing more pagan doctrines to grow in its shadow. Give the Devil His Due proved to be one of the most stirring and popular sermons of Pastor Emry's entire ministry.

Another subject he dealt with that stirred up much furor among Christians was his anti-establishment views on money, which he wrote about in his best-seller, “Billions for the Bankers Brings Debts for the People.”

Pastor Emry did not deliver his series of eight sermons about the fictional “Devil” with the intention of stirring up controversy or of dividing a supposedly “unified” Patriot Christian movement, as some accused. As he states in his sermon, the division had always been there, camouflaged against a background of deeply-entrenched religious tradition. The situation simply-required an independent insight to expose the false tradition for what it was, by placing it next to what the Bible actually said.

Although his assertion seemed like “new ground” to his contemporaries, Pastor Emry was not the first in history to expose the fraudulent belief in a “supernatural Satan.” In 1651 the English philosopher, Thomas Hobbes, published the classic book, *Leviathan*, a treatise on Christianity and Government, in which

he showed how the “supernatural Satan” and “supernatural demons” doctrines were promoted by high priests to manipulate and control the common people, through fear of the unknown.

Other philosophers of the 17th and 18th centuries condemned this form of control over the people as “Priestcraft;” and in his sermon Pastor Emry recognized that it was still being practiced today on unsuspecting people.

Also, about 100 years ago in America, a group of Christians known as the Christadelphians, published a small booklet entitled, “The Bible Devil and Satan Defined.” They, too, saw through the deception being practiced on the public by centuries of established tradition.

So you can see that although the “no supernatural Satan” doctrine may seem new to a modern generation; it is, in fact, a rediscovered truth that was hidden for centuries from those entrapped by the mind control of modern “priests of Babylon.”

Those taking the opposing side of the “supernatural Satan” doctrine were small in number compared to the proponents of the doctrine. This is not surprising since it has been the long-standing policy of established religion to mix Christianity with pagan religions, which included a “supernatural Satan” doctrine; in order to make the churches more attractive to non-Christians, thereby drawing them to churches. But since the proponents of a “supernatural Satan” outnumbered the opponents, the opposing viewpoint was rarely-heard. It is still considered by the majority of people to be heresy.

It is a well-known axiom that if you only hear one side of an argument, over and over, you will eventually believe that

side to be the truth, even if it is a falsehood and a deception. The vast majority of Christians were already in this predicament concerning the “supernatural Satan” doctrine, when Pastor Emry had the audacity to give God all the glory by presenting the taboo side of the argument. This is the reason why so many people, who have heard only the pro-”supernatural Satan” propaganda, from all corners of society since childhood, find it extremely difficult to let go of the idolatry that is so near and dear to them.

In later years, Pastor Emry was impressed with the importance of producing more printed literature to help publicize suppressed truths. Part of his plan was to publish transcripts of his sermons. Shortly before his death in June 1985, Pastor Emry directed a member of his staff to begin transcribing the best of his taped sermons, and, not surprisingly, “Give the Devil His Due” topped the list as one of the most-asked-for sermons.

This book is the complete transcript of those eight hard-hitting sermons he titled, “Give The Devil His Due.”

Since Pastor Emry's death, many people in Christendom continue to practice a disguised idolatry by believing in another god, which exists only in their minds. That god is the mythological “Satan” of the churches. The necessity for God-fearing (not Satan-fearing) Christians to speak out against this idolatry is obvious. That is why “Give the Devil His Due” remains just as timely and effective a Bible study today as it was on those eight Sunday mornings back in 1978, when Pastor Emry first delivered them.

Some of those who once attended Pastor Emry's church and were on his original staff, still clearly-see the importance of publishing these classic sermons and giving it wide exposure to Christians, everywhere. We know that Pastor Emry would have done the same were he still alive.

Paul Bunch

Give The Devil His Due

Chapter 1

The Word “Devil”

Give the devil his “due” is an old saying. I don't know whether the young people of today have heard it or not. Whenever anything went wrong, whether it was an accident, or if some person fell into sin or error, other people commenting on the occurrence would say: “One must give the devil his due.” The implication was that the devil was behind every bad occurrence.

The use of the word “due” probably seems strange, especially to young people, but Webster's 1828 Dictionary gives the following definitions:

1. That which is owed. 2. That which office, rank, station, social relations, or established rules of right or decorum

require to be given, paid, or done. 3. That which law or custom requires, as toll, tribute, fees of office.

So, the word “due” is an Old English word meaning something which is owed or earned. If you give someone his earned wages, you give him that which is “due.” If you give someone credit or blame for something happening, then you are giving them their “due.” If we are to consider the devil responsible for some things, and we make a statement which indicates that he is at fault or to blame, we are acknowledging his responsibility and we are “giving the devil his due.” Many things are blamed upon the devil by many people. There is even a comedian on television who says: “The devil made me do it!” whenever he does something wrong.



“Due”

To begin with, let's read a few passages in the Bible where the word “due” is used. We'll begin in Deuteronomy:

The priests the Levites, and all the tribe of Levi, shall have no part nor inheritance with Israel: they shall eat the offerings of the Lord made by fire, and his inheritance. Therefore shall they have no inheritance among their brethren: the Lord is their inheritance, as he hath said unto them. And this shall be the priest's due from the people, from them that offer a sacrifice, whether it be ox or sheep; and they shall give unto the priest the shoulder, and the two cheeks, and the maw.

Deuteronomy 18:1-3

The things that were to be given to the priests were called their “due.” They had no income from any other source, and owned no property.

Give unto the Lord, ye kindreds of the people, give unto the Lord glory and strength. Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name: bring an offering, and come before him: worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

1 Chronicles 16:28-29

Glory is something owed unto God and you are to give God that which is “due.”

Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.

Proverbs 3:27

In Matthew, chapter 18, Jesus is telling the parable of the wicked servant whose debt was forgiven him by his master. The servant then refused to forgive another servant who owed him. When the master

discovered what the wicked servant had done, he had this to say:

Then his lord (or master), after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desirest me: Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?” And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him.

Matthew 18:32-34

In Luke 23 is the story of Jesus' crucifixion and we read of the thief on the cross in verse 39:

And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man (Jesus) hath done nothing amiss.

Luke 23:39-41

One thief admitted that he was receiving death, which he had earned. Therefore, he was getting that which was due him. Jesus, on the other hand, did not deserve the death penalty because He had done nothing wrong.

In 1 Corinthians, 7:3, husbands are told to pay “due benevolence” to their wives. The wife has something which is owed to her. It is “due” benevolence.

By now I think you can understand what the word “due” means. Now, let's go further into the Scriptures to see if it is possible that we sometimes give more “due” to “the devil” than he has coming, or has earned.

Three Views Of The Devil

There are generally three beliefs or teachings about this so-called creature called, “the Devil.” First of all, the modern church teaches that the devil is some sort of a living being, perhaps not immortal, but at least very long-lived since he has existed for several thousand years. To some extent he must be omnipresent, because church people all over the world claim that they are being tempted or affected by him — all at the same time. The churches credit him with having the primary function of thwarting the purpose of God. Thus, they say that “the Devil” influences men to evil thoughts and acts. The church tells us that we should resist the Devil and call on God for help in doing so. However, the modern churches usually admit by their teaching that “the Devil” comes out ahead in most of his efforts.

There is another teaching which states that there is neither a God nor a “Devil” and that it is all superstition. Some who believe this are professing atheists and evolutionists. They claim that man is the highest order in creation and that there are no thoughts or things above man.

The third teaching about the devil involves a pantheon of religions (usually other than Christian), all over the world, which pay so much “due” to “the Devil” that they become Devil Worshipers. He has become their god. They pay homage and “due” to him to the extent that he has usurped God's place in their religion. Although some claim to recognize God as the more powerful one, they seem to think that since God is benevolent and merciful, and “the Devil” is malevolent or evil, they had better worship and placate “the Devil” so they will come out ahead.

You probably think that the pagans are the ones who worship “the Devil,” and

that it certainly can't be Christians. Perhaps, a little story will illustrate how professing Christians can give “the Devil” more “due” than they should.

Some of you may have heard the story of Michael O'Leary. He had lived a life of drinking and carousing, and, finally, he was taken quite ill. He thought he was dying and called for the services of a priest. The priest came, and after talking with Mike for awhile, he finally told Mike to make a pledge that if he survived this situation he would turn from his wicked ways and live a life of service to mankind. Mike did make that pledge but the priest had a little further idea — he said to Mike: “Mike, you've lived a sinful life and you're nigh unto death. Certainly, you've been in the service of the devil for many years. Don't you think that you should speak out and boldly-renounce the devil? Tell him to be gone from you and that you never want to see or hear from him again.” Mike looked up at the priest from his bed and said: “Well, faith and begora, Father, you've just admitted I'm in a terrible bad state. Do you think it makes any sense I should risk antagonizing anyone at this time?”

People usually get a chuckle out of that. However, many Christians (like Mike) pay so much “due” to “the Devil” they spend more time worrying about what “the Devil” might do to them, to their family or to other people, than they do about what God is doing, or, perhaps, even what they should do. We will see, as we go along, that some people (like Mike) give “the Devil” a little more “due” than he has coming.

New Testament Description of The Devil

Let's see what's said about “the Devil” in the New Testament. In chapter four of

Ephesians, Paul is exhorting the believers to good behavior:

I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

Ephesians 4:1

Paul then gives some examples of what the believers should do:

Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

Ephesians 4:25-28

Included in the exhortations of doing good and turning away from evil was, “give no place to the devil.”

Chapter six of Ephesians is that great chapter concerning the whole armor of God:

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might. Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore (or because of that) 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.

Ephesians 6:10-13

Paul then lists the various parts of that armor which are: the Word and the Spirit and, of course, God's help and protection. All of these are needed in order to withstand the wiles of the devil.

Here is an interesting passage in 2 Timothy:

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

2 Timothy 2:24-26

The margin in my Bible says that “taken captive” could read, “who are taken alive.” The inference is that they are captives of the devil while they are alive and it has something to do with the devil's will. However, the person can recover or take themselves away from this if God gives them the power to acknowledge the truth.

The second chapter of Hebrews explains what Jesus' death accomplished:

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might defroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Hebrews 2:14-15

So the devil has “the power of death.” By the way, each New Testament writer mentions the devil, but not necessarily in all of their epistles. Paul does not mention

“the devil” in Romans, 2 Corinthians, Philemon or Titus. Otherwise, “the devil” is mentioned in every one of the letters in the New Testament.

James had this to say about “the devil”:

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

James 4:7-8

James exhorts Christians to live right and come to God. He, also, says that if you resist the devil, he will flee from you.

I Peter, chapter five, contains a rather scary passage concerning the devil:

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time. Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

1 Peter 5:6-9

I wonder how many small children have heard ministers preach that sermon and then wonder if “the Devil” is out there in the dark eating people. Peter says the devil “walks about.”

In 1 John, chapter three, the devil is mentioned, and, also, someone else called “that wicked one.”

For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should

love one another. Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother.

John 3:11-12

There are a number of ministers in the United States who preach that the devil, in the guise of a serpent or some other creature, actually seduced Eve in the Garden of Eden and produced Cain. They say that verse twelve proves that Cain was fathered by “that wicked one” because it says: “Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother.” Well, we, also, have another verse in that same passage, written by the same man (or actually by God) which says:

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning.

1 John 3:8

If we were to take this verse in the same manner we would have to say that the devil has fathered all the rest of us because, as we are told in Romans:

. . . There is none righteous, no, not one:

Romans 3:10

Also:

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 3:23

Even John, himself, wrote:

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

1 John 1:8-10

If we take these verses in the same way that some take 1 John 3:12, then when John says “he that committeth sin is of the devil,” that means we are all “children of the devil” - ie. we were fathered by the devil.

Whether Cain was or was not actually fathered by “that wicked one” is not important to our study right now. In any case, we have proven that the devil and sin are very closely related. Also, sin and man, apparently, are inseparable because we've just read that all have sinned, therefore, we are all sinners. In physics, we learned that things equal to the same thing are equal to each other. The devil is connected to sin, and we are sinners. So, we're pretty close to the devil, at least part of the time.

Jesus is directly connected with the destruction of whatever it is that the devil does. Jesus destroys the works of the devil, as John tells us:

For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8

Which Is It — Fallen Angel or Nations & Kings?

The devil is, also, mentioned several times in the Book of Revelation. The word “devil” comes from the Greek word, “diabolos.” In Revelation chapter 2, Jesus, in talking to the church at Ephesus, says:

Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.

Revelation 2:10

The “devil” can and will put some Christians in prison.

In Revelation 20, we have what appears to be two ends to the devil. One end seems to be temporary and the other is permanent, or at least something rather drastic happens.

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.

Revelation 20:1-2

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

Here, the devil is leading some sort of a great force of people as the sand of the sea. Their nations are called Gog and Magog and they are coming against the saints. Then the devil is cast into the lake of fire. Some people say that this is either the end of the devil, or else he is going to be in that lake of fire in pain and torture for ever and ever. The word “tormented” in this passage is the same word that Jesus used when He said that the servant was

delivered unto the tormentors until he would pay “all that was due.” It is a Greek word that literally means “jailer” or “someone who holds.” Wherever the devil is being held in this lake of fire, most people would hope that would mean the end of him and the trouble he has, allegedly-caused upon the earth. But, the word “devil” sometimes stands for something other than what is commonly-thought; for instance, a person, an angel, or a minor god.

In chapter twelve of Revelation we read:

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Revelation 12:7-9

Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. And when the dragon saw that he was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man child. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood. And the earth helped the

woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth. And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 12:12-17

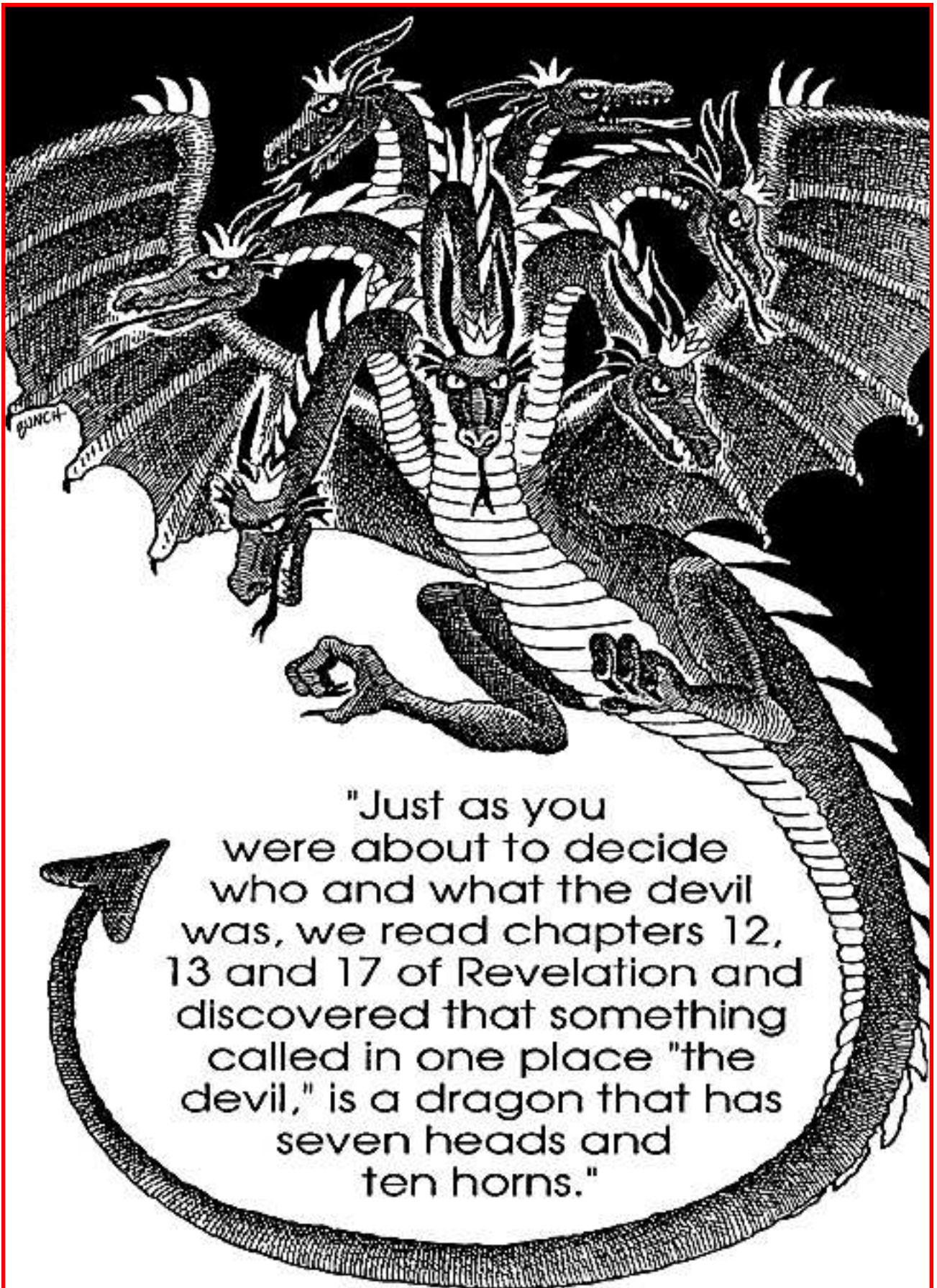
This last verse is sometimes identified with the serpent who had beguiled Eve in chapter three of Genesis. God said to the serpent:

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Genesis 3:15

This seems to fit what we just read in verse seventeen of Revelation 12 — “the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed.” Let's read a little more of the description of that serpent, devil, or dragon in Revelation:

And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered. And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of



"Just as you were about to decide who and what the devil was, we read chapters 12, 13 and 17 of Revelation and discovered that something called in one place "the devil," is a dragon that has seven heads and ten horns."

iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days.

(Revelation 12:1-6)

Then comes the verse I mentioned earlier:

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

Revelation 12:7

What dragon? The dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. The dragon which is called "the serpent" in Revelation 12:13. Some say this makes reference to Genesis 3:15. They say it is the same serpent. However, here it is described as a creature with seven heads, ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. In all of the other epistles which mention the devil you will find no description that would fit Revelation 12.

The beast has seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. Do those numbers and words mean anything to you? Let's find out what the next chapter of Revelation says:

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. .

Revelation 13:1-2

Here is a beast which has seven heads and ten horns and ten crowns. The dragon [the devil or the serpent] gives this beast authority.

And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshipped the dragon [the serpent or the devil] which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? Who is able to make war with him? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations.

Revelation 13:3-7

We've seen that the first dragon made war with the saints. Now, here is another beast who's power comes from that dragon.

I'll describe this strange beast a little more later. The description leads us where? To Revelation 17. Remember, we're still talking about the devil. Here is a creature called "the devil," which has become a dragon who, now, has heads and horns and fights the saints.

And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed for-

nication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Revelation 17:1-3

Here is a woman sitting upon a beast which has seven heads and ten horns; and in verse five, we find out the woman's name:

...a mystery: Babylon The Great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

Revelation 17:5-6

So far, we have a dragon (called the serpent or the devil) making war with the remnant of this woman's seed. We, also, have a beast making war with the saints. The beast and the dragon both have seven heads and ten horns; although, one of them has seven crowns and one has ten. Now, we have the same kind of a beast with seven heads and ten horns; only in this case, there is a woman riding on it and the woman is making war with the saints. The angel describes what John is seeing:

And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. 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 of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Revelation 17:7-8

The angel says that the world won't understand what they're seeing; they'll wonder when they see this.

And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

Revelation 17:9-10

The seven heads are identified as seven kings:

And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition. And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

Revelation 17:11-12

This dragon which is called, in previous chapters, “the serpent” and “the devil” is being described as nations, great powers, or kings. Then, in verse 18, the angel tells John what the woman is:

...that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

Revelation 17:18

I am not going to go into great detail here to describe what Mystery Babylon is — I have covered that subject in other sermons. However, I did want to quote as much as I have to show you that we have something called, “the devil” (in the epistles), which simply does not match that which is called “the devil” in another part of the Scriptures.

Let's review what we have learned so far. In Ephesians 4, we read that Christians were to quit giving place to the devil. In Ephesians 6, we were told we need the whole armor of God to withstand the wiles of the devil. In 2 Timothy 2, it says God can help Christians who have been taken captive (or taken alive) by the devil to recover themselves. In Hebrews 2, we found that the devil had the power of death, but Jesus' death destroyed the power of the devil. In James 4, we were told the devil will flee if you resist him. In 1 Peter 5, the devil walks about as a lion devouring people. In 1 John 3:8, we find that all who have sinned are of the devil and that Jesus was manifested that He might destroy the works of the devil. Then, in Revelation 2, the church at Ephesus was told that the devil can put Christians in prison. In Revelation 20, the devil seems to have come to a temporary end, then later is freed, gathers people in nations to a battle and then he is cast into a lake of fire. Whether you think that is a temporary or permanent death is not important at the moment.

Just as you were about to decide who and what the devil was, we read chapters 12, 13 and 17 of Revelation and discovered that something called in one place "the devil" is a dragon that has seven heads and ten horns. This dragon is a beast, like a leopard, that has feet like a bear and a mouth like a lion and he makes war against the saints. This can't be understood if the devil is what the churches believe he is. The dragon is a beast with horns, and the horns are called kings. In Revelation 17, we found that the dragon is ridden by a woman dressed in red. The angel said that the woman ruled over all the kings of the earth. This would make sense; since this dragon was the one with horns, which represented kings. Suddenly, here in Revelation, this quasi-immortal fallen angel turned into nations and kings right before our eyes.

All I have accomplished so far in this study is to convince you that, perhaps, there is something about "the devil" that we may not have understood in the past.

Give The Devil His Due

Chapter 2

Common Beliefs About The Devil

At the beginning of this study we read about the thief on the cross. Let's read that again because I want you to keep it in mind as we study other Scriptures about the devil, Satan, and the serpent:

And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.

Luke 23:39-41

So the thief said that his own wickedness had caused his problem. He did not say that the devil caused it. He was receiving the “due” reward of his deeds. In other words, death was justly due him. The thief didn't give any “due” to the devil, but claimed it all for himself.

Most professing Christian churches say the devil, or Satan, is a living creature who has thoughts and power of his own. They teach that he influences many human beings to do wicked deeds or to have wicked thoughts.

The following is a quote from Cruden (of Cruden's Concordance) describing what he calls “the Devil or Satan”:

“A most wicked angel, the implacable enemy and tempter of the human race, deadly in his malice, surprisingly subtle, possessing strength superior to ours, having a mighty number of principalities

and powers under his command, he roves, full of rage, like a roaring lion, seeking to tempt, to betray, to destroy us, to involve us in guilt and wickedness. In a word, he is an enemy to God and man, and uses his utmost endeavors to rob God of His glory and men of their souls.”

In a few short words, this sums up what most of the “fundamentalist” preachers would say of the devil. Cruden comments further:

“Common belief assigns something like omniscience to the evil being thus described. He is regarded as universally at work, alike active in England and America, and all other parts of the globe at the same time, and exerting his seductive arts in millions of hearts at once. He is also believed to be, in some sense, omnipotent, achieving his behest by a power superior to nature, and certainly more successful than God in the mutual strife for human souls, since hell, according to tradition, receives a far larger proportion of the earth's inhabitants than find their ways to the celestial city.”

I think you would agree that the above is a general statement of the belief of the fundamentalist churches. They believe that, in this contest between the devil and God, the devil has been in the past, and is currently, the victor: the successful one, because he has claimed more human beings or more souls than God has.

There is another teaching about the devil, which denies that any such creature exists. Most who believe this teaching, also, deny that God Almighty exists. Some call themselves, Atheists or Evolutionists and they claim that the natural world, which we see, is all that exists. They say it came into being somehow; we know not quite how, but that it has evolved into what we see today without any outside force acting upon it.

On the other hand, some believe in a supernatural Devil to whom they've attributed ALL power. They praise him and become Devil or Satan Worshipers. These people claim that they receive benefits, or receive their desires, from the devil. They, actually, came up with a religion (which we would call "devil worship"), where they give praise to "the Devil" to the exclusion of God.

Christians are instructed not to give place to the devil. They are to put on the whole armor of God to stand against the devil. Christians are warned that they can sometimes be captives of the devil. The devil has the power of death, but Jesus destroyed that power. The devil will flee if you resist him. He is likened to a lion, devouring people. John wrote: "All who have sinned are of the devil" Jesus was made manifest to destroy the works of the devil.



In Revelation, we found that the devil can put Christians in prison. Reading the references to the devil in order, from the New Testament, we came across a beast who was called a "dragon," a "serpent," and also "the Devil" (capitalized). This beast turned out to be, what could only be described, as great world powers, nations and kingdoms because the beast, Who is, also, called the Devil, had seven heads and ten horns and those heads and horns were described as nations and kingdoms.

In reading through the New Testament, our devil first was something that acted upon individual Christians and then, Lo and behold, by the time we reached the Book of Revelation, he had become nations, kingdoms, and earthly powers. Reading about the devil in the last part of the New Testament, we found the description did not fit anything else we had read at the first. There seemed to be a tremendous contradiction. Also, there is somewhat of a contradiction between what the Bible teaches and what the churches teach, according to what I just quoted from Mr. Cruden.

We cannot use the descriptions in Revelation, chapters 12, 13 and 17, for what is commonly considered "the devil." Here, he is being described as nations, kingdoms and world powers. That doesn't mean that these powers have nothing to do with the devil but they are not the devil itself. Nations and kingdoms are made up of many people and earthly powers. They cannot be described as an angelic or supernatural being.

The Word "Diabolos"

Let's read Revelation 20 to try and find "the Devil" of the churches.

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

The term “devil” is used in verse two, and, again, in verse ten of Revelation 20. The Greek word is “diabolos.” According to Strong's Concordance, it means “traducer” (not seducer but traducer), “false accuser, slanderer or devil.” In the Book of Acts, in all of the epistles, and in Revelation, every time you read the word, “devil,” it comes from the Greek word “diabolos.” In 2 Timothy, the word “diabolos” is used but it is not translated “devil.”

This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

2 Timothy 3:1-3

The two words “false accusers” are translated from the word, “diabolos.” If the translators had been consistent, “false accusers” would have read, “devils.” Then verse two would have read that men shall be devils (diabolos).

But the devil, or devils, were not supposed to be human! Yet, Paul says in the last days mortal men shall be “diabolos.” This is the same word that is used in Revelation, chapters 2 and 20, and in all of the epistles. Just so we don't leave the women out, let's read what it says in chapter two of Titus:

But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine. That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. The aged women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers (diabolos), not given to much wine, teachers of good things, ...

Titus 2:1-3

Paul is saying that women have to be exhorted not to be devils. It appears, then, that Paul thought that men and women could be “diabolos” or “devils.” The word “serpent,” in Revelation 20, comes from this same Greek word: “diabolos,” which does not give any meaning of immortality or long-living, or any angelic or spirit nature to the serpent, as such. It simply means “false accuser” or “slanderer.” The serpent isn't an angelic being, when defined by the word, “devil,” because both men and women can be devils.

“Sawtawn:” Adversary — Not Fallen Angel

What about the word “Satan?” The serpent in Revelation 20 is called by the title “Satan.” That is a little simpler to understand because in every case where the word “Satan” appears in the New Testament, it comes from a Greek word pronounced “satanas.” In the Old Testament, it comes, every time, from the same Hebrew word which is pronounced, “sawtawn.” Here is what Strong's Concordance says of the Greek word “satanas:”

— Of Chaldean origin, the accuser, or the “devil.”

Strong's says this of the Hebrew word “sawtawn:”

— Opponent, adversary, Satan. From a slightly different root “sawtan, “ meaning to attack, accuse, to be an adversary, or to resist.

So, the word “Satan” in the original Greek and Hebrew, both in the Old Testament and the New, comes from the same word. It is a word of Chaldean origin which was transliterated by the Hebrews and picked up by the Greeks unchanged.

It means “accuser,” “adversary,” “opponent,” or it means “to do what an accuser, adversary or an opponent does.”

Let me demonstrate this from the use of “Satan” in the Old Testament. In Numbers 22, Balak has hired Balaam to prophesy against Israel.

Here, the word “sawtawn” is used and it is translated “adversary:”

And God came unto Balaam at night, and said unto him, If the men come to call thee, rise up, and go with them; but yet the word which I shall say unto thee, that shalt thou do. And Balaam rose up in the morning, and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab. And God's anger was kindled because he went: and the angel of the Lord stood in the way for an adversary (satan)

Numbers 22:20-22

Here we have an angel of the Lord who is a “satan” or an “adversary” against this man. The Hebrew text says the angel of the Lord was, literally, “a satan.”

In chapter 19 of 2 Samuel, David is in an argument with his own men. A man who had previously maligned David came and begged his forgiveness. David's men said that David should kill the man because he had cursed the Lord's anointed. David replied:

And David said, What have I to do with you, ye sons of Zeruiah, that ye should this day be adversaries (Satans) unto me? shall there any man be put to death this day in Israel?

2 Samuel 19:22

David spoke to the officers in his own army and asked them why they were being “sawtawns” or “satans” to him.

Here is another passage that uses the term “adversary”:

And Hiram king of Tyre sent his servants unto Solomon; for he had heard that they had anointed him king in the room of his father: for Hiram was ever a lover of David. And Solomon sent to Hiram, saying, Thou knowest how that David my father could not build an house unto the name of the Lord his God for the wars which were about him on every side, until the Lord put them under the soles of his feet. But now the Lord my God hath given me rest on every side, so that there is neither adversary (satan) nor evil occurrent.

Kings 5:1-4

The word “adversary” is from “sawtawn.” Solomon was saying to Hiram “God hath given me rest on every side, so that there is neither SATAN nor evil occurrent.” Solomon says there was no satan at that time. There was no “satan” because the word “satan” in the Chaldean, Hebrew and Greek means “opponent” or “adversary.” Solomon was saying he had no opponent; he was at peace. This word “sawtawn” is translated “Satan” 19 times in the Old Testament. It is found once in I Chronicles, 14 times in Job, once in Psalms and three times in Zechariah. The other 13 times that the word “sawtawn” appears, it is translated “adversary.” So it is transliterated to “Satan” 19 times and it is translated “adversary” 12 times. Adversary is the literal meaning of the word in all three languages - Chaldean, Hebrew, and Greek.

I think we should read a few more passages where “sawtawn” is translated “adversary.” In 1 Kings 11, near the end of his reign, we read that Solomon has sinned against God:

And the Lord was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the Lord God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice. And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the Lord commanded. Wherefore the Lord said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant. Not withstanding in thy days I will not do it for David thy father's sake: but I will rend it out of the hand of thy son. Howbeit I will not rend away all the kingdom; but will give one tribe to thy son for David my servant's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake which I have chosen.

1 Kings 11:9-13

God is telling Solomon what He is going to do because of Solomon's sin.

And the Lord stirred up an adversary (a Satan) unto Solomon, Hadad the Edomite: he was of the king's seed in Edom.

1 Kings 11:14

The Lord stirred up a satan. Who was this satan? He was not only a man, but his name is given: "Hadad." He was a mortal man of Edom.

And God stirred him up another adversary (satan), Rezon the son of Eliadah, which fled from his lord Hadadezer king of Zobah:

1 Kings 11:23

So, here is another satan, who is a mortal, and his name is in the Bible.

And he was an adversary (satan) to Israel all the days of Solomon, beside the mischief that Hadad did: and he abhorred Israel, and reigned over Syria.

1 Kings 11:25

David also used the word "sawtawn" in Psalm 38:

But mine enemies are lively, and they are strong: and they that hate me wrongfully are multiplied. They also that render evil for good are mine adversaries (satans); because I follow the thing that good is.

Psalm 38:19-20

"Adversaries" is made plural here by the translators. In the original text the word is "sawtawn," it can be used as both singular and plural. The translators made it plural because of David's use of the plural "they." He had more than one adversary and they were "satans." If the translators had been consistent, they would have transliterated "sawtawn" into "Satan."

Two other places where "sawtawn" was translated, "adversaries," are in Psalm 71 and Psalm 109:

O God, be not far from me: O my God, make haste for my help. Let them be confounded and consumed that are adversaries (satans) to my soul; let them be covered with reproach and dishonour that seek my hurt.

Psalm 71:12-13

Hold not thy peace, O God of my praise; For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful are opened against me: they have spoken against me with a lying tongue. They compassed me about also with words of hatred; and fought against me

without a cause. For my love they are my adversaries (satans): but I give myself unto prayer.

Psalm 109:1-4

David's adversaries were not supernatural, angelic beings. But, they were "satans."

And they have rewarded me evil for good, and hatred for my love. Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan (or an adversary) stand at his right hand.

Psalm 109:5-6

"Satan," in verse five, is the same word translated "adversaries" in verse four. Here it is transliterated into the word "Satan": "let Satan stand at his right hand." If you will, think about that for a moment. David is not praying that God will put "Satan," the devil of the churches, at the right hand of his enemy, but that God would place one of their own adversaries there. This is confusing because of the translation of the same word two different ways in the same text.

Let this be the reward of mine adversaries (satans) from the Lord, and of them that speak evil against my soul.

Psalm 109:20

Let mine adversaries (satans) be clothed with shame, and let them cover themselves with their own confusion, as with a mantle.

Psalm 109:29

Again, David used "adversaries" or "satans" as a word that meant "human enemies." You cannot make this "sawtawn," or "satan" into an everliving, angelic, supernatural creature in any of the passages that we have read so far. In fact, in some places, he is a specific human being and he is named.

In every case where the original word "sawtawn" has been used, so far, we cannot use it for anything other than mortal human beings.

"Sawtawn" In Job

As I stated earlier, of the 19 times that the word "sawtawn" is transliterated as "Satan," 14 occur in Job. We will have to read those 14 passages in order to understand who or what caused all of Job's trouble. In the modern churches, it is common teaching that this fallen angel, this supernatural, angelic being, called "Satan," was responsible.

There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil. And there were born unto him seven sons and three daughters. His substance also was seven thousand sheep, and three thousand camels, and five hundred yoke of oxen, and five hundred she asses, and a very great household; so that this man was the greatest of all the men of the east. And his sons went and feasted in their houses, every one his day; and sent and called for their three sisters to eat and to drink with them. And it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually.

Job 1:1-5

We have established at the very beginning that Job is very wealthy, he has many sons and daughters, and he is a God-fearing man who praised God for all of his substance and all of his children.

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

The margin in my Bible, and in many Bibles, actually has the words “the 'adversary' came, also, among them,” because it is the same word “sawtawn.” Only here, it is capitalized and written as “Satan.”

And the Lord said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

Job 1:7-10

This creature, whoever and whatever he is, says that Job fears God and gives honor to Him because God has blessed him. God has given him all these things and protects him.

But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face. And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand. So Satan went forth from the presence of the Lord.

Job 1:11-12

As you read on you find that Job lost his oxen, asses, sheep, servants, camels,

and even his sons and daughters. The churches say this was done by a great, angelic, malevolent, evil, wicked being who tempts and brings evil to all the other people of the earth.

After Job lost everything we read:

In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly.

Job 1:22

Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan (sawtawn) came also among them to present himself before the Lord. And the Lord said unto Satan, From whence comest thou? And Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it. And the Lord said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause.

Job 2:1-3

So, even after his calamity, Job was still faithful to God. Now, God tells Satan: “See, in spite of everything that happens, Job still fears Me and eschews evil.”

And Satan answered the Lord, and said, Skin for skin, yes, all that a man hath will he give for his life. But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face. And the Lord said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life. So went Satan forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown. And he

took him a potsherd to scrape himself withal; and he sat down among the ashes.

Job 2:4-8

Job was so ill at this point that his wife said:

Dost thou still retain thine integrity? curse God, and die.

Job 2:9

Job's wife gave up. Job had lost everything that he had. He now was in illness and pain and possibly in fear of his own life. At this point almost all fundamentalists without exception have credited some wicked, angelic being called "Satan" ("sawtawn" in the original Chaldean language) with having done all this to Job. But, perhaps you missed verse three of chapter two where God is speaking and He said of Job: "and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause." Who did the destroying? God said that HE did it.

After these additional calamities occurred and, apparently, after days of conversation with friends who came supposedly to comfort him but who were of no great comfort, Job tells his friends:

How long will ye vex my soul, and break me in pieces with words? These ten times have ye reproached me: ye are not ashamed that ye make yourselves strange to me. And be it indeed that I have erred, mine error remaineth with myself. If indeed ye will magnify yourselves against me, and plead against me my reproach:

Job 19:2-5

If you know the Book of Job, you know that these men had been telling Job that he must have sinned. They told Job that

something he did was wrong, and that's why he had suffered all these calamities. So Job rebuked them:

Know now that God hath overthrown me, and hath compassed me with his net. Behold, I cry out of wrong, but I am not heard: I cry aloud, but there is no judgment. He hath fenced up my way that I cannot pass, and he hath set darkness in my paths. He hath stripped me of my glory, and taken the crown from my head. He hath destroyed me on every side, and I am gone: and mine hope hath he removed like a tree. He hath also kindled his wrath against me, and he counteth me unto him as one of his enemies. His troops come together, and raise up their way against me, and encamp round about my tabernacle. He hath put my brethren far from me, and mine acquaintance are verily estranged from me.

Job 19:6-13

Who is Job saying caused all of these calamities? Job says that God did it. He is trying to point out to these men that it wasn't necessarily any sin of his own but, they should understand that God did it. Job says:

Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.

Job 19:21

In the last chapter of Job, after God has spoken to him, Job answers:

I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee. Who is he that hideth counsel without knowledge? therefore have I uttered that I understood not: things too wonderful for me, which I knew not. Hear, I beseech

thee, and I will speak: I will demand of thee, and declare thou unto me. I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.

Job 42:2-6

Even though Job had rebuked his friends and told them he had not sinned, he said: God, I realize what I am, I realize what You are, You can do all things, therefore, I repent. Then God speaks to the other men:

And it was so, that after the Lord had spoken these words unto Job, the Lord said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job hath. Therefore take unto you now seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept: lest I deal with you after your folly, in that ye have not spoken of me the thing which is right, like my servant Job.

Job 42:7-8

God says that Job spoke right. He then tells Job's friends to offer a burnt offering because, as He says in verse eight: "ye have not spoken of me the thing which is right, like my servant Job." These men did make an offering because God had told them to, as we see in the next passage:

So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went, and did according as the Lord commanded them: the Lord also accepted Job. And the Lord turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the Lord

gave Job twice as much as he had before. Then came there unto him all his brethren, and all his sisters, and all they that had been of his acquaintance before, and did eat bread with him in his house: and they bemoaned him, and comforted him over all the evil that the Lord had brought upon him: every man also gave him a piece of money, and every one an earring of gold. So the Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning: for he had fourteen thousand sheep, and six thousand camels, and a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand she asses. He had also seven sons and three daughters.

Job 42:9-13

Why did God give Job all of these blessings? They were given in order to replace that which God Almighty had taken from Job. The Book of Job is very specific. The people who in the end came to comfort Job realized that everything that had happened to Job had been done by God Almighty.

I haven't quoted all of Job but I quoted every place where the word "Satan" appears in Job. I defy you to use any part of those references to conclude that "satan" is some sort of an everliving creature who has power almost equal to God. If we take the original meaning of the word we come up with the word "adversary." This adversary could easily have been nothing more than another son of God, a man of the Adamic race, who came before God with the rest of the men and provoked God to test Job. It was God who brought the calamities. There is no indication that the Satan of Job had any supernatural powers, whatsoever. It was God who did the things which were beyond nature.

We are going to have to believe what Isaiah wrote:

I am the Lord, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the Lord, and there is none else. I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things.

Isaiah 45:5-7

“Sawtawn” Is Not The Satan of Today’s Churches

Let's look at the other five times in the Old Testament that “sawtawn” is transliterated into “Satan.”

And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel. And David said to Joab and to the rulers of the people, Go, number Israel from Beersheba even to Dan; and bring the number of them to me, that I may know it.

1 Chronicles 21:1-2

David did number the children of Israel. This was God's reaction:

And God was displeased with this thing; therefore he smote Israel. And David said unto God, I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing: but now, I beseech thee, do away the iniquity of thy servant; for I have done very foolishly.

1 Chronicles 21:7-8

Who did David blame for having done this thing? Did he give “Satan” his due? No, David said: “I have sinned.”

The word “Satan” is only used in verse one of this passage. If it had been translated to the meaning of the word it would have said: “an ADVERSARY stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel” There is nothing in the context here that can make this “satan” into a fallen angel.

The word “Satan” is also found in Psalm 109:

Set thou a wicked man over him: and let Satan stand at his right hand (referring to his enemy).

Psalm 109:6

David was saying, “Let an enemy of my enemy stand at his right hand.” That is all. David would not have prayed for the “Satan” of the churches to be his enemy's advisor! It hardly makes sense that David would want a wise and powerful archangel to be the advisor to his own enemy. No, David was really praying that his enemy would have an adversary or an enemy of his own to advise him. This would bring calamity upon the enemy's designs. David desired his enemies to have satans of their own in their camp.

The last three places in the Old Testament where the word “Satan” is found are in Zechariah:

And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. And the Lord said unto Satan, The Lord rebuke thee, a Satan; even the Lord that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

Zechariah 3:1-2

There is no indication that the Satan here is anything like the one taught by the churches. He doesn't do anything except stand there as if he is to resist and, then,

he is rebuked and we hear no more about him.

The margin says that the last part of verse one could read “an adversary” for the word “Satan.” The last three words “to resist him” should have read “to be his adversary” (satan). The word “resist” is translated from the same Chaldean word: “sawtawn.” It means “to resist or be an adversary.”

So here in Zechariah, as in Job and I Chronicles 21, there is absolutely no evidence that this “sawtawn” or “Satan” is anything resembling the Satan preached by the churches. He is mentioned as if he is just standing there, it does not say he does anything. He is rebuked, and we hear no more about him.

We've read every passage in the Old Testament where the Chaldean word “sawtawn” is used. It is either translated “adversary” or is transliterated into the word, “Satan.” Not once can it really be used to teach some sort of a wicked, powerful, omnipotent angel or some great enemy of God who, literally, can overpower mankind and (almost) God, Himself. In each and every case, the word names or describes someone who is opposed to someone else. In most cases the “sawtawn” or “Satan” is obviously a mortal man. In fact, he is sometimes named. In no case is there any indication of long-life or supernatural powers. It kind of takes the wind out of Satan's sails, wouldn't you think? Or, perhaps, we're just taking the wind out of the mouths of the false prophets.



Look Who Is “A Satan”

Before we go on, let's look at 2 Samuel, chapter 24 which is a repetition of the same story we read earlier about David numbering Israel:

And again the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel, and he (Satan) moved David against them to say, Go, number Israel and Judah.

2 Samuel 24:1

The balance of the chapter is identical to 1 Chronicles 21, where it says Satan provoked David to number Israel. The “Satan” of 1 Chronicles 21:1 is none other than God Himself being “an adversary.” That is the way the word is used.

So far, the only place we could give the devil any due at all is in Job, where we read:

So went Satan forth from the presence of the Lord, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.

Job 2:7

So, if we want to give the Satan of Job anything, according to the strict interpretation of what we just read, we could only admit one thing: that he might have given Job boils. Some people could probably testify that quite a few of us could get boils by taking some sort of toxins into our body. Doctors give people boils all the time by giving them injections that are bad for their body. Boils are nothing more than the body's attempt to eject something through the skin that is a poison to the body. This great Satan couldn't have done very much, he couldn't have much power, if all he could do was give Job boils.

In Psalm 109:6 we saw that “satan” obviously-means “adversary.” We just

read three times in Zechariah where “sawtawn” or “Satan” was going to resist either the angel of the Lord or Joshua. The Lord rebuked him and then there is no further comment about him. So “Satan” has done nothing that would make him a great, powerful archangel, who does terrible wicked things to all the people of the earth. It is possible that the only act he ever completed was to give Job boils.

In 11 cases, “sawtawn” is translated “adversary.” From the context in each case “sawtawn” simply means “an adversary” or “an opponent.” In two cases, the “sawtawn” is named as mortal men, in one case, he is an angel of God, and once, he is God himself. So “sawtawn,” as it is used in the Old Testament, does not and cannot be used to teach that there exists a great and powerful archangel; who goes about tearing souls out of the hand of God, taking them down to his abode in the “nether world” and punishing them for ever and ever. The word “sawtawn,” from which we get “Satan,” is simply not used that way.

Yet we find, if we think for a moment, that this horrible creature who is the subject of so much fearsome preaching from the churches, is identical to another creature called “the devil”, “Lucifer” and “Satan” who is depicted in the movies, in stories and on television. It should make you think, for a moment, why the Satan of the churches is identical to the Satan depicted by movie makers, who do not believe in Christ. These antiChristian movie makers have come out in recent times with stories about how a supernatural being, called the devil or Satan, cohabits with a woman and produces a half-devil child.

Summary Of The Word “Sawtawn”

Let me sum up the use of the word “sawtawn” in the original text. It is very important that you understand what we are discovering in this study. We must see what the Bible does or does not teach; since we are living in a time when the churches, and many secular people, are building up a great “anti-Christ,” who is supposed to be a certain being, who will rule the world. At the same time, these churches preach that this anti-Christ also rules an underworld, where billions of dead reside.

We have found that 19 times in the Old Testament, “sawtawn” is transliterated “Satan.” All 19 are contained within only four passages. In I Chronicles 21:1 we see, from reading the other account, that the “sawtawn” here is obviously God, Himself. The second passage is in Job, where the word “Satan” is used 14 times. In Job, Satan is an adversary — there is no argument about that. The only certain thing he did directly was to give Job boils. In Psalm 109:6, the word “Satan” plainly means “enemy” or “adversary” - it is definitely not the devil of the churches. In Zechariah 4, whoever or whatever he is, he just stood there, he was rebuked, and that appears to be the end of him. There is no act accredited to him at all.

“Sawtawn” is translated “adversary” seven times in the Old Testament. Sawtawn comes from the primary root word “sawtan;” which also has been translated in the Old Testament, as “adversary” five times. The first time we find “sawtawn” translated “adversary” is in Numbers 22, where the “sawtawn” was the angel of the Lord. In I Samuel 29:4, the “sawtawn” was David, himself, as an adversary to the Philistines. In 2 Samuel

19:22, the “sawtawns” are David's own men. In 1 Kings 5:4, Solomon said he had peace and there was no “sawtawn.” Solomon meant that there was no enemy, or enemy nation, against him. In 1 Kings 11, after Solomon had turned and sinned against God, the word “sawtawn” (translated adversary) is used three times. God raised up “sawtawns” against Solomon. These “sawtawns” are named, they are mortal men, kings or generals of other nations. In Psalm 109, the word “adversaries” is used three times. Each time the word comes from the Chaldean, “sawtan” which has the same meaning as “sawtawn.” “Satan” is found only once in that same passage as a transliteration of “sawtawn” and it means “enemy.” David calls his wicked enemies, “my sawtawns” or “enemies” (plural). In that case it cannot possibly mean one great, wicked archangel. So, the amazing truth is that the Chaldean word “sawtawn” (and its root word “sawtan”) is used 31 times in only 11 passages in the Old Testament.

Out of 11 passages and 31 usages of the words “sawtawn” and “sawtan”, there is only one passage where there is even an inkling that this “sawtawn” has any supernatural power. That supernatural power could have been, simply, giving a man boils. Think of what the churches tell us Satan is, compared to what the Bible does NOT say about Satan. In 10 out of 11 times, the “sawtawn” is an angel. Six times it is men. One time it is something, or someone, who gave Job boils. It is possible that Job had a doctor who was an adversary of his and who gave him boils, I don't know. That is speculation on my part. But, that is no more speculation than the teaching we hear about this great, wicked, supernatural, omniscient, omnipresent angel; who is all over the earth, all at the same time, stealing billions of souls and taking them down to his kingdom in the earth.

Give The Devil His Due

Chapter 3

The Word “Serpent”

“Serpent” is one of the words used in the Book of Revelation in conjunction with “Satan,” “the devil” and “the dragon.”

The first use of this word in the Old Testament is in Genesis 3:

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 shalt not eat of every tree of the garden?

Genesis 3:1

“Nachash” is the Hebrew word translated “serpent.” Strong's Concordance defines it: “to hiss, i.e. whisper a (magic) spell.” It could also mean “snake or serpent, a prognosticator or enchanter.” We have a choice here so we must check the context to decide what the serpent is.

The serpent continued to talk with Eve and then God says:

And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat. 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: And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; and it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Genesis 3:13-15

After reading these verses, here are some conclusions which can be drawn about the serpent:

1. This serpent is not, necessarily, a beast of the field. The Bible says it was more subtle than one — it didn't say the serpent was the most subtle beast.
2. The serpent could communicate with Eve.
3. Eve blamed it for her act.
4. God spoke to the serpent.
5. The serpent is not necessarily-immortal because, in verse 14, there is an inference of a life with an end, where God said: “dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life.”
6. No supernatural act was performed by this serpent; unless, we consider that every time a human being makes a mistake or commits a sin, or turns against God, that it is a supernatural act caused by some supernatural being.

The incident of Genesis 3 is recorded in 2 Corinthians 11:

But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

1 Corinthians 11:3

Paul feared they might be beguiled in the same way that it happened to Eve. Who did Paul fear would do the beguiling?

For if he that cometh preacheth

another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him.

2 Corinthians 11:4

Paul is comparing the preaching of a false gospel to the serpent beguiling Eve. He was warning the Corinthians about someone coming to them preaching false doctrine. The comparison is accurate because here is what the serpent did to Eve:

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: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Genesis 3:2-5

What did the serpent do? He preached another gospel! He distorted the true meaning of God's Word. That is what Paul was afraid would be done. He likened someone coming and preaching another gospel (telling you God said something that God did not say) to what happened with Eve and the serpent in the garden. Paul knew that men would do that. Why, then, do we need a supernatural agent in the garden of Eden to do what Paul said men could do by themselves? The answer is that we don't need one. Every act or characteristic of the serpent in the garden of Eden could be performed by a man or any creature speaking wrongly of God's Word. That is all that we can really attribute to him.

The next time the word "serpent" or "nachash" is used in the Old Testament is in Genesis 49:

And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you in the last days. Gather yourselves together, and hear, ye sons of Jacob; and hearken unto Israel your father.

Genesis 49:1-2

Then Jacob links each one of his sons (or tribes) with a prophecy about the last days:

Dan shall judge his people, as one of the tribes of Israel. Dan shall be a serpent by the way, an adder in the path, that biteth the horse heels, so that his rider shall fall backward.

Genesis 49:16-17

The word "serpent," in verse 17, is from the word "nachash" and the word "adder" comes from "aderath," which is a Hebrew word meaning a snake. It is implied that Dan could, in some manner, fulfill whatever a serpent does. We had better be a little careful what we say the serpent is because, apparently, Dan was a serpent or "nachash."

Moses And Serpents

In Exodus 4, the word "serpent" (nachash) is used in relation to Moses' rod:

And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The Lord hath not appeared unto thee. And the Lord said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod. And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it. And the Lord said

unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand:

Exodus 4:1-4

The word “serpent” is used again in Exodus 7:

And the Lord spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, When Pharaoh shall speak unto you, saying, Shew a miracle for you; then thou shalt say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and cast it before Pharaoh, and it shall become a serpent.

Exodus 7:8-9

In this case, the word is a different Hebrew word: “tanniyn” (tan-neen), which means more specifically, a sea serpent or a land serpent. In other words, it was something like a snake or a dragon.

In Numbers 21, the word “nachash” is again used:

And the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died. Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord, and against thee; pray unto the Lord, that he take away the serpents (nachash) from us. And Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live. And Moses made a serpent (nachash) of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

Numbers 21:6-9

“Nachash,” as used in these verses, is the same one used in Genesis 3 for “the serpent.” It is, also, used in several other verses such as 2 Kings 18, which again refers to Moses' brazen serpent:

He removed the high places, and brake the images, and cut down the groves, and brake in pieces the brazen serpent that Moses had made...

2 Kings 18:4

Other Verses Using “Nachash”

Job 26:13 refers to the star constellation Hydra:

By his spirit he hath garnished the heavens; his hand hath formed the crooked serpent.

Job 26:13

The following verses are speaking of a natural serpent or snake:

Their poison is like the poison of a serpent: they are like the deaf adder that stoppeth her ear;

Psalms 58:4

They have sharpened their tongues like a serpent; adders' poison is under their lips. Selah.

Psalms 140:3

Proverbs 23 contains another interesting passage about a “nachash”:

Who hath woe? who hath sorrow? who hath contention? who hath babbling? who hath wounds without cause? who hath redness of eyes? They that tarry long at the wine; they that go to seek mixed wine. Look not thou upon the wine when it is red, when it giveth his colour in the cup, when it moveth itself aright. At the last it biteth like a serpent (nachash), and stingeth like

an adder (snake). Thine eyes shall behold strange women, and thine heart shall utter perverse things. Yea, thou shalt be as he that lieth down in the midst of the sea, or as he that lieth upon the top of a mast. They have stricken me, shalt thou say, and I was not sick; they have beaten me, and I felt it not: when shall I awake? I will seek it yet again (the drunkard returns to his drink).

Proverbs 23:29-35

In this case, what leads the man astray? What leads him to the strange woman? What gives him all of this woe and sorrow, contentions and babblings? Is it “the devil,” “the serpent,” “Old Nick?” No, it is wine which bites you like a serpent. God is just telling you what happens if you drink too much wine. No supernatural Devil of the churches.

These next verses are speaking of actual snakes:

The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a serpent upon a rock. . .

Proverbs 30:19

He that diggeth a pit shall fall into it, and whoso breaketh an hedge, a serpent shall bite him.

Ecclesiastes 10:8

Surely the serpent will bite without enchantment; and a babbler is no better.

Ecclesiastes 10:11

Isaiah 27:1 refers to a great serpent:

In that day the Lord with his sore and great and strong sword shall punish leviathan the piercing serpent, even leviathan that crooked serpent. . .

Isaiah 27:1

Was There A Talking Snake In Genesis Three?

According to the context, Jeremiah 46:22, Amos 5:19, Amos 9:3 and Micah 7:17 are speaking of natural serpents or snakes. This brings us to another remarkable conclusion: if you would study each and every one of the references in the Old Testament, in every case where “nachash” is translated “serpent” (with the possible exception of Genesis 3), it refers to actual snakes or serpents. The question is: could the serpent of Genesis 3, like all the other cases, be an actual serpent? Would God use “nachash” in every other case to refer to either a serpent or what a serpent did and then, in Genesis 3, use it to mean some supernatural archangel who had come down from heaven in order to seduce Eve? Some say it can't be an actual snake because serpents can't talk.

Numbers 22 contains another familiar story. Salaam has been hired by Salak to curse Israel:

And Balaam rose up in the morning, and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab. And God's anger was kindled because he went: and the angel of the Lord stood in the way for an adversary (sawtawn) against him. Now he was riding upon his ass, and his two servants were with him. And the ass saw the angel of the Lord standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned aside out of the way, and went into the field: and Balaam smote the ass, to turn her into the way. But the angel of the Lord stood in a path of the vineyards, a wall being on this side, and a wall on that side. And when the ass saw the angel of the Lord, she thrust herself unto the wall, and crushed Balaam's foot against

the wall: and he smote her again. And the angel of the Lord went further, and stood in a narrow place, where was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left. And when the ass saw the angel of the Lord, she fell down under Balaam: and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he smote the ass with a staff.

Numbers 22:21-27

Balaam is having a hard time. Apparently, he doesn't see the angel, but the donkey does.

And the Lord opened the mouth of the ass, and she (THE DONKEY) said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times? And Balaam said unto the ass, Because thou hast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee.

Numbers 22:28-29

Can you imagine this man sitting on this donkey, talking back to it? He says, "If I had a sword I would kill you!"

And the ass said unto Balaam, Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? And he said, Nay.

Numbers 22:30

The donkey is sticking up for herself. She is explaining why she kept disobeying.

Then the Lord opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face.

Numbers 22 :31

If a donkey can be given the power of speech by God, then there is equal argument for the serpent of Genesis 3 to have the same ability. This feat is, at least, as believable as a snake being some sort of a fallen angel.

As I studied these things out and began to put things together, I was a little bit shocked at what I found. In almost every instance when preachers use words from the Old Testament to preach of this great archangel, fallen angel, devil called Satan, these preachers mean something other than what the Bible actually says. In only two instances in the Bible could we, with any reasonable honesty, say it refers to a supernatural angel who has power over men — and it is not an adversary nor a snake.

In all of the Old Testament Scripture, "nachash" means a literal snake or a symbol of a real snake. To teach that the serpent of Genesis 3 is anything other than a literal snake, which has been given the power of speech by God, is really speculation or opinion.

We have given no "due" to the serpent, here and we can give no "due" to the devil. In fact, the Old Testament, as I mentioned earlier, the word "devil" (singular) is not even there. It is there only in the plural (devils).

The Comet Kohoutek — An Analogy

I'd like to remind you of something that happened some years ago. This may have been God giving us an event that should have made us think, and it should make us think now. Some of you remember the comet Kohoutek. According to Howard Rand's article, Kohoutek came from the vicinity of the great snake con-

stellation, Hydra. If you recall, the astronomers, in scores of magazines and newspaper articles and on television, told us that Kohoutek would be the “comet of the century.” It was supposed to be something so brilliant that once it passed the sun and started on its return journey to the heavens, we would all be able to see it.

Ministers began to preach sermons about comet Kohoutek, calling it a sign in the heavens. I did a series on the radio about it, myself. Luckily, I waited until after it was over before doing the radio sermons on it. Perhaps God held me back.

Kohoutek was visible to the astronomers through their equipment as it went toward the sun. But, once it passed the sun instead of blazing out in many millions of miles of tail like they said it would, it disappeared.

Thousands of people on the West coast chartered an oceanliner to get away from the smog of Los Angeles so they could watch this blazing comet in the sky. They were going to have a party as they watched.

Remember that Kohoutek came from the constellation Hydra, as near as our astronomers could tell. What happened to it? When it got to the sun, which is symbolic of the Light of God's Word, it became a nothing. It disappeared. No one saw it again. The only people who saw Kohoutek as it returned to the heavens were astronomers with extremely-powerful tel-

escopes who could see it just before dawn and just before sunset if they happened to be in the right place. As far as I know, no naked human eye saw Kohoutek.

I wonder if the Devil of the churches is not some thing or some being which has been built up into a great and glorious symbol of light; — a “Lucifer,” who is worshipped by millions in the world. He is worshipped by many church people because of what the churches say he does, or can do. Perhaps when he gets to the Light of God's Word, or we shine the Light of God's Word on him, we'll discover that he is like the comet Kohoutek — he will disappear when the Light of God's Word comes.

Please withhold all of your consideration on the final solution to this problem because we have quite a bit more to study. Most people have come from churches which teach of a great “hell;” a place where the vast majority of mankind is taken by the millions and tortured for ever and for ever by the devil and his angels. By the study of God's Word, we have discovered that the “hell” of the churches, exists only in the minds of those who preach false doctrines. When you turn the Light of God's Word on “hell” it becomes what it is in the Bible, simply the grave or the place of the dead. Is it possible that when we turn the Light of God's Word on the king of that devilish kingdom, that king will disappear along with his kingdom?

Give The Devil His Due

Chapter 4

The Scapegoat

This is new ground and it may be the first time that some of you have heard these things. Allow me the opportunity to prove, or demonstrate from the Scriptures, some of the conclusions I have found.

As I stated earlier, the word “devil,” in the singular, is not found in the Old Testament. The plural, “devils,” is used four times. The first time is in Leviticus 17. In this chapter, the law of blood offerings is being set up:

And they shall no more offer their sacrifices unto devils, after whom they have gone a whoring. This shall be a statute for ever unto them throughout their generations.

Leviticus 17:7

We know from other parts of Scripture that when Israel was blamed for “going a whoring” they were following after other gods. Therefore, the word “devils” in this verse must refer to idols or other gods. In this verse, “devils” comes from the Hebrew word “saiyr” which in English is “satyr.” It is translated in other places as “goat” or “he-goat.”

They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not, to new gods that came newly up, whom your fathers feared not.

Deuteronomy 32:17

Again, the word “devils” stands for other gods. In this verse, “devils” comes from the Hebrew word “SHED” (pronounced shade). According to Strong's

Concordance, it comes from a root word meaning, literally, “a nothing.” In the New Testament, Paul said that the idols are nothing. There is no other God. So, these “no-gods” that Israel was worshipping are called “devils” in our English Bibles.

In 2 Chronicles, chapter 11, the kingdom has been divided:

And Rehoboam dwelt in Jerusalem, and built cities for defense in Judah.

2 Chronicles 11:5

Rehoboam remained king over the southern part of the Judah kingdom:

And the priests and the Levites that were in all Israel resorted to him out of all their coasts. For the Levites left their suburbs and their possession, and came to Judah and Jerusalem: for Jeroboam and his sons had cast them off from executing the priest's office unto the Lord:

2 Chronicles 11:13-14

Jeroboam, who was king over the northern kingdom, had cast out the true Levitical priests. These priests then went to Jerusalem. This is what Jeroboam did in the northern kingdom:

And he (Jeroboam) ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, and for the calves which he had made.

2 Chronicles 11:15

Here again this word “devils” is from the Hebrew word “saiyr” or “satyr,” meaning “he-goats” or a goat idol. Jeroboam set up golden calves in Samaria and pro-

claimed them as Israel's gods! Here Jeroboam proclaims priests for devils. What are they? False gods. They were inanimate idols of metal or stone. No life, no power, and yet called by the English translators "devils."

Referring to what Israel had done in Canaan land, we read this in Psalm 106:

They did not destroy the nations, concerning whom the Lord commanded them: But were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works. And they served their idols: which were a snare unto them. Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils (idols), And shed innocent blood, even the blood of their sons and of their daughters, whom they sacrificed unto the idols of Canaan: and the land was polluted with blood.

Psalm 106:34-37

What were the devils? They were the idols of the Canaanites, which Israel worshipped. The religion of Canaan was the worship of the Babylonian god, Baal.

The False Scapegoat

We have just read all four passages in the Old Testament where the word "devils" is used. In two of these passages "devils" comes from the Hebrew word "saiyr," which is "satyr" in English. "Satyr" is found about 20 times in the Old Testament. It is usually translated into the words "goat" or "he-goat" except for the two places we just read, where it is translated "devils."

Let's look at a few of the passages where "satyr" is translated "goat" or "he-goat":

When a ruler hath sinned, and done somewhat through ignorance against

any of the commandments of the Lord his God concerning things which should not be done, and is guilty; Or if his sin, wherein he hath sinned, come to his knowledge; he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats (satyr), a male without blemish: And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the goat (satyr) and kill it in the place where they kill the burnt offering before the Lord: it is a sin offering.

Leviticus 4:22-24

And it came to pass on the eighth day, that Moses called Aaron and his sons, and the elders of Israel; And he said unto Aaron, Take thee a young calf for a sin offering, and a ram (another word for a "he-goat") for a burnt offering, without blemish, and offer them before the Lord.

Leviticus 9:1-2

And he brought the people's offering, and took the goat (satyr), which was the sin offering for the people, and slew it, and offered it for sin, as the first. And he brought the burnt offering, and offered it according to the manner.

Leviticus 9:15-16

Chapter 16 of Leviticus contains the ordinance of the "scapegoat."

The Israelites would take a goat (satyr), lay their hand upon it and place all the sins of Israel upon the he-goat and then send the goat out into the wilderness. "Scapegoat" is the same word "satyr" which is translated "devils" in the two passages we read earlier. In other words, devils were something on which you could lay (or blame) your sins. And by putting the goat away your sins were taken away. God accused Israel of having false devils (satyrs or he-goats) which they blamed for their sins. They worshipped the false dev-

ils instead of the true God of Israel. Isn't this interesting? Many people do just about this same thing with the devil of the churches. They say, "The Devil made me do it; it's his fault. He's the one that tempted me." They put away their sins by charging them to a devil.

Several years ago, one of the so-called "patriotic," "anti-communist" ministers was charged with, and admitted to, homosexual acts with some of the students at his, supposedly, patriotic Christian college. About a year or so later he went back and began work for the same organization. He still works for them. At that time he made the remark that his trouble had all been caused by being tempted by the devil. He said that now he was going to fight the Devil and not do this sin anymore. However, God lays the charge of sin at the individual's door, not at the door of "the Devil"

So, "the Devil" is a made-up, false, scapegoat, which people claim is responsible for their sin. Israel's idols were called "devils" by the translators because that is the meaning of the word.

Myth And Idolatry

In the following passage, God is speaking to the children of Israel:

Fear ye not, neither be afraid: have not I told thee from that time, and have declared it? ye are even my witnesses. Is there a God beside me? yea, there is no god; I know not any. They that make a graven image are all of them vanity; and their delectable things shall not profit; and they are their own witnesses; they see not, nor know; that they may be ashamed. Who hath formed a god, or molten a graven image that is profitable for nothing? Behold, all his fellows shall be

ashamed: and the workmen, they are of men: let them all be gathered together, let them stand up; yet they shall fear, and they shall be ashamed together.

Isaiah 44:8-11

He continues challenging Israel to try and get their no gods (idols) to stand up and do something. He tells them their "no gods" (idols) can't hear, they can't see, they can't do anything.

I am the Lord, and there is none else, there is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is none beside me. I am the Lord, and there is none else. I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things.

Isaiah 45:5-7

The song of Moses also speaks of these "no gods,"

For the Lord shall judge his people, and repent himself for his servants, when he seeth that their power is gone, and there is none shut up, or left. And he shall say, Where are their gods, their rock in whom they trusted, Which did eat the fat of their sacrifices, and drank the wine of their drink offerings? let them rise up and help you, and be your protection. See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand. For I lift up my hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever.

Deuteronomy 32:36-40

God is saying that He does all of these things and none can deliver out of His

hands. Yet, we have among us a religion professing that there is an almost everliving creature called, “the Devil” or “Satan” who takes billions of people out of God’s hands. This “Devil” then takes them to his own kingdom and tortures them for ever and ever because they are sinners. But, that is not what God says.

The Old Testament Gives The Devil No “Due”

In the Old Testament, we have found nothing on which we could base the Devil or the Satan of the churches. We’ve read every passage where the words “devil” and “Satan” occur. Of the nine passages in the Old Testament where we found “sawtawn” (the word transliterated “Satan” part of the time), eight of the passages can easily be shown to refer either to God, His angels, or to specific men. In only one place is there a possibility of some sort of devil who might have used some sort of hocus pocus and might have given Job boils.

Of the 19 passages in the Old Testament where the word “serpent” is used, 18 of them refer either to natural snakes or to a symbolic serpent. Only one of those 18 tells of any supernatural act. That, of course, would be Moses’ “brazen serpent.” In that case, people were healed by merely-looking upon it. Most people will admit that the healing must have been by the power of God — not by any power resident in the brazen serpent, itself. It certainly was not an act of the church’s “Devil.”

Of the 19 passages where the word “serpent” is used, one passage is in Genesis, chapter three, where the serpent spoke. If it was a real snake, then, that is a supernatural act in itself. Since all of the other Old Testament passages where

the word “serpent” is used refer to either snakes or symbols of snakes. We have more authority and more reason to state that the serpent of Genesis, chapter three, was a snake given the power of words or voice by God than we have of labeling him an angelic being.

We have found a few instances in the Old Testament where either the English word “devils” or the Hebrew word, which is translated, “devils” is used, and they are stone or metal images. It might, also, be referring to a “scapegoat,” which is a goat upon which people lay or blame their sins; and then cast it off and claim they are not at fault for their own sins. In two passages it has that meaning, and in the other case, it comes from something else meaning an idol.

The devils of the Old Testament do not speak, they do not think, they do not do anything. We can give the devil no “due” out of his mention in the Old Testament. In truth, there is nothing in the Old Testament scriptures on which we can base any creature; such as the Satan of the denominational churches or of what are called the “Seedline” churches.

The True Biblical Devil

Before we get into the New Testament, I wish to quote from James:

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

James 1:13-15

What is the tempter? It is man's own lust or desire.

From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

James 4:1-2

James is writing to Israel, as we can see by reading the first verse of chapter one:

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

James 1:1

What is the devil that is to be resisted? He is described in the following passage:

Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

James 4:3-7

“The spirit that dwelleth in us”! That is what we are to “resist,” The lust that dwelleth in our own members is what James says is our problem.

Hebrews, chapter eight, is about God giving a New Testament:

For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

Hebrews 8:7-8

Who was at fault? Was it some devil who tempted Israel to break the Old Covenant? No, God said the fault was with Israel. He laid the charge of sin or transgression of the Old Covenant at Israel's door.

Jeremiah 17 is a fairly well-known passage of Scripture, which bears repeating at this point:

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give everyman according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Jeremiah 17:9-10

If we take that literally, we could read it to mean that the heart of man is the most deceitful and wicked thing upon the earth. It is not some angelic, everliving, omnipresent spirit that is deceitful above all things. God says it is the heart of man. We should have recognized some of these things before!

A Deceptive “Doctrine Of (About) Devils”

Most of us grew up learning and believing in the “hell” of the churches. We believed, I suppose because everyone else

we knew believed, that most of mankind at death went in a conscious state to a place of fire and brimstone and pain and torture. We were taught that those still-living “dead” spent eternity screaming in pain, while the Devil and his angels danced about them and poked them with pitchforks or mocked them. You've read some of the descriptions - they are horrible! We were told that all of this torture and pain is a just punishment for those wretched people because they had either never heard of Jesus Christ, or they had



heard of Him, but had rejected the call given by some minister, who had spent his whole life trying to “save their souls from hell.” They had not “accepted Christ as their personal Saviour” and, thus, could not escape “hellfire.” Consequently, all of these souls were there in righteous judgment. All of this punishment was Scriptural. It was for the sin of unbelief. They had not believed their minister, when he had come in his compassion and tried to “save their soul.” Through study in God's Word and through the grace and favor of God Almighty, we have found that teaching to be totally-false! It has no foundation in the Holy Scripture. It is, literally, a “doctrine of devils”; a pagan superstition and not Christian truth.

Apparently, some ministers (including myself) must be a little thicker headed than most because they (and I) should have begun to realize the truth. When the truth about “hell” was given to us by God Almighty and we found it didn't even exist, we should have begun to suspect

that the, so-called, king of that kingdom didn't exist either. But I guess sometimes it takes years for us to understand. I apologize for having taken years before I began to suspect that the churches might have been lying to us on this subject.

Here is a little of what I told a dear Baptist lady several years ago, more or less in desperation, when she refused to listen to my attempt to convince her that the “pretribulation rapture” was a false doctrine. First I quoted Matthew 24 to her:

*And as he sat upon the mount of Olives, the disciples came unto him privately, saying, Tell us, when shall these things be? and what shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the world? And Jesus answered and said unto them, (and then I pointed out to her that this was the first thing Jesus said) **Take heed that no man deceive you.***

Matthew 24:3-4

Christ's first warning about the end of the age was a warning of deception. Christ said:

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

Matthew 24:24

So, at the end of this age there would be tremendous deception. I, then, quoted verse five to her to demonstrate the quarter from which that deception would come.

For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ (saying that Jesus is the Christ); and shall deceive many.

Matthew 24:5

I said to that dear lady: “If Jesus was saying that the greatest deceptions would come through those who come in Jesus' name and preach that Jesus is the Christ. then that would mean that any doctrine taught by the majority of the churches and believed by any large number of the people was probably false and should at least be investigated.

But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

2 Timothy 3:13-17

In speaking of the Old Testament Scriptures, Timothy says they will correct you; they will give you the truth.

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears (preaching what the people want to hear); And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.

2 Timothy 4:1-4

Timothy was saying the same thing that Jesus said - that people will willingly be deceived by false doctrines.

The doctrine of “burning hell” (eternal life in a state of torture) is taught by many churches and believed by many people. With the criteria given us by the New Testament, that doctrine came under suspicion. We did investigate and found that it is false. The “rapture” doctrine is similar. It is now taught by tens of thousands of ministers, believed by millions. Using the same judgment, we investigated and found that it is, also, false. The churches claim there is a supernatural, omnipresent, omniscient Devil, or Satan, who is everywhere on Earth at once; and, at the same time, present in hell, torturing millions of living dead and is the creature who, they claim, will give his power to some future anti-Christ. That doctrine is taught by most of the churches, believed by millions and, therefore, it should be held in suspicion. We've, also, investigated this and found it to be false. The Devil or Satan of the churches is brought to question by the same deductions we used for our investigations of “hell,” the “rapture” and the “anti-Christ.” That is the reason why we are investigating this doctrine of a Supernatural Devil.

The False Doctrine Called “Seedline”

I pray you are beginning to see that the common church doctrine of “the Devil or Satan” has no foundation in the Old Testament, at all. It simply is not there. That creature cannot be found in the first 800 pages of my 1000 page Bible.

Getting back to the Satan / Eve controversy — we are left with a strange creature called a serpent, who carried on an audible conversation with Eve. Eve

blamed this serpent for her own disobedience of God's command. The question remains: are the Kingdom-Identity ministers, who teach this doctrine (a supernatural being called Satan, seducing Eve and producing Cain) actually-teaching Bible truth or are they teaching that which we have found to be false? They say that the beguiling of Eve was her sexual union with "Satan" and that this supernatural creature fathered Cain. And they say, through Cain, there now exists millions of physical descendants of Satan on earth. According to this doctrine, these descendants are mostly human, but partly angelic in their nature. They are "wicked angels."

These Kingdom-Identity ministers insist that their teaching is different than the denominational churches. In fact, some of these ministers complain that the denominational churches have hidden this "truth" about Satan and Eve from the people. I claim that their teaching of what happened in the Garden, between the so-called serpent and Eve, is only slightly-different than most churches teach. Here are two similarities:

1. The angelic supernatural Satan of some Kingdom-Identity ministers is identical to that of the churches. He is a great and powerful angelic being whose life-span is thousands of years. He is indestructible, omnipresent, omniscient and he has the power to frustrate or to destroy almost all of God's plans and to capture almost all of God's creation. Their Satan is identical to the typical Satan of the churches for whom we have found no basis in the Old Testament.

2. These Kingdom-Identity ministers claim that their sexual interpretation of what happened in the Garden is an event which is different than that taught by the churches. Again, that is not true. Almost

every church denomination in Christendom, allows it's members to think of "the fall" in the Garden as sexual in nature, even if they do not overtly-teach that doctrine. Have you ever heard a denominational minister tell you that the sin in the Garden was not sexual? By default the denominations leave their members with the belief in a false doctrine. Some churches, such as the Mormon Church, overtly teach that the event in the Garden of Eden was sexual in nature. They teach that the serpent was Satan and that he physically-seduced Eve and produced a child from this connection. This doctrine is, also, taught in the ancient Babylonian Mysteries.

I have a book in my possession entitled *The Two Seeds of Genesis 3:15*. This book was put out by Dan Gayman (of Missouri) in an attempt to answer and refute my teaching on the event in the Garden of Eden. I want to quote, briefly, from this to prove to you that men who teach this false doctrine know that it was taught as one of the foundation doctrines of ancient Babylon. *The Mystery Religions of Babylon* taught that Satan seduced Eve. Dan Gayman says, on page 25:

"Now for those who may feel that the two seed-lines, that of the Serpent and that of the woman, Eve, cannot be valid because it is a teaching that is preserved in the Mystery Religions of Babylon, please take note: the Mystery Religions of ancient Babylon have taken nearly every Bible truth, including that of the seedlines, and have corrupted this truth to fit their own particular purposes. If you would reject the teaching that Satan produced offspring, if you deny the literal announcement of your God in Genesis 3:15, simply because it is something found in the ancient religions of Babylon, then you must also reject such fundamental truths as the virgin birth, the resurrection, the Godhead, astronomy, the Holy Laws of God and numerous other sound Bible truths because all of these, and more, have been borrowed and perverted, distorted and corrupted by the ancient religions of Babylon."

“The two seedlines, the teaching that the Serpent did father seed, in varying forms, is like many other Bible truths inculcated into these pagan religions. This does not lessen the truth of what the Bible says about the seed line or any other Bible truth that has been borrowed by the pagan religions.”

Dan Gayman correctly-says that pagan religions take Bible truths and corrupt them or pervert them. But, he turns right around and says that Babylon's version of the event in the Garden is NOT corrupted, it is NOT perverted. He says it is truth. Dan Gayman's teaching, and the teaching of other ministers who preach this “seedline,” is not different from Babylon's teaching — it is IDENTICAL! It is true that Babylon does take other doctrines of the Bible and teach them differently. I agree with him on that. His error is that he does not see that Babylon teaches the same as what he teaches. It is not changed, therefore, he should see that the teaching that Satan seduced Eve is a perverted teaching from Babylon.

I must state that I am not picking on Dan Gayman, alone. His teachings are almost identical to those of possibly ten other men.

On another page, Gayman says this:

“You will find, upon careful examination, that the literal truth of Genesis 3:15 (and by that he means that Satan seduced Eve and produced Cain) has been a solid building block in the foundation of Christian theology from the writings of the Old Testament, the teachings of Jesus Christ, Himself, and the apostles after Him, and by the early church fathers during the first centuries A.D.”

He is saying the doctrine of Satan seducing Eve is “a truth” of the Babylonian Mysteries, and that this same “truth” is the foundation of Christianity. Think what that means and what he, and others like him, have done. They are telling us that Christianity springs from

the same “truth” that was taught as the foundation of the Mystery Religions of Babylon.

My Bible says no such thing!

Most seedline preachers, including Gayman, also teach that we were “spirit beings” in heaven prior to coming to earth. They believe that we had a preexistence with God, and then we came to earth where we occupy a physical body for a short span of years, and when we die we go back to heaven to be with God. That is almost identical to the churches' teaching that we have an “immortal soul” and we can't die. That is, also, the doctrine of the ancient Babylonian Mysteries, which taught that we preexisted in heaven, came to earth, and go back to heaven at death.

People have told me that we need “unity” in the Kingdom-Identity movement. They say I should play down this Satan / Eve thing because “we need unity not division.” I say this: the division is already there. The religion taught by Dan Gayman and the seedline preachers is not my religion. It is an entirely-different religion. It has no foundation in the Bible, it has no foundation in truth, it is a corrupt, Babylonian religion. It is not Kingdom Gospel. I claim the Word of God refutes him. I claim the Word of God teaches no preexistence. I claim the Word of God teaches no existence after death until the blessed hope: the resurrection of the dead. And, I claim the Word of God teaches no such wicked, angelic being existed, or ever planted a seed in Eve's womb and produced a race of people upon the earth. I claim God Almighty is the sole and only Creator. He created wicked people for His purpose. No Devil or Satan ever disrupted God's plans.

Give The Devil His Due

Chapter 5

The War In Heaven Revelation 12

The only link in the Bible (and it is a rather nebulous one) between the serpent of Genesis three and the Satan of the churches is in Revelation twelve. There, both the terms “serpent” and “Satan” are used to describe one entity. This passage is the one that is used to make the connection between the serpent of Genesis three and Satan or the devil.

And there was a war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Revelation 12:7-9

We've already seen that the word “serpent” is used 19 times in the Old Testament. Of those 19 times, it refers 18 times either to actual snakes or to something that is a symbol of a snake. It does not refer to any angelic being. Is it possible that the serpent of Genesis three could also be a snake or at least a symbol of something that would be an actual snake? Let's read on:

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 the death. Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

Revelation 12:10-12

Many sermons are still preached about this “great Devil,” who has been “cast down from God's abode to the earth.” Some ministers say the Devil runs around on the earth like a roaring lion, snatching as many souls as he can (and they give him billions of them), taking them down to his abode under the earth: a place of fire and brimstone. According to these ministers, that is what is being shown here in Revelation twelve. Some say that the serpent of Revelation 12 is, also, the serpent of Genesis three. But, is it possible that there is an error in the basic interpretation of where this battle took place? Let's back up and read the beginning of Revelation 12:

And there appeared a great wonder (a great sign) in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars: And she being with child cried, travailing in birth, and pained to be delivered.

Revelation 12:1-2

Remember, John was seeing VISIONS. Where did the woman appear? She

appeared in heaven. Most of us accept the interpretation that the woman is representative of Israel. Where is Israel? Is Israel up in God's abode in heaven or is Israel upon the earth? John saw the woman in the same place he saw the dragon.

And there appeared another wonder (or sign) in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

Revelation 12:3-4

To John, both of these visions are seen as in heaven. If the dragon is in heaven, or the abode of God, then the woman also would have to be there. Yet, we know the woman symbolizes Israel. She was going to have a child and we know that child is Jesus the Christ, born through the nation of Israel. The dragon was going to devour her child as soon as it was born.

In verse four, it says that the dragon's tail "drew the third part of the stars of heaven and did cast them to the earth." One of our speakers at the last conference made it rather plain, by giving us some statistics, that those stars, up in the heavens, are many millions of times the size of this earth. So, "the stars" cast out of this "heaven" were not the stars of the universe. If they had been actual stars, then the earth would have been destroyed many times. So, heaven here is something different than the heaven of the skies.

Let's look at the description of this dragon. We read, in verse nine of chapter 12, that he was called "that old serpent," "the Devil," and "Satan" and he "deceived

the earth." In verse three, it says that the dragon appeared to John as a "great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads." Obviously, this represented something definite — something real - but, something other than a literal devil that looked like a dragon. Let's go on to chapter 13:

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

Revelation 13:1

If you read the rest of the chapter, you find that this beast represents great world powers which rose up out of the sea (or out of the nations) and ruled on the earth for a period of time. We are not talking about something that is in outer space. We are talking about something that is here on earth. Jesus Christ made it plain that the Kingdom of Heaven is on the earth. The word "heaven" in this passage cannot, and does not, mean the abode of God, as we have been taught. This dragon was not up in the abode of God. It represented a ruling power on the earth.

This vision is repeated in Revelation 17. In the following verse, John is speaking of one of the seven angels of chapter 16:

So he (one of the seven angels) carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.

Revelation 17:3

This is that same beast which was described in Revelation 12. John describes the woman and tells us her name:

And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT. THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus; and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

Revelation 17:5-6

So, this woman is riding a beast with the same description as the one that is called “dragon,” “Satan,” and “that old serpent” in Revelation 12 and 13. This woman is named Babylon and she kills Christians. Are the Christians killed in some far-away heaven? No, they are killed here on the earth.

And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. 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 of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.

Revelation 17:7-8

John is describing something that the inhabitants of the earth will see and at which they will wonder. Where will it be seen? Here on the earth.

And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.

Revelation 17:9

We know from Bible prophecy that “mountains” are nations.

And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

Revelation 17:10

What is John describing? He is describing the heads of the beast, and he says they are kings. Are the kings in some far-away heaven? No, they are someplace here on the earth.

And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

Revelation 17:12

And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

Revelation 17:18

This woman is riding a red beast. The angel tells John that the woman is that great city, or that great system, called Babylon, which reigns over the beast she is riding. What is the beast? It represents the kingdoms of the earth. This great dragon, this Satan, is not in a far-away heaven. It is a great world-ruling system of kings and nations here on the earth. When it is “cast down,” it is destroyed or its power is broken by the blood of Jesus.

The war in heaven was not fought in some far-away abode of God with an angelic being who rebelled against God. This war is what is going on here; on the earth between the kings of the earth and the people they are killing, who are called the martyrs of Jesus. The beast, these heads and this woman are all adversaries or opponents of Christian Israel. It is not some angelic being. It is not an omnipresent, supernatural angel who can have sexual relations with a woman and produce a child. This war in heaven is the

war in the kingdom of heaven on the earth, which we have seen, and which all nations of the world and all people of the world are looking at in wonder — just as the angel told John they would.

This Vision Is Also Found In Daniel Seven

The visions that Daniel had are counterparts of the visions of John in the Book of Revelation.

After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

Daniel 7:7

Daniel wanted to know what the beast was so he asked the angel, who then described it in some detail. Here is a portion of that description:

Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise:

Daniel 7:23-24

What is this fourth beast? It is the “sawtawn” or “Satan” of Revelation 12, which is a great world power. It is called “the dragon,” “that old serpent,” “the Devil,” and “Satan,” it is something that destroys or fights against God's Christian Israel but it is not an omnipresent, omniscient, angelic being.

We have seen that the word “sawtawn” is a Chaldean word meaning adversary or opponent. What was John seeing in his vision in Revelation? He was seeing the same thing that Daniel saw in his visions: the great enemies (plural) of God's people, Israel. In Revelation it speaks of the battle between those kingdoms and God's Christian Israel as a “war in heaven.” Unfortunately, our people have taken that to mean that there were angels up there (in a physical heaven) who rebelled against God and were cast down to the earth. No, that dragon, Satan, or those angels, are not supernatural. They are kings and empires! Whenever we see something which fits the description of Satan or “sawtawn,” it is simply an enemy, an opponent, or an adversary.

One Anti-Christ Or Many?

You have heard the doctrine of the single, great anti-Christ who, supposedly, will appear at some future time and take control of the earth. John wrote of this event 1900 years ago:

Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that anti-Christ shall come, even now are there many anti-Christ; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us: for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

1 John 2:18-19

John says there were anti-Christ's (plural) over 1900 years ago and they had been with his people and then had come out from them.

Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is antiChrist, that denieth the Father and the Son.

1 John 2:22

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every' spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antiChrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

1 John 4:1-3

Then, in 2 John, we read:

For many deceivers are entered into the world, who confess not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh. This is a deceiver and an anti-Christ.

2 John 7

Here again we find many anti-Christ. We have seen, from previous studies, that there are millions of people upon the earth who can be identified, today and in the past, as anti-Christ — plural. Collectively we would call them anti-Christ — singular.

Symbols Of The Anti-Christ

In the Book of Revelation, John saw a vision of a great conglomeration of enemies of “the woman,” Israel. They were shown as one creature, but this one dragon represented many creatures. The dragon stood for many human beings who were anti-Christian and, therefore, anti-Christ. So, this dragon stood for not one individual; but a whole multitude of people, just as the phrase, “anti-Christ” stands for a great multitude of people — not just one person. We could say that the dragon is, also, the anti-Christ but, in both cases the anti-Christ is many people, not just one, and they are not angelic.

These anti-Christ are human beings who are the adversaries of Christian Israel.

In the case of Revelation 12, the word “serpent” is from “ophis” which means “sharpness of vision.” The literal meaning is “a sly or cunning creature,” and colloquial use has given it the title “snake” or a “serpent.” So this whole body of millions of enemies of the children of Israel could really be called, “a serpent,” because they are sly, cunning, deceiving people, who are attempting to destroy Christian Israel. It doesn't make them angelic and it doesn't make them literal snakes. The word “serpent” is a figurative word.

In John's statement about the anti-Christ, and in the visions of John about the dragon, those entities represent large numbers of human beings. The people, who are the kings of the earth, are humans. The people who support those kings and who fight Christians are human. Yet, instead, we are told by ministers that this is all some sort of an angelic being, or angelic creature.

False Doctrine Blinds Eyes To Reality

In order to destroy most of the falsehoods that have deceived our people, we must find out what the Bible does NOT teach. That is a rather staggering job because you must go to all of the verses that these teachers of falsehoods use and individually examine each verse.

Christendom is under attack, as we saw earlier from reading chapter 2 of Matthew. Jesus warned that the major deception of God's people would come from men who come preaching Jesus Christ. Who teaches that there is such a place as a burning hell, where millions will live and scream in pain for eternity? Who teaches that the Jews are Israel and that we are not Israelites? Who teaches the

rapture or removal of the Christians from the earth before the anti-Christ comes? Who teaches that the reign of anti-Christ is future, after we leave? **MINISTERS!** Because our people hear those doctrines from so many ministers they assume those doctrines are in the Bible. None of those doctrines are in the Bible! Every one of them is a pagan superstition or the invention of men. Yet, they are taught to us by ministers; therefore, people assume they are from the Bible.

Let me pose a theory: If the ministers did not teach that the anti-Christ was future, our people would recognize the anti-Christ is here now. If the ministers did not teach the Jews are God's Chosen People, and that God will injure you if you injure the Jews, many of our people would be demanding that Jewish criminals be rooted out and punished or exiled from the land. If the ministers did not teach the Christians will be raptured, many of those Christians would be concerned about saving America. If the ministers did not teach that Satan is a great wicked power who dominates the earth, many of our people would recognize that those who seek to dominate the earth are **MEN**.

I've heard ministers go to great lengths to explain the great rule of "the future anti-Christ world power." They describe how Russia is gathering nations under it. They describe how the ten nations of the European Common Market are gathering together and that these nations are going to be the seat of the anti-Christ. These ministers describe other wicked things upon the earth, but they always say that it is part of a "future anti-Christ world system." If, instead of that, they were to describe that same event and tell you those things are happening because certain living men are preparing to destroy us; the reaction from our people would be entirely different,

would it not? Instead of people saying that it is all prophesied and is going to come to pass, and it is that angelic, evil spirit of Satan that is bringing it all about, they would recognize that it is being done by men. But, who conditioned the minds of our people to believe in a super natural Satan? It was the ministers in the pulpits of America.

All of our Christian people are left in a position of laying the blame for all evil on a so-called spirit-being that they have been taught is called the Devil or Satan. They do not lay the blame on individual human beings who could be corrected or eliminated. This devilish doctrine has kept our people from even desiring to learn about the men who are our enemies. If people knew that there was no such creature as this Satan of the churches, they would understand that the things happening against Christendom are being carried out by **MEN**. Most of these men are Jewish, such as: the Rothschilds, the Rockefellers, the Morgans, the Sassoons, the Kuhn-Loebs and a hundred other Jewish international bankers or conspirators. They are human beings who are working out a plan to destroy Christians. But, instead, our people think in terms of a nebulous spirit-being of some sort. They are prevented from rational thought by the doctrines taught by the churches.

The Catholic Church is a good example of how a false teaching is used to conquer people and to prevent those same people from learning who is conquering them. For centuries the Catholic church has taught that you must come to their church and bow down to it and its precepts or else the Devil will take you and burn you in hell for ever and ever. People are so fearful of the Devil that they accept conquest by the Catholic Church because their eyes are turned in the wrong direction. This goes on and on.

WHO IS THE DUMMY?



What is it that destroys our people? It is nothing but a beclouding and confusing of the truth of God. The truth is that most plans, attacks, and efforts to destroy America and Christendom come from men who can be identified and exposed; men who can be stopped by the righteous anger of Christians operating under the laws of God. But, instead, our minds have been conditioned to always fight the shadow — never the reality. That is why ministers spend a lot of time preaching against pornography and alcohol. They should be naming and preaching against the pornographers. Ministers should not oppose alcohol — they should oppose the men who make and promote it. The same thing is true of almost everything that is corrupting this country. The ministers

have been conditioned, or they have conditioned the people, to oppose the act, but never the individuals who are performing that act. By the time you get to the national scale, they have taken all of the national crimes, the international crimes, and the murder of Christians and they have laid the blame at the door of some nebulous spirit being called Satan, the Devil, dragon, anti-Christ, or something like that. They do not lay the blame at the door of anti-Christ MEN.

1900 years ago, John said: "Even now there are many anti-Christ." Who has conditioned the minds of Christian people to think only of the shadow and never the reality? The men in the pulpits of America! They've done it with those false doctrines.

Martin Luther, and others, broke the power of the Roman Catholic Church over our Israel people by proving that the doctrines of that church were false. I believe that the way we, today, as God's people and God's ministers, are going to break the power of the enemy over us, is by proving that their doctrines are false doctrines:

Jesus Christ said: "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32). Our people are being conquered because their minds first were conquered by false doctrines taught by ministers in churches. The Red Bolshevik enemy and the Jewish international bankers could never have gotten as far in their power over America as they have, except for the fact that the minds of our people have been beclouded by ministers teaching false doctrines. One of those false doctrines is that there exists such a thing as a great, evil, archangel who has power to tempt the minds of men all over the earth at one time.

Is "Lucifer" Really Satan?

Let's examine the word "Lucifer" now. Lucifer is mentioned in Isaiah:

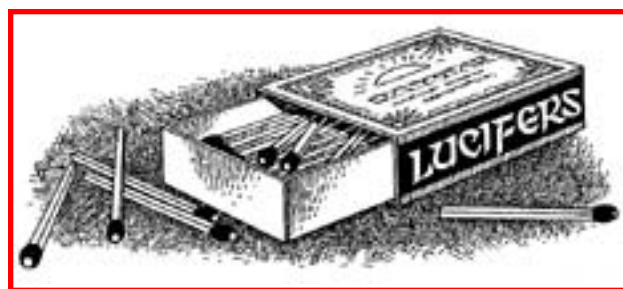
How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

Isaiah 14:12-15

This seems to be God talking to Lucifer. In many cases, people call Satan, this great archangel, by the name of Lucifer. There are people who worship the devil and call him by the name of Lucifer. Amazingly enough, the only place you find the name Lucifer in the Bible is in this one passage you just read. Lucifer is a Latin word replacing the Hebrew word "heylel" which means "the morning star" (in the sense of brightness). Lucifer is a Latin word which means "bright" or "fire" and it is equivalent to the Greek word "phosphorus," which means "light bearer." Some older people might remember that the early matches, made with phosphorus, were called "Lucifers." You used to be able to go into the store and buy a box of "Lucifers."

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:

2 Peter 1:19



The words "day star" come from the Greek word "phosphoros" which means "light-bearer" or "morning star." It can only refer to Jesus Christ, because, in Revelation 22, Jesus says:

I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.

Revelation 22:16

The day star or the bright and morning star in the New Testament refers only to Jesus Christ. It is a title or a subtitle.

In Isaiah 14:12, if you'll look at the margin in some Bibles, there is a number by the word Lucifer and the margin reads "day star." So, Isaiah 14:12 should read: "How art thou fallen from heaven, O day star, son of the morning"!

Isaiah 14 — The True Story

You have to understand how God is speaking to this "day star," or "Lucifer," in order to understand what He means. This whole thing is sarcasm. Let's go back to verse four, where the Lord is speaking to the prophet.

That thou shalt take up this proverb (taunting speech) against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased!

Isaiah 14:4

The king of Babylon is a man. He is not a god or an archangel, he is a man. The prophet was to use "taunting speech," or sarcasm, when speaking to this king of Babylon.

The Lord hath broken the staff of the wicked, and the sceptre of the rulers. He who smote the people in wrath with a continual stroke, he that ruled the nations in anger, is persecuted, and none hindereth. The whole earth is at rest, and is quiet: they brake forth into singing. Yea, the fir trees rejoice at thee, and the cedars of Lebanon, saying, Since thou art laid down, no feller is come up against us.

Isaiah 14:5-8

This is speaking of the destruction of the empire of Babylon. The king of

Babylon is being told that the earth will rejoice when he is destroyed.

Hell (the grave) from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming: it stirreth up the dead for thee, even all the chief ones of the earth; it hath raised up from their thrones all the kings of the nations. All they shall speak and say unto thee, Art thou also become weak as we? art thou become like unto us?

Isaiah 14:9-10

The dead kings are asking this great and mighty king of Babylon if he is going to become a dead king like they are.

Thy pomp is brought down to the grave, and the noise of thy viols: the worm is spread under thee, and the worms cover thee. How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer (day star), son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

Isaiah 14:11-12

What did the king of Babylon fall from? He fell from world power. Heaven does not always refer to the abode of God. It sometimes refers to world power.

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 14:13-14

God is saying that this king of Babylon wants to set himself up above God. This is sarcasm or taunting. God is saying, in essence, "you think you are the day star, you think you are the Christ, you think

you are the great ruler and God of the earth.” He is talking to a man. He is not talking to some archangel at all.

Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell (sheol or the grave), to the sides of the pit. They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms:

Isaiah 14:15-16

Even though Babylon ruled over all of the known world at that time, God is taunting this king and telling him that he is not a christ, he is not a great ruler. God says this king is a mortal man and he will be brought down to death and to the grave.

That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners? All the kings of the nations, even all of them, lie in glory, every one in his own house. But thou art cast out of thy grave like an abominable branch, and as the raiment of those that are slain, thrust through with a sword, that go down to the stones of the pit; as a carcass trodden under feet. Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people: the seed of evildoers shall never be renowned. Prepare slaughter for his children for the iniquity of their fathers (this king had children); that they do not rise, nor possess the land, nor fill the face of the world with cities. For I will rise up against them, saith the Lord of hosts, and cut off from Babylon the name, and remnant, and son, and nephew, saith the Lord. I will also make it a possession for the bittern, and pools of water: and I will sweep it with the besom of destruction, saith

the Lord of hosts. The Lord of hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand:

Isaiah 14:17-24

If you look at the context of this prophecy, the probability is that it was fulfilled in the destruction of Belshazer, king of Babylon, when the Babylonian empire was taken over by the Medes and Persians. If you read on in Isaiah, you will find that Assyria was the next empire which was broken by God.

Again, Isaiah 14:4 is the only place in the Bible where the word “Lucifer” is used. Yet we have people who call themselves “Luciferians,” who worship a nebulous, angelic, supernatural being, which they say is their god. The truth of the matter is that the word “Lucifer” shouldn't even be in the Bible, it is an error — a mistranslation. So, what do we have? Well, we have the same thing with Lucifer that we had with “sawtan” or Satan. When we examine the Bible passages where these words are used, we are left with nothing that cannot be fulfilled by a mortal man or mortal men.

I am convinced that one of the major reasons church-going people today are not rising up in anger against the men who are defiling and destroying our nation is because ministers have convinced them to look at an archangel or a spirit-being who they say is causing all the trouble. They are taught to be angry at the devil instead of the men who are destroying us. This weapon against us is one of the most iniquitous and effective weapons the enemy has ever devised. We are made to think that our enemies are motivated by something which is supernatural when the truth of the matter is they are motivated by anger and hatred against us, and they are men.

Give The Devil His Due

Chapter 6

Ezekiel 28

We haven't given the devil very much "due," thus far. However, you will soon see that he does have some credit coming for something. The problem is not so much as to what "due" the devil has, but to what the devil is. I intend to identify a scriptural devil that God has given us.

The following passage is used to support the doctrine of a great fallen angel, who was perfect in heaven until he became full of iniquity and was cast out:

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: thy 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.

Ezekiel 28:13-16

At this point, many people have converted this creature into a super natural archangel. They fail to read and understand verse 12:

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.

Ezekiel 28:12

This addresses a king of an historical city named, Tyrus (the Latin spelling of Tyre). God is using taunting sarcasm as He did when speaking to the king of Babylon, in Isaiah 14. God is saying to the king of Tyrus: "You think you are some great one, full of beauty and wisdom and precious stones." We recognize that when He talks of "the multitude of thy merchandise," He is talking about a great, mercantile city. From history we know that Tyre was, literally, the New York of the Eastern Mediterranean. It traded with all the nations in that part of the world and had become very wealthy.

God even calls this king of Tyre an "anointed cherub." It is not necessarily wrong to call a man that. In Isaiah 45, God calls king Cyrus of Persia "the Lord's anointed." That doesn't make Cyrus into an angelic being. We recognize that God, according to Daniel, is the One who puts men in positions of power. God makes men kings or rulers, so the king of Tyre was anointed of God just like Saul and David were. That does not make any king an archangel or Satan. If we read the beginning of the prophecy, we will find this is true.

The word of the Lord came again unto me, saying, Now, thou son of man, take up a lamentation for Tyrus (or Tyre); And say unto Tyrus, O thou that art situated at the entry of the

sea, which art a merchant of the people for many isles, Thus saith the Lord God; O Tyrus, thou hast said, I am of perfect beauty.

Ezekiel 27:1-3

Notice, at the very beginning God says that it is Tyre which says that it is beautiful. So, when He gets to the final part of the prophecy, it makes sense that God is using satire, or taunting, as He did in Isaiah 14. In Isaiah, we found that Lucifer wasn't really an angelic being but, instead, he was the king of a great city.

Thy borders are in the midst of the seas, thy builders have perfected thy beauty.

Ezekiel 27:4

Tyre was built on an island, which would make it “in the midst of the sea.” It was well known as a great and beautiful city.

The ships of Tarshish did sing of thee in thy market: and thou wast replenished, and made very glorious in the midst of the seas. Thy rowers have brought thee into great waters: the east wind hath broken thee in the midst of the seas. Thy riches, and thy fairs, thy merchandise, thy mariners, and thy pilots, thy calkers, and the occupiers of thy merchandise, and all thy men of war, that are in thee, and in all thy company which is in the midst of thee, shall fall into the midst of the seas in the day of thy ruin.

Ezekiel 27:25-27

Part of the destruction of Tyre came from the east. Tyre was destroyed by Alexander the Great. He and his men took the city apart stone by stone — and threw those stones into the sea. Tyre's remains are still there for man to see.

God is speaking of Tyre and its rulers

in Ezekiel 27 and 28. He is not talking of some angelic being and yet, Ezekiel 28, verses 13 through 19, are used to teach that doctrine. The phrase, which is found in Ezekiel 28:13 (“thou hast been in Eden the garden of God”), is part of the problem. Those who teach of a supernatural angelic being called Satan say that this verse is speaking of the serpent of Genesis, chapter three.

In 2 Kings 19, Assyria is attacking Israel. “Then we read that God ended the armies of Assyria. But, in verse 11, the king of Assyria taunts Hezekiah, the king of Israel:

Behold, thou hast heard what the kings of Assyria have done to all lands, by destroying them utterly: and shalt thou be delivered? Have the gods of the nations delivered them which my fathers have destroyed; as Gozan, and Haran, and Rezep, and the children of Eden which were in Thelasar?

2 Kings 19:11-12

What is Eden here? It is a city in Mesopotamia, which had been captured by Assyria. Archaeologists have dug up ancient tablets where the Assyrian king kept his records, and they have found there was a city called Betadene by the Assyrians. In Hebrew, the name would be Betheden or the House of Eden.

Let's go back to Ezekiel 27:

The merchants of Sheba and Raamah, they were thy merchants: they occupied in thy fairs with chief of all spices, and with all precious stones, and gold. Haran, and Canneh, and Eden, the merchants of Sheba, Asshur, and Chilmad, were thy merchants.

Ezekiel 27:22-23

The merchants, of the city called Eden, traded in the city of Tyre. So, when we read of this king of Tyre as having been “in Eden, the garden of God,” it doesn't necessarily-mean that a mortal king (whom God prophesied would die in Tyre) was formerly in the garden of Eden, where Adam and Eve were. It could have been a city or an area still called Eden, which was, possibly, named after the ancient Eden.

Some years ago I did a study on the location of the garden of Eden. I came to the conclusion that the garden of Eden comprised all of what we know today as Saudi Arabia and all of the area as far north as Turkey (where they claim Noah's Ark may be); and from, almost, the coast of the Mediterranean to the far eastern part of the valley of the Euphrates. That is a tremendously large area compared to what many people think of Eden. Most of the trading that the city of Tyre, or the king of Tyre, would have been in what was, anciently, the garden of Eden.

By reading verse two of Ezekiel 28, we find that God is speaking of a mortal man:

Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus, Thus saith the Lord God; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a god, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas; yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God:

Ezekiel 28:2

Behold, therefore I will bring strangers upon thee, the terrible of the nations: and they shall draw their swords against the beauty of thy wisdom, and they shall defile thy brightness.

Ezekiel 28:7

Can you imagine men or nations coming against Satan, this great archangel, and killing him with swords? However, Alexander the Great, bringing men of many different nations, did come against the city of Tyre with swords and destroyed it. This entire prophecy, described in somewhat allegorical terms, is of the destruction of a mortal king and a temporal city.

We have now lost our last passage in the Old Testament where we might have salvaged the Satan of the churches. He simply does not exist in the pages of the Old Testament.

What Tempted Jesus?

Now comes the challenge. We have examined 800 of the 1,000 pages of my Bible and we've not found the Satan of the churches. How about the last 200 pages? We will be skipping quite a few of the passages in the New Testament where the word “devil” or “Satan” is used, because there are many more passages than there are in the Old Testament. But, we will read enough so that we can establish what the Bible devil really is.

Let's begin with a very hard passage. It is the first place in the New Testament where the word “devil” is found:

Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth

him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan (adversary) for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

Matthew 4:1-11

Every place in the New Testament where you read the word “Satan,” it comes from the Greek word “satanas,” which comes from the Chaldean word “sawtawn.” It is not a new word, it is a transliteration. We have seen in the Old Testament that the Chaldean word “sawtawn” meant “adversary.” It was not really a name. So in verse nine God must be saying, “Get thee hence, adversary.”

In order to understand what this devil was, perhaps we had better refresh our memories as to what Jesus actually is. If we can understand the nature of Jesus, perhaps, we can understand this devil.

For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in

things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

Hebrews 2:16-17

So, Jesus was made a man, made like His Israelite brethren. Paul tells us Jesus was made a man, so that He could carry out the work He was supposed to carry out.

For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

Hebrews 2:18

It was necessary that Jesus be tempted so He could, in turn, give comfort to man who, was, also, tempted.

Seeing then that we have a great high priest that passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16

Paul says that Jesus Christ came in the form of the seed of Abraham, literally. He came as a man so that He could be, and was, tempted in all points as we are. Let's reread James as to how man is tempted:

Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived (when he gives in to the lust, or the desire), it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

James 1:13-15

What was Jesus tempted by? If Christ was made like unto a man then He was tempted by the same feelings and desires that men have. James uses the term “lust.” Our problem with understanding this is that the modern meaning of the word is “sexual lust.” However, that was not true 300 years ago. Lust and desire are, literally, synonyms. The hunger that we have is a “lust,” which we then fulfill by eating. If it is a lust that leads us into sin then it is wrong. But lust itself, in the meaning of the word 300 years ago, is not necessarily sin.

Jesus was hungry. Hunger or appetite is a desire, a lust, in the meaning of the word 300 years ago. He wanted food. Therefore, it was the temptation of hunger that said: “make these stones bread.”

Jesus, also, knew that God would protect Him. He could have taken physical risk of injury, but instead, He said that He would not tempt God. Men often give in and take physical risks because they say: “Oh, I’m a Christian and God will protect me.” Then something happens. Why did it happen? Because they gave in and tempted God by taking a risk they should not have taken.

Jesus, knowing who He was, and what He was, knew that He could obtain power over men with His intelligence. We recognize in other men a lust, a desire for power. We have politicians and world leaders who have given in to this lust or desire for power and they have become sinners. I don't think I am stretching the scriptures when I say that Jesus had these feelings and knowledge in His body because Paul says in Hebrews that “He was tempted like we are.” The lusts or the desires or the thoughts of the flesh came to Him just like they do to us. Otherwise, if His flesh offered Him no temptation

what glory would there be that Jesus could resist the temptation and we could read in the Bible that He sinned not? These thoughts and desires had to come to Jesus in order that He would fulfill that which was written. So this devil that tempted Jesus in the wilderness was exactly what James says tempts us: the lusts of the flesh.

Devils In The New Testament

Let's read more passages which contain the word “devil.” We will have to read them interspersed with the passages about Satan because they are hard to separate in the New Testament.

The word “devil” in the New Testament comes from two Greek words. One word is “diabolos” and the other is “daimonion,” from which we get our word “demon” — although it is translated “devil” in the English of 300 years ago. These words are translated “devil” or “devils” in the New Testament.

Matthew, chapter four, said that Jesus was tempted by “diabolos,” and He called him “Satan,” or, literally, His “adversary.” The lusts and desires of our flesh are an adversary to us. They are the opponents that try to lead us in the wrong way, while we try to read God's Word and follow God's Spirit to be led in the right way.

A Doctrine Of The Pharisees

Let's turn to Matthew four, after Jesus' being tempted by the “devil,” and His victory over that temptation:

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the

people. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.

Matthew 4:23-24

The following passage is telling of an affliction that was caused by “a devil”:

As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil. And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel.

Matthew 9:32-33

But the Pharisees said, He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils.

Matthew 9:34

Who is it who brings up the doctrine that there is a chief devil? This doctrine comes from the Pharisees. This occurrence is, also, recorded in chapter three of Mark:

And the scribes which came down from Jerusalem said, He hath Beelzebub, and by the prince of the devils casteth he out devils.

Mark 3:22

Here the scribes are accusing Jesus of acting under the power of what they called a “prince of the devils.” This is that doctrine, again, that there is a great chief supernatural devil. Jesus answers:

And he called them unto him, and said unto them in parables, How can Satan cast out Satan?

Mark 3:23

Luke eleven tells this same story, but it is a little longer version.

And he was casting out a devil, and it was dumb. And it came to pass, when the devil was gone out, the dumb spake; and the people wondered. But some of them said, He casteth out devils through Beelzebub the chief of the devils.

Luke 11:14-15

We have seen, in other accounts, that it was the scribes and the Pharisees who brought up this theory or doctrine that Jesus was operating through some chief, or top, devil.

And others, tempting him, sought of him a sign from heaven. But he, knowing their thoughts, said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and a house divided against a house fall/eth. If Satan also be divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand? because ye say that I cast out devils through Beelzebub. And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your sons cast them out? therefore shall they be your judges. But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you.

Luke 11: 16-20

Jesus identifies what power it is that takes away the afflictions of these people. It is God's power, which ends the power of the “devils” over each person. But if you will read the other references to this you will see that the only people in the New Testament who come up with the theory or the doctrine that there is a chief, or prince, of devils are the scribes and Pharisees or the people who were opposed to Jesus Christ.

Temptation: Natural — Not Supernatural

There are many more references to the casting out of “diabolos,” or these devils. We won't read all of them because there are so many. They follow a general pattern of someone being afflicted by something and then Jesus or one of the disciples comes along and casts away, or casts out, this affliction. This is called “casting out the devils.”

Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils.

Mark 16:9

Next, Jesus appeared to the disciples and told them:

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Mark 16:17-18

So, the casting out of devils, or “diabolos,” would be a sign following the preaching of all them that believe. Be a little careful about taking some of these things absolutely-literally. It says: “they shall take up serpents.” There are some people who believe you can actually pick up rattlesnakes without injury because it says that here. But the serpent here is an adversary. You will be able to oppose, victoriously, your adversaries. Do not tempt God by picking up poisonous snakes or by drinking carbolic acid or some poison. You would be falling for what Jesus did not fall for — casting Himself down because God

would save Him. Even Jesus, with the power He had from God, because He was a man, did not take physical risks and tempt God. So you be careful about the meaning of these verses. We are not studying literal poisonous snakes or the drinking of deadly things here, but rather figures of these things. So let's use common, ordinary sense. Let us be careful that we do not succumb to the lusts of the flesh, the desires, the strange things that come to our minds that are not necessarily sin. But if we give in to them, as James says, then it does bring sin.

In the first ten verses of 1 Corinthians, chapter ten, Paul recounts Israelite history. Then he reminds the Israelites:

Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come. Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall. There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

1 Corinthians 10:11-13

After giving the history of Israel, being tempted in the wilderness and succumbing to that temptation, Paul is warning us not to do that. He points out that we will be tempted, as all men are, but God gives us a way out.

Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say. The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For

we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread. Behold Israel after the flesh: are not they which eat of the sacrifices partakers of the altar? What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing? But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.

Corinthians 10:14-21

I quoted that long passage to demonstrate that Paul was speaking of temptation, and he referred to it as “worshipping idols.” Here, as in the Old Testament, devils are made synonymous with idols. They are something one worships which is not of God.

Think Again On These Verses

Now, I am going to requote those passages that we read at the beginning of this study and make some comments along with them. Perhaps you will better see what that devil is, now, than you did when we read them the first time.

In chapter four of Ephesians, Paul is telling Christians how they are supposed to act:

Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have

to give to him that needeth.

Ephesians 4:25-28

Notice that Paul was saying they should quit sinning. Neither give place to the devil or to the lusts of the flesh — to sin.

And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient. In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

2 Timothy 2:24-26

Could it have read, as well, that they are taken captive by giving in to the lusts of the flesh, the snare of the devil?

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Hebrews 2:14-15

This devil has the power of death, or brings death. In the New Testament it is sin which has the power to bring death. Could Hebrews 2:14 have read that through death Jesus destroyed the lusts of the flesh? It is the lusts of the flesh, or the desire to sin, that causes death.

In chapter four of James we read:

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands,

ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

James 4:7-8

We are to resist the devil, or the lusts or desires of the flesh that lead to sin.

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary [or your "Satan"] the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

1 Peter 5:6-9

We read in Paul that all men are tempted. We have the same afflictions. What are these afflictions? They are the devil: the lusts of the flesh.

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8

In other words, he that committeth sin gives place to the lusts which bringeth forth sin. Christ was manifested to put an end to sin. He came to destroy the lusts of the flesh. Further proof of this is found in the gospel of John:

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

John 1:29

It is the Lamb of God which takes away the devil, or the prince of the world.

What is the prince of the world? What is that thing which rules over men in the world? It is the lust of the flesh — a devil, or THE devil in them.

The Source Of Evil: Supernatural Devil, Or Man's Heart?

Chapter seven of Mark contains another long passage which will make it plain what the devil is that tempts us. The scribes and the Pharisees are talking to Jesus:

Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands? He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition. For Moses said, Honour thy father and thy mother; and, Whoso curseth father or mother, let him die the death: But ye say, If a man shall say to his father or mother, It is Corban, that is to say, a gift [or a release] by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; he shall be free.

Mark 7:5-11

Jesus was accusing the scribes and Pharisees of teaching a false doctrine, that if you sinned, all you had to do was give a gift to the temple and you were free. There are some religions like that today.

And ye suffer him no more to do ought for his father or his mother;

Mark 7:12

In other words, a gift to the temple freed you from obeying God.

Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye. And when he had called all the people unto him, he said unto them, Harken unto me everyone of you, and understand: There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man. If any man have ears to hear, let him hear.

Mark 7:13-16

Isn't this passage strange at first reading? Jesus has just finished rebuking the scribes and Pharisees and crediting them with being the corrupters of men by teaching false doctrine. He then turns right around and says that there is nothing from without a man that can corrupt him.

Is this a contradiction? No!

And when he was entered into the house from the people, his disciples asked him concerning the parable.

Mark 7:17

The disciples didn't quite understand what Jesus said. Jesus was giving an answer to what He had accused the Pharisees of: that by their traditions they had made the Word of God of no effect. Let's read on and we will see that even though an outside force (the scribes and Pharisees) could destroy the word of God, they had to work on something that was within a man in order to turn that man away from God.

And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats?

Mark 7:18-19

And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the 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 7:20-23

Where do these evil things come from? They come from the devil which is in every man: the lusts of the flesh. If we were free from these lusts, then none of the things that we see in the world, which we claim are the defilers and the corrupters, would have any effect on us. What is it that reigns in our mortal bodies? Diabolos, the devil! Daimonion, the lust to sin! What is the tempter? Diabolos, daimonion, the lust to sin! Where is it? It is in our heart! What are we to resist? Diabolos, the devil, or the lust to sin! What causes death? Diabolos, or the lust to sin. What is cast out by the Word of God? Diabolos, the devil, daimonion, or the lust to sin! What will be destroyed in the Resurrection when we are made perfect? It will be the devil, diabolos, the lust to sin, which will be destroyed. When we come through the fire of the resurrection, the devil (or the lust to sin) will be cast into that fire and destroyed.

The Real Devil

“There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him:

**NOW
THE WORKS
OF THE FLESH
ARE MANIFEST
WHICH ARE
THESE:
ADULTERY
FORNICATION**

but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man.”

**JESUS CHRIST
IN MARK 7:15**



This lust is in the heart of every mortal human being. This is what Jesus is talking about in Mark seven. That is why the devil (plural) is so often used in the New Testament. It is speaking of the many temptations, lusts and sins that befall all men. This explains how this diabolos, this devil, can be in all of the world at once, tempting every man. This is not speaking of some separate angelic being

that came down here from God's abode and is tempting us separately. Jesus makes it plain, in Mark seven (you might want to read the companion of this in Matthew 15), that there is nothing from without which can defile a man. That which defiles is already in every man's heart. It is the "devil" or the lusts of the flesh.

There is no such thing as a “chief” devil. That is a doctrine, as we have seen, of the scribes and the Pharisees. That doctrine is now being taught by practically every church in America, including much of what passes for Christianity.

We would better understand our own nature, our own sin, and our need to repent. It is the heart in ourselves that is desperately wicked above all things. We are in need of God's Word because of what WE are, not because of some other crea-

ture. Would to God we would get that through our minds. You can understand why the great men of the Reformation wrote and spoke so much about the sinful and corrupted nature of man, our own carnal, devilish nature. You can, also, understand, when we have that kind of preaching, how we have genuine conversions where people see their own sins, repent, and turn and then feed on the Word of God and listen to the call of His Spirit.

Give The Devil His Due

Chapter 7

The Sin Nature

Romans six speaks about the baptized Christian. Paul is speaking to people who have professed to believe in Jesus Christ. This passage will show you what has power over men. Chapter five of Romans speaks of justification by faith. It says that death reigned after Adam's sin and then it concludes:

For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous. Moreover the law entered, that the offence might abound. But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound: That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5:19-21

Paul is making a comparison between Adam, who brought sin into this race, and Jesus who removes sin. Notice the use of the word "reigned" in verse 21. Going back a little in the chapter to verse 14, we find the word "reigned" again:

Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

Romans 5:14

The word "reigned" signifies rulership. Remember this as we read chapter six. In this chapter Paul talks about that which presently-reigns over people, and had reigned over them in the past.

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

Romans 6:1-6

Some people argue in favor of a devil who is a separate being and exists apart from man, on the grounds that the devil is spoken of as a person. In other words, he is personified by being called "Satan," "the Devil," "he," and so on. Therefore, he must have a separate entity with life in himself.

In Romans, Paul is speaking of the change of the individual from the old life to the new life in Christ and he says that OUR OLD MAN is crucified with Christ. There is something belonging to US which is crucified, put away, or taken away. In this passage it is personified and called OUR OLD MAN.

For he that is dead is freed from sin.

Romans 6:7

This is speaking to Christians who are freed from sin by their acceptance of the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

Romans 6:8-12

We are not to let the lust to sin, or the “devil,” reign or be the ruler in our mortal bodies. That makes sense when we think of the phrase “resist the devil and he will flee from you.” Resist the lust to sin and you won't sin.

Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

Romans 6:13-16

Notice the personalizing of sin. When you become the servants of sin, you make yourselves obedient unto him. Obedient to whom? Obedient to sin. So sin is personalized as the ruler who rules over you, when you turn yourself over to it. He says you are even his (sin's) servants.

But God be thanked, that ye were [past tense] the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

Romans 6:17-18

So, you are made free from the devil, or from the lust to sin, by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ and becoming a servant of righteousness, a servant of Jesus.

I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:18-23

This shows that very definite theology that the wages of sin is death.

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he [Jesus] also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

Hebrews 2:14

The devil and sin can be made interchangeable in most of these passages. Both the devil and sin are referred to as “he,” “him,” and “it.” You are “its” ser-

vants, you are “his” servants, and so on. So the argument that the devil must be a person, because he is personalized by being called “he” and “him,” is not valid. As we've seen here, sin is, also, called “he” and “him.”

There is an axiom in physics that things equal to the same thing are equal to each other. The devil and sin both have the power and the key to death. The devil and sin are both that which reigns in your mortal body if you turn to sin. The devil and sin are both that which you serve when you live in sin. And the devil and sin are both that which Jesus came to destroy. He died that the devil, or sin, might have an end in your mortal body.

Before we leave the subject of servants and serving that which reigneth over you, let's read part of John 12. Jesus is telling of His coming death.

“The Prince Of This World”

And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified.

John 12:23

As Jesus ends His prayer a voice is heard:

Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him. Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes. Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die.

John 12:28-33

Jesus' death was going to cast out the prince of this world. After further teaching to the disciples about what He was going to do, what was going to happen to Him, and what was going to be accomplished, Jesus says:

And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to pass, ye might believe. Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

John 14:29-30

Jesus implies that the “prince of this world” is going to triumph, at least at that moment. The prince of that world could have been Pilate, who was the ruler, or the prince of the Roman Empire at that time. It could have been the chief priest who was the ruler over Jerusalem; or it could have been death. The prince of this world was going to take rulership over Jesus, at least temporarily.

What rules over the world? Yes, I know the people say that the devil or Satan rules. But what is the principle that we have just been discussing which rules over the world? Sin and death are the rulers of this world. If you don't think that sin and death rule over this world, then you haven't taken a good look at the world as it is today. Everyone is going toward death. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. So, the phrase “prince of this world” could mean, simply, that which rules over man in this world. It doesn't have to be a separate entity with life in itself.

In chapter 16 of John, we read of the Holy Ghost, or the Comforter, which will come:

Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if

I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

John 16:7-11

In verse eight we read that “He will reprove the world of sin.” The Comforter will judge sin which is the prince of this world. How does the Holy Ghost do that? Read on:

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

John 16:13-14

In other words, the Comforter will teach you God's Laws. He will teach you the right way, He will show you things to come. He will reveal to you “sin,” which is the prince of this world. He will remove you from being a servant of sin (or the prince of this world), He will show you the better way and place you under the rulership of Jesus Christ.

Most of us have been taught from infancy that there is a great satanic being who is long-living and has power to affect your mind and heart (he supposedly comes from without and does this). Most of us have never heard an argument against this teaching. That same thing is true about the doctrine of Hell. We have never heard an argument against it. We hear it in the churches, we read it in the

magazines, we see it in the movies, we read it in the newspaper and everyone we ever talked to told us that when people die they go to Hell and the devil and his demons stick them with pitchforks, forever and ever. We believed this because that was all we ever heard. We had never really examined the scriptures before to see if these things be so. Yet, when we begin to examine the scriptures, this doctrine, oddly enough, just is not there.

“The Prince OF The Power Of The Air”

We have just seen that the thing which we serve is “sin,” which is called “the devil.” It is that evil principle in man's nature, which takes rulership over man until he is set free from sin (or the devil) by Jesus Christ.

In Ephesians, Paul is talking to people who have become Christians:

And you hath he quickened [made alive], who were dead in trespasses and sins; 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:

Ephesians 2:1-2

The fundamentalists all stop there and say: “See, they all served the devil, Satan, and the 'prince of the power of the air.' “

Let's read verse three:

Among whom also we all had our conversation (or our lives) in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.

Ephesians 2:3

This tells us that the “prince of the power of the air” represents the lusts or desires of the flesh and of the mind. It is right in the passage, but most people read only verses one and two and they do not read verse three.

Paul must have known, when he wrote to the Ephesians, what James knew when he wrote these words:

But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

James 1:14-15

That is what Jesus meant when He taught:

There is nothing from without a man, that entering into him can defile him: but the things which come out of him, those are they that defile the man.

Mark 7:15

And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the 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 7:20-23

Our Worst Enemy Is Us

What do the enemies and the corrupters of Israel use against us? Some might say they use liquor, pornography, and all sorts of things that entice us. What are they enticing? They are enticing the devil or the lust to sin that is within us. If we accepted Jesus' rule, instead of

the rule of the devil within us, these enemies would make no headway with all of the things they present before us. They have to entice that thing which is within us, which then defiles us. If we did not have the lust to sin within us then all of these people who are working against us in the nations of Israel would find themselves, literally, unable to make a living. Most of them make their living getting us to buy that which entices the lust that is within us. If we put this internal devil under control, our enemies would have no control over us. There is not some great, omnipotent, or omniscient supernatural creature that comes against us that we cannot resist. As the saying goes: we are our own worst enemy.

Every time Israel was in sin and iniquity, God sent a prophet to them and accused the Israelites. He didn't accuse the devil, or Satan or Israel's enemies of sin and iniquity. He always accused the people themselves. Israelites have always been personally-accountable for their own sins. That is why David prayed, in Psalm 19: “Cleanse thou me from secret faults.” David had committed the sin of adultery and in Psalm 51, he says:

Have mercy upon me, a God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.

Psalm 51:1-4

Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Psalm 51:7

David did not claim that the devil made him do it or that someone else had come and enticed him. David said, "I transgressed, God forgive me."

Even though many ministers preach out of the Law and try to convict people of sin, they still leave this omniscient spirit being here as the cause of their sin; instead of laying the cause where it is: right in our own corrupt minds and hearts. If we realize what WE are, then it is easy for us to understand why God tells us we are the ones who must turn.

God tells us what the lust to sin does:

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.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

One Sovereign Creator God

It is the lust to sin in the flesh which blinds people to the truth. It is that which is in man which blinds him. It is not some devil or Satan casting a spell on him. If you believe that there is some great Satan who does all of this and who is the cause of all these evil and wicked things that happen, what does that say about God's sovereignty? And what does that say about Jesus' statement that He has been given all authority in Heaven and in Earth? It destroys it!

What blinds men? Their sinful nature! Who gave men their sinful nature? God, the Creator!

In the final analysis, we are talking about the sovereignty of God. We're talking about whether there is one God or

many gods. The truth that must come out is that there is ONE God. He has made us as we are, with what we might call a fault, but God did it deliberately.

I'm reminded of a new book someone recently gave me. It's titled World Mythology. It covers all of the civilizations and peoples of the earth from the past to the present. It is a little astounding just to page through something like this and look at the pictures of pagan gods. People actually worship those little statues, pieces of stone, carvings of ivory, and moldings of gold. These "gods" have been given names and have had powers ascribed to them. There are long stories, which we today call mythology, that the pagans believed. A large part of the world still believes this kind of thing.

In mythology there are gods for everything. There are gods for creation, for disasters, for earthquakes and for the weather. The pagans have gods which control the wind and sea, gods that give them crops or destroy their crops, and gods of war and peace. They have gods which give life and health and bring disease and death. Some of their gods give children, while still others give wealth or poverty.

Where do all of these gods come from? They come from within men's minds. The Bible calls them "no gods." They are things which men make up in their hearts and minds and then they teach them to other men.

A Controlling Tool Of Priestcraft

There is one reason for all of this. If you know ancient history, you will recognize that the stories that were taught by the priests about gods were designed to do one thing: place the people in subjection to the priest. The story always has the same

ending: “Here are all of these gods. I, the priest, have contact with all of them. I know how to talk to them. I will get messages from them and will offer sacrifices unto them to take away their wrath, or I will pray to them to give you good things. What do you have to do? You have to give me your money, your allegiance, your obedience to my commands.”

The history of the world is the history of people in captivity to men who taught them false stories about gods. Let's transpose that over to the modern age. Does the devil serve the same purpose? The minister is the priest who has contact with God. People are told there is a raging monster in the world, who will destroy them unless this minister intervenes with God to save them. We are told that if we do not obey the minister, we will go to this place where the devil is and we will be tortured for ever and ever.



What is the result of this teaching? Whole nations and whole peoples come under the sway of a priesthood, which teaches the existence of an evil god that does not exist. The only difference is that years ago the priests taught that there were hundreds of gods, whereas today,

what passes for Christianity seems to preach only two gods: the good one and the bad one. The principle is still the same. The result is still the same. People come under bondage under a priesthood. In Christendom, the clergy couches all of this in Biblical phraseology, and they even use the name of Jesus. However, their theme is still the same: “You must come and do what I say, otherwise you will be turned over to this Devil and, in Hell, he will torment you for eternity. I am the only one who can save you.”

The Roman Catholic Church, to a great extent, rules over much of the earth with this false doctrine, telling of a non-existent god who has the power to hurt people. Can you imagine what the world would be like and what our people would be like if they were taught, and actually believed, that there is only ONE God, who has all power and we can turn to Him for help, for sustenance and for deliverance from the lust to sin within ourselves?

In Exodus, God released Israel from an Egyptian bondage. Chapter 12 tells of the giving of the Passover, which was a symbol of the shed blood of Jesus Christ, which is the atonement and the salvation from our sins. In verses 11 and 12, we read:

And thus shall ye eat it; with your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and ye shall eat it in haste: it is the Lord's passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord.

Exodus 12:11-12

When God destroyed the firstborn of the ruling class in Egypt, God destroyed

the power of the gods of Egypt. He destroyed men and the result was He destroyed the gods.

The first of the Ten Commandments reads:

And God spake all these words, saying, I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Exodus 20:1-3

In the covenant that God gave at the mount, we read:

And in all things that I have said unto you be circumspect: and make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth.

Exodus 23:13

For mine Angel shall go before thee, and bring thee in unto the Amorites, and the Hittites, and the Perizzites, and the Canaanites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites: and I will cut them off. Thou shalt not bow down to their gods, nor serve them, nor do after their works: but thou shalt utterly overthrow them, and quite break down their images.

Exodus 23:23-24

Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor with their gods. They shall not dwell in thy land, lest they make thee sin against me: for if thou serve their gods, it will surely be a snare unto thee.

Exodus 23:32-33

If you look up the word “gods” in your concordance, you will find that Israel was always and forever bowing down and serv-

ing, or worshipping, other gods. The result was always the same: conquest and servitude under other people. Whenever Israel got it into their minds and hearts that there was some other god than Jehovah, they were then taken captive by other people.

Jeremiah the prophet was sent to Israel while they were in sin and iniquity.

Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it.

Jeremiah 5:1

Jeremiah goes on condemning them for being a sin-filled people:

How shall I pardon thee for this? thy children have forsaken me, and sworn by them that are no gods: when I had fed them to the full, they then committed adultery, and assembled themselves by troops in the harlots' houses.

Jeremiah 5:7

Lo, I will bring a nation upon you from far, O house of Israel, saith the Lord; it is a mighty nation, it is an ancient nation, a nation whose language thou knowest not, neither understandest what they say. Their quiver is as an open sepulchre, they are all mighty men. And they shall eat up thine harvest, and thy bread, which thy sons and thy daughters should eat: they shall eat up thy flocks and thine herds: they shall eat up thy vines and thy fig trees: they shall impoverish thy fenced cities, wherein thou trustedst, with the sword. Nevertheless in those days, saith the Lord, I will not make a full end with you. And it shall come to pass, when ye shall say, Wherefore doeth the Lord

our God all these things unto us? then shalt thou answer them, Like as ye have forsaken me, and served strange gods in your land, so shall ye serve strangers in a land that is not yours.

Jeremiah 5:15-19

Israel served other gods, so God made Israel serve other people.

But this people hath a revolting and a rebellious heart; they are revolted and gone. Neither say they in their heart, Let us now fear the Lord our God, that giveth rain, both the former and the latter, in his season: he reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest.

Jeremiah 5:23-24

The preaching in most churches tells how the devil rules over you, over kingdoms, and over hell. This builds up another god which does not exist. So Israel is made to fear "the devil." That is why this passage tells us that they don't say in their heart "let us now fear the Lord which gives us rain." They do not fear the Lord, instead they fear the devil. Many of our Israel people are, literally, under the bondage of a religious system. That bondage occurs because they have been taught to fear being placed in the hands of an evil, wicked god, if they don't obey that religious system. That is what God is speaking of in these next verses:

Shall I not visit for these things? saith the Lord: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this? A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land; The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule [or take into their hands] by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?

Jeremiah 5:29-31

What means do the priests use to take control? They use false teachings. It is true today that God's people in Israel allow the grossest iniquities and sins in their lands, because they have been taught by the ministers that Jesus put away the Law. These ministers are prophesying falsely.

We are told by these false prophets that God will curse you if you oppose a Jew. The result is that Jewish con men, swindlers, stock manipulators, land fraud artists, and Jewish destroyers of our race and our culture have taken control of our society and even our government. The prophets prophesy-falsely. What will God do with you if you do anything against the Jews? The ministers say, He will send you to Hell and put you in the clutches of the devil, who will torment you for ever and ever. That fear is on millions of our people. If they knew that God, alone, exists and that God is merciful, they would not fall for such nonsense.

As an illustration of this, let me relate an experience I had some time ago. I attended a meeting over on the west side where Archaeologist Ray Capt was showing a film. I had opened the meeting in prayer and closed it. As I left, a couple followed me out into the parking lot. They asked me some questions about what kind of a secret organization we were. The woman spoke up and said: "I've gone to other meetings like this and they talk all about the Bible but then when they finally get down to it they say the Jews aren't Israelites. That seems to be their main message." I replied "Well, we're not secret. I have a church over in Scottsdale and a radio ministry. No one is hiding anything. It is just that we know that the Jews are anti-Christ and they are not the Israel people. They're not God's 'chosen people'." When I said this they physically backed away from me about five or six feet and let

out a very audible gasp. They said, “Oh, you're going to hell if you believe that about the Jews.”

Do you think that this fear of the devil and hell is not a control mechanism? It is. It causes our people to allow things to take place in the land that would not take place if they knew the truth about the

devil and about hell. This couple was actually afraid that God would turn them over to the devil. We talked for a few more moments and it was obvious I could get nowhere with them with any kind of truth because they were afraid of “going to hell.” The devil doctrine had caused them to lose touch with reality.

Give The Devil His Due

Chapter 8

“Casting Out Devils”

Let's consider the casting out of devils as recorded in the scripture. There seem to be instances in the New Testament where there are such things as evil spirits or demons, which are cast out of individuals by Jesus and His disciples. Three such instances occur in Matthew.

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.

Matthew 4:23-24

The word “lunatick” means “made crazy by the effect of the moon.” Apparently, some had devils and some were made crazy by the effect of the moon. If you believe one, you might as well believe the other.

When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick:

Matthew 8:16

As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil. And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multi-

tudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel.

Matthew 9:32-33

Generally speaking, where the Bible says devils in people are cast out, the word “devil” is translated from the Greek word “daimonion” or its equivalent. It is from “daimonion” that we get our English word “demon.” Where there is an individual devil, such as the one that tempted Jesus, the word is “diabolos,” which is quite different — as far as the Greek is concerned.

Now, I am going to quote another book, which someone sent me some time ago, in which the author quotes from other sources as to why people in those days referred to people with physical or mental aberrations as having demons or devils. He speaks of the word “daimonion,” itself, and says:

“It was the name given by the Greeks to beings imagined by them to exist in the air and to act a mediatorial part between God and man for good or evil.

“These imaginary beings would be expressed in English by “demon,” “evil genius,” or “tutelary deity,” “all of which belong to pagan mythology and have no place in the truth. We quote the following observations on the subject from Parkhurst's Greek Lexicon, an exemplification of the origin of the idea.”

He then quotes some of the scripture verses in both the Old Testament and the New where these people, supposedly, are subject to some sort of a “power of the air.” That was what the Greeks considered these demons to be.

Again quoting this author:

“Most expressive are the words of Plato in Sympos: 'Every demon is a middle being between God and mortal men.' If you ask what he means by “middle being” he will tell you: “God is not approached immediately by man, but all the commerce and intercourse between gods and men is performed by the mediation of demons.” Would you see the particulars? Demons are reporters and carriers from men to the gods and, again, from the gods to men and, of the supplication and prayers of the one, and of the injunctions and rewards of devotion from the other. Besides those original material mediators or the intelligence residing in them, whom Appellias calls a higher kind of demons, who are always free from the encumbrance of the body, and out of which higher order Plato supposes that guardians were appointed men, besides these, the heathen acknowledge another sort, namely the souls of men deified or canonized after death.”

“There were two kinds of demons according to the Greeks. One kind were just spirits of the air and the other were actual souls of men who had died. So, Hesiad, one of the most ancient heathen writers, describing that happy race of men who lived in the first and golden age of the world saith that after this generation were dead they were, by the will of great Jupiter, promoted to be demons, keepers of mortal men, observers of their good and evil works, clothed in air, always walking about the earth, givers of riches and, this, saith he, is the royal honor they enjoy.

“According to Greek mythology, these demons have power to give things to people or withhold them.

“Plato concurs with Hesiad and asserts that 'He and many other poets speak excellently who affirm that when good men die they attain great honor and dignity and become demons.' The same Plato, in another place, maintains that: 'All those who die valiantly in war are of Hesiad's golden generation and are made demons and that we ought, for ever after, to serve and adore their sepulchres as the sepulchres of demons. The same also,' says he, 'we decree whenever any of those who were excellently good in life die either of old age or in any other manner.'”

So, good people, then, become demons and, according to Plato, we should revere them.

“According to Plutarch, it was a very ancient opinion that there were certain wicked and malignant demons who envy good men and endeavor to disturb and hinder them in the pursuit of virtue lest remaining firm in goodness and uncorrupt they should, after death, obtain a better lot than they themselves enjoy.”

So, demons attempt to bring you down so that you become a worse demon than they are.

Then the author of this article says this:

“Christ's conformity to popular language did not commit Him to popular delusions. In one case He apparently recognizes the god of the Philistines.”

“If I by “Beelzebub” [or Baalzebub] cast out devils, by whom do your sons cast them out?” (Luke 11:19)

“Beelzebub” (or Baalzebub) was the god of the flies, a god worshipped by the Philistines, according to 2 Kings 1:6. Christ, in using the name, takes no pains to dwell upon the fact that Beelzebub was a heathen fiction but seems rather to assume, for the sake of argument, that Beelzebub was a reality.”

Then, he goes on to point out that just because Jesus did not rebuke them and tell them Beelzebub didn't exist, doesn't mean that Jesus believed he existed. Jesus talked to them as if their gods were real, which they were to them.

This requires a little more study because the casting out of demons or devils is mentioned quite a few times in the Bible. So, let's read on, right from where we were in Matthew nine, where Jesus cast out this devil or demon and the dumb spoke:

But the Pharisees said, He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils. And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

Matthew 9:34

Whenever the idea was brought up that there was a chief or a prince of the devils, we find it was the Jewish Pharisees who brought it up. In the above passage they charge Jesus with casting out devils through the prince of the devils. What happened? Jesus did not even answer them. He just went on about His business of healing sick people.

The Insane Man And The Swine Stampede

What about the casting out of the devils into the swine? In Mark, chapter five, the story is given in more detail:

And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gadarenes. And when he was come out of the ship, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit,

Mark 5:1-2

In the story in Matthew eight, there were two men. Here there is only one. This, then, may not be the same incident. There might have been two similar incidents. Continuing in Mark:

Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains: Because that he had been often bound with fetters and chains, and the chains had been plucked asunder by him, and the fetters broken in pieces: neither could any man tame him.

And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones. But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him, And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son

of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not. For he said unto him, Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit. And he asked him, What is thy name? And he [or the unclean spirit] answered, saying, My name is Legion: for we are many. And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country. Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding. And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them. And forthwith Jesus gave them leave. And the unclean spirits went out, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the sea, (they were about two thousand;) and were choked in the sea.

Mark 5:3-13

As you read on, you find that the people living in that area discovered what happened. They came out and asked Jesus to leave.

And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him. Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.

Mark 5:18-19

According to modern terminology, the man was, obviously, insane. Many people who are considered insane have mental aberrations because of toxins in their body, lack of certain nutrients, or some physical injury to their head. They don't, necessarily, have a demon in their body to make them have these mental aberrations or to show unusual strength. This is not uncommon.

Belief In A True God Separates Israel From Heathen

Is it possible that, when Jesus cast out these devils or demons, He was doing nothing more nor less than healing a person who had some physical defect? That still doesn't explain the swine, does it? Think for a moment. People who were blind were said to have a demon and Jesus cast it out and healed them. The same was true of people who were dumb or who were ill from some disease they might have. Here we have a man who is raving, insane, said to have a devil or a demon, and Jesus cast it out and healed him. I am not arguing that Jesus tried to show people that demons did not exist. He did not deny it. He just healed the people. But, consider this: Jesus, also, taught in parables. When the disciples asked Him why, He said: "Because they can't understand the truth." Jesus allowed certain people to remain spiritually blind by teaching in parables. Do we have to insist that Jesus enlightened every person with whom He came in contact? Might He have allowed them to continue in their own ignorance and superstition, allowing them to believe that demons existed? It is obvious that God allows the heathen to go on worshipping false gods.

Psalm 96:5 says the gods of the nations are idols, and Paul writes that idols are nothing. In Isaiah, chapters 41 through 45, God goes to great lengths to tell Israel that there are no other Gods beside Him, He is the only God. However, God obviously has not corrected the nonIsraelites. They still believe in other gods. Why do we insist that Jesus had to correct the nonIsraelites in their false belief about demons? If He allowed them to believe a lie by teaching in parables, why do we not accept the fact that He allowed them to believe a lie by casting out "demons" and allowing them to continue believing that?

There is another principle involved which may be the answer to this. In Exodus 33, Israel has sinned and God has threatened not to go with Israel into the Promised Land. Here Moses is speaking to God:

And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence. For wherein shall it be known here that I and thy people have found grace in thy sight? is it not in that thou goest with us? so [or in this manner] shall we be separated, I and thy people, from all the people that are upon the face of the earth.

Exodus 33:15-16

How is Israel separated from all the people upon the face of the earth? It is only Israel who worships the one true God. Moses said this will separate us from all the other people of the earth.

Earlier, I mentioned a book entitled World Mythology. It is a beautifully done, very large book with page after page of pictures and drawings of statues, idols and gods. To the heathen these are their gods and they believe in them. God Almighty, up to this day, has not disabused them of that falsehood. He has allowed them to believe in their delusions. In fact, God sends strong delusions to those people who do not want to believe the truth (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12). Why is it not possible then, that the seeming evidence of demons which we hear so much about in the heathen world is not something that God allows so that they continue to believe in their false gods.

Israel continues to be separated from all the people of the earth by being the

only race of people upon the earth who worship the true God of the Bible. In fact, one of the major evidences in the world today that we are the Israel People is the fact that we worship the God of the Bible. Other races worship other gods. That is what God was saying to Moses in this conversation in Exodus.

Micah four is a prophecy of the Kingdom. One verse of this prophecy has been confusing to me until it just began to make sense in this study of the devil. Verses six and seven of chapter four refer to the regathering of the Israel people:

In that day, saith the Lord, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted; And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the Lord shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.

Micah 4:6-7

We know this is speaking of the regathering of the Israel people to this great, North American continent, which we know is the Zion of Bible prophecy. It is the verse preceding these two which was very confusing to me:

For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever.

Micah 4:5

That didn't make sense to me before doing this study. What does it mean? It means that, in the age of Israel's regathering, nonIsraelites would all have their own religions and their own gods and only Israel would worship the true God of the Bible.

As I mentioned earlier, God has not yet taken away from the heathen their belief in false gods or even in demons. Jesus healed people who desired to be healed or whose relatives or friends asked Him to heal. He "cast out demons." The non-Israelites went right on believing in demons, just like they had before and Jesus did not correct them, no more than He corrected the nonIsraelites when He spoke in parables so they would not understand. The Bible makes it plain that you only understand the Word of God by the gift of the Holy Spirit. People who do not have the Holy Spirit cannot understand the Bible. God leaves them in ignorance, just as Jesus left the heathen in their ignorant belief of devils and demons.

Messenger Of Satan: Carnal Nature

There has been great speculation on the following verses down through the centuries:

And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure. For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

2 Corinthians 12:7-9

Some say this "thorn in the flesh" was a physical disability. Some believe it must have been some sort of a demon since Paul called it "the messenger of Satan." He prayed that it would leave him but it did

not go. What was it? I believe it was nothing more nor less than the carnal nature of man, which Paul was bothered with just as every other Christian is. The old man never dies. he is only put under control. This carnal nature was “the messenger of Satan.” It is easier to understand Romans seven, if we believe that 2 Corinthians has this meaning.

Some have wondered if Paul wasn't a raving madman when he wrote some of the verses of the seventh chapter of Romans. The law was against him, the law was for him. He couldn't make up his mind:

Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful. For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

Romans 7:13-17

Paul is saying that he is trying to do good, but there is something in him that makes him do evil. He doesn't like it, but it happens. Then he tries to follow the law and he is buffeted by the carnal man within him, just as it is within every Christian. There are some people in the world that God has given over to this carnal nature. We call them the heathen, the carnal man, or the natural man. The devil in them is their complete and total ruler.

We, as Christians, have been given God's Law for our intellectual understanding and the Spirit to move us to obey the Law.

Therefore, we have a war going on within us in which we can be a victor. The heathen cannot win, they are always the victim and lose the war. Israel does not lose as long as they read the Word, take the Word, study the Word, and obey it. The apostle Paul wanted the war to end. I believe he prayed to God to end it and God told him no. God said His strength was sufficient and that He is glorified because of Paul's weakness. The fact that we are not perfect glorifies God when we obey Him. God is glorified because we are weak and subject to the sins of the flesh. Through His Word, His Spirit, and His Power, we do that which is right in contrast to that which is wrong.

Paul says:

For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death. I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Romans 7:22-25

I believe the lust of the flesh is the thing that Paul had asked to be removed and which was not removed, no more than it is of any Christian. We live with that old carnal man, that old devil, that old satan, all of our lives. We have a war against him. This “devil,” as you can see, is no great, supernatural, everliving archangel that is tempting us. That tempting comes from within us and it stays there. But by the Power and the Spirit and the Word of Jesus, the devil, or satan, is brought under subjection.

Remember, also, in both the Old Testament and the New, God always accuses the sinner of the sin. When Israel sinned, God never said that “the devil” tempted them. Instead, He told them they had sinned and were going to come under judgment until they turned from their sin and followed Him. The same thing is true in the New Testament. It is the individual who is always accused of the sin and exhorted to obey and turn from the sin. That message is always given to Israel. God never gave the heathen a Book telling them to follow His Law. He gave it only to Israel.

The very existence of this demon, or devil, or Satan, or whatever it is which wars in our bodies, in our minds and hearts and our ability to overcome it by the Word and the Power and Spirit of God, sets us aside from every other race upon the earth. The other races believe in those demons, make gods out of them and worship them. They draw pictures of those “gods,” they make statues of them and build temples to them. God tells us what to do with those demons and devils: subject them to the Power of Christ and give no place to the devil.

God Allows Heathen To Remain In Ignorance

What about the pigs that went into the water? Do you believe that demons get water in their lungs and drown when they go into the water? Do you actually believe there were demons that came out of this man and went down, with the pigs, into the water? Or was Jesus healing a man and doing something that left the heathen in their sin and their iniquity? I am more inclined to believe the latter. On top of all that, this is one of two places where Jesus destroyed property. Jesus destroyed an unclean animal that they were not sup-

posed to raise, touch, or eat. So by His act He gave them a lesson in the Law, which they apparently ignored and did not believe. It almost seems that some “demons” spoken audibly. But is it not possible that God Almighty allowed voices to be heard so that the heathen remained in their ignorance? However, let's not join the heathen in that ignorance!

Some Christian missionaries in heathen lands claim to have seen evidence of demons actually throwing people about, cutting bodies and causing people to speak in other languages, uttering things which, supposedly, a human being could not utter. Isn't it strange that kind of activity does not happen among Christian Israel believers when they follow God's Word? It always happens in heathen countries, among the people God is allowing to believe in false gods.

We must accept the absolute and total sovereignty of God. Whatever it is that the heathen believe, it does not have to exist except in their own minds and in things which God causes in order to send them strong delusions that they will believe a lie.

“Ye Are Of Your Father The Devil”

Speaking of strange behavior and having a demon, in Luke seven, John the Baptist sent men to inquire about Jesus and we find that the enemies of Christ said that John the Baptist had a demon. In chapter eight of John, Jesus had this to say to the scribes and Pharisees:

Ye are of your father the devil [diabolos], and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because 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.

John 8:44

In Jeremiah, we read that the heart is desperately-wicked above all things. These people worshipped sin in temples that have actually been excavated in old Canaan land. These acts of sin are in violation of God's Law. God told them: "Ye are of your father the devil." In other words, they were of the god which they worship, which was sin or the devil.

He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.

John 8:47

Jesus told these scribes and Pharisees that they were incapable of understanding the existence or non-existence of other gods because they cannot hear God's Word.

Then answered the Jews, and said unto him, Say we not well that thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil? Jesus answered, I have not a devil; but I honour my Father, and ye do dishonour me.

John 8:48-49

The Great Super Demon Not In The Bible!

Because He opposed them, Jesus was said to have a devil or a "daimonion" in the Greek. We know from verse 49, above, that Jesus did not have a "devil." Whether these devils or demons are imps, evil spirits, or evil influences, they are always quite limited in effect. This is true throughout the New Testament. Usually, only one person is involved. The damages to those possessed are usually very slight

and restricted to that person and, in a couple of cases, someone who was injured by them. Demons were always subject to Jesus, to His disciples, and to His name. They seemed not to affect nations or kingdoms. They seemed not to give a person any great mental power. In fact, their effect was the exact opposite. The "possessed" person became what we would call "insane." However, regardless of what you believe about the demons that were cast out in the New Testament, those passages can in no way be used to build up a great super demon, super tempter, super devil, archangel, Satan, or whatever.

In order to clear up some of this, we are going to read some more about Satan in the New Testament. In Mark eight, we found that Peter was a satan because he opposed Jesus in what Jesus had to do as far as being crucified. In Luke, we read of a satan entering Judas Iscariot:

Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover. And the chief priests and scribes sought how they might kill him; for they feared the people. Then entered Satan [sawtawn] into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve. And he went his way, and communed with the chief priests and captains, how he might betray him unto them. And they were glad, and covenanted to give him money.

Luke 22:1-5

If Judas was actually acting as the agent of a great archangel why did he want to do it in order to get money? The archangel wouldn't have needed money would he? No, Judas was acting in obedience to his own lust and desire for money, for praise, or whatever. Reading on in this same chapter, we come upon some strange verses:

And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not; and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

Luke 22:31-32

It appears that Jesus was saying that this great archangel wanted Simon Peter. But, could this have something to do with what had just happened before that?

And there was also a strife among them [the disciples], which of them should be accounted the greatest. And he said unto them, The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors.

Luke 22:24-25

Jesus rebuked them for arguing as to which one of them would be the greatest under Him. They were giving way to the desires of the flesh, to their own ego, to their own desire to be great. Jesus said to Simon: "Satan wanted you." What wanted Simon? His own ego or desire.

In 1 Timothy, we read:

This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightest war a good warfare; Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck: Of whom is Hymenaeus and Alexander; whom I have delivered unto Satan, that they may learn not to blaspheme.

1 Timothy 1:18-20

Paul said some believers had turned away from the faith. They could hardly have been turned over to the great archangel, Satan, because Satan certainly

would not have "taught them not to blaspheme," would he? I believe that they were turned over to the lusts of the flesh, to the destruction that would come upon them from having turned away from the faith and then, because of that, they would "learn not to blaspheme." This same thing is written in 1 Corinthians, chapter five:

It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife.

1 Corinthians 5:1

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when ye are gathered together, and my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, To deliver such an one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

1 Corinthians 5:4-5

Paul is saying that this sinner who had committed fornication should be delivered to Satan for the destruction of the flesh. What did he mean? He meant they should deliver the sinner to his own sin. In the next verses Paul says:

Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed [slain] for us:

1 Corinthians 5:6-7

They were to kick out this man who is deliberately sinning and turn him over to his sin that the flesh may be destroyed. Paul is obviously-not telling them to turn this sinner over to some literal great archangel.

Chapter two of Revelation contains another passage that needs explaining:

And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write; These things saith he which hath the sharp sword with two edges; I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr, who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.

Revelation 2:12-13

The Satan of the churches dwells in a place called "Hell" or "Hades." John is telling this church in pergamos that they are right where Satan's seat is. History gives us the answer to this. pergamos was the center of the antiChristian activity at that time. There were people there who were trying to destroy Christians and the gospel of Christ. That is evident by John's referring to one martyr as being "slain among you, where Satan dwelleth." What was he talking about? He was talking about the adversaries, or their enemies. "Satan" is used in both the Old and New Testaments to mean simply your enemy, or your adversary.

Upon investigation we have seen that, of the many passages in the Bible that seem to speak of a great "Devil, or a Satan," almost all the passages can be shown not to uphold that theory. The great fallen archangel is completely missing from the pages of the Old Testament. Even the words used by the churches, such as "Devil," "Serpent" and "Lucifer," are either misused or, in the case of "Lucifer," mistranslated and should not even be in the Bible. So the great one, the Devil, disappears when we search for him in the pages of the Old Testament. The great one of Revelation 12, that Serpent, that old Dragon, called the Devil, is, obvi-

ously, a description of a great world empire with several heads, representing kings and nations.

Many of those who teach that the serpent of Genesis three is the serpent or Satan of Revelation teach that this serpent of Genesis three was so beautiful and handsome that Eve fell for him and desired him because of his beauty. But, can you imagine any Adamic woman falling for and wanting to be sexually intimate with a creature with seven heads and with horns upon those heads? It must be an entirely different creature. The serpent stands for "the cunning one," but the seven headed beast of Revelation is not the serpent of Genesis three.

In most cases in both the Old and the New Testament where the title "tan" is used, it simply means "opponent" or "adversary." We saw that in many of those places the person was named or his title was given and he was a mortal man. In most cases "satan," or "the devil," can be used interchangeably with the words "sin," "lust to sin," or "desires of the flesh."

David became a "satan" when he numbered Israel (2 Samuel 24:1-2 & 1 Chronicles 21:1). Judas became a "satan" when he desired to get money to betray Jesus. Peter became a "satan" when he tried to interfere with God's plan for Jesus to be crucified (Matthew 16:23). Their acts came from their hearts, from what they thought or desired, in opposition to that which God had planned.

In conclusion, let me quote from a writing of over 100 years ago about who or what the devil of the Bible is:

"The great Satan, or Adversary, then, which every man has to fear and which is ever inclining him to a course opposed to

— continued on page 13 —

GIVE THE DEVIL HIS DUE!





AND DO THEY THINK GOD - MR. CLEAN, HIMSELF - IS CAPABLE OF RUNNING THE **EVIL** DEPARTMENT? I MEAN, HE'S POWERFUL - SURE - BUT HE CAN'T DO EVERYTHING!

THANK GOD (OOPS) MOST PEOPLE SHOW ME SOME RESPECT AND GIVE ME AN IMPORTANT PLACE IN SOCIETY, BLESS THEIR SOULS.

WELL, I DON'T CARE WHAT THOSE ATHEISTS AND HERETICS THINK! I STILL HAVE MY DIGNITY. **I AM WHAT I AM!**

BUNCH

— continued from page 10 —

wisdom and Godliness, is the tendency of the mere animal instincts to act on their own account. This tendency is the spirit or the inclination of the flesh, which must be vigilantly-repressed for a man to keep out of the way of evil. The truth alone, which is the utterance and power of the Spirit, will enable him to do this. If he surrenders to the flesh he walks in the way of death. (Romans 8:13: 'if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.) The object of the Gospel being sent to the Gentiles by Paul was to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God. Ignorance or darkness is the great power of the adversary lurking within us, for where a man is ignorant of God's will, the flesh has a controlling power with him. The Gentiles are alienated from God in Ephesians 4:18 through the ignorance that is in them. Enlightenment through the hearing of the Word creates a new man within whom, in process of time, kills the old man which is corrupt, according to the deceitful lust, or, at least, keeps him under (subjection) lest the new man become a castaway. Introduce the active, plotting, intelligent fiend of Orthodoxy and the whole picture is changed and involved in bewildering confusion. But he cannot be introduced. Our experience forbids it."

Conclusion

I say this: if you removed the Satan of the churches, Christians would realize many things. They would realize that the antiChrists — the enemies of Christians — are flesh and blood men who make sin

their god. As deliberate sinners who refuse to repent and turn, they are to be punished under God's Law. If we accused them of the corruption that they are causing in the world, instead of laying the charge to a "devil," we would begin to remove the individual wicked men who are fighting Jesus Christ, Christians, and Christendom. At the same time, in recognizing that our own great adversary is our own fleshly lusts within our body, we would more readily understand what it is IN US which must be brought under control in order that we, of Israel, may serve the Living and True God.

We would more truly see and understand that we are to be God's servants and we are to war against our own fleshly nature. And, we would understand that God has allowed other races and peoples and beings to believe in non-existent gods for His purpose of calling out Israel to correction.

God created man with what we might call a defect: the natural tendency to sin (called "iniquity" in scripture). Through that defect, called by some "Satan" or "the Devil," we are sinners. It is done for the glory of God, that He might, in the NEXT age resurrect us perfect, sinless, and ever-living — and that we would understand that that perfect life, that sinless life, that everlasting life came not through anything we ever did, but through God's mercy. God will change our corrupt nature to an incorruptible one, and we will be ever living in a Kingdom where we have no devil (no inherent corrupt nature) to tempt us. Praise God.



THE SUPER- NATURAL SATAN DOCTRINE

We have never heard an argument against it. We hear it in the churches, we read it in the magazines, we see it in the movies, we read it in the newspaper and everyone we ever talked to told us that when people die they go to Hell and the devil and his demons stick them with pitchforks forever and ever. We believed this because that was all we ever heard...

Yet, when we begin to examine the scriptures, this doctrine, oddly enough, just is not there.