

THE ANGELIC HOST

LESSON 8

OUTLINE:

1) *Satan – His Origin*

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS:

From our last lesson we saw that the Bible clearly teaches the existence of a real and personal being called Satan. We further examined some of the names he goes by as well as their meanings. We now turn our attention to the problem of how Satan came into existence.

SATAN – HIS ORIGIN

There seems to be many unanswered questions surrounding Satan's beginning. The full history of Satan is not told in the Bible. Still, more is said about the angel Lucifer than about all the other angels put together. We know he was a created being, but we know little about that creation. The greater part of our knowledge about his origin comes from the Old Testament books of Ezekiel and Isaiah.

We will consider the words of the prophet Ezekiel first. Who was Ezekiel told to address a lamentation to (a composition of grief)?

Ezekiel 28:11-12 _____

Tyre was an important seaport in ancient Phoenicia. In the first of Chapter 28 (verses 1-10), Ezekiel addresses another ruler of Tyre, this time a prince. A careful reading will reveal that, while the ruler referred to in verses 1-10 was a man, the king referred to in verses 11-19 cannot be a man. Actually what we have is a comparison between Satan and a literal ruler who was likened unto and under the influence of Satan. The literal ruler was a figure of the Devil himself. The chief sins of the real ruler of Tyre were identical to those of Satan which caused his original fall. What were these two major sins?

Ezekiel 28:2 "Thine heart _____"

"Thou hast said _____"

Satan is spoken of as the true power and ruler behind all such pomp and pride as that of Tyre and its' prince. Satan was the real king of the evil city, as he is of all such evil cities. This is not the only instance where an evil angel is named after a person in high office. Recall the occasion where Daniel prayed 21 days and did not receive any answer. An angel of the Lord appeared and told him to take heart, for from the first day he prayed God had sent the answer. Then why wasn't the angel able to deliver God's answer to Daniel?

Daniel 10:13 _____

How was the good angel finally enabled to reach Daniel?

Daniel 10:13 _____

Here the evil angel is called a “prince”. This was no man, for men can do nothing to stop God from answering prayers nor can they stop the work of angels. Rather, this was an evil angel who was Satan’s representative over the kingdom of Persia. In describing this evil being who sought to keep the message of God from reaching Daniel, a human title is given him though he is an evil angel. Satan, though unseen, was the real ruler of Tyre-its true king.

In Isaiah 14:12 we have a description of the sin and fall of Satan. We will go into this at great length at a later time in our lessons. But for now, who was Isaiah told to write the proverb to which refers to Lucifer falling and becoming Satan, the evil one?

Isaiah 14:4 _____

Again we have the same type of comparison as seen in Ezekiel. Though not the literal human king of Babylon, Satan was the “true” king, acting behind the scenes. As Jerusalem seemed to be God’s favored city, so Babylon seemed to be Satan’s favored city.

We will henceforth concern ourselves only with what Ezekiel had to say in verses 11-19. In these verses we have a description of the person of Satan as he left the hand of his maker. Some try to claim that Satan was evil because that is how God made him. As we shall see, God did create the one who later became the Devil, though this change was not God’s doing.

What did Jesus say of Satan which showed he did not remain in his original state?

John 8:44 _____

The word “murderer” literally means “man-slayer”, for only man can be murdered. “From the beginning” refers not to the time of his creation, but rather to “the beginning of human history.” Our main concern is with what Jesus said about the first estate of the Devil; “he abode in the truth”. But he did not remain so, for he “abode no longer” in the truth—he apostatized. Satan did not stay like God originally made him.

Ezekiel 28:11-19 definitely pictures a person. But terms are used which make it impossible to apply them to any human being. This will become obvious as you consider the Scriptures. Only the Devil seems to fit the description. We are about to see a picture of Satan before he sinned and fell.

What are the first five words Ezekiel was told to say, which proved that all he was about to speak was true, and not the thoughts of a man with a wild imagination.

Ezekiel 28:12 _____

In verse 12 we are told two things about Satan.

The words “thou sealest up the sum”, indicates that after all of his attributes were added up, he was the most exalted of all God’s creatures. In Satan was found the sum total of beauty and intelligence found in all of God’s angels. In other words, turn the millions and millions of angels into one single angel and you would have a picture of Satan as he left the hands of his Maker. His wisdom and beauty equaled that of the sum total of all the other angels. Satan’s wisdom and beauty and beauty equaled that of the sum total of all the other angels. Satan possessed the full measure of creative beauty and wisdom. There was no room for improvement and still have Satan remain classified as a creature. The next step would have been for God to duplicate Himself, which He would never do.

In verse 13 we are told of a place where Satan was privileged to walk, which was?

At the close of verse 13 it is definitely stated that Satan was created by God.

In verse 14 we are told the kind of angel God intended Lucifer to be, which was?

This title refers to the special work that God gave Lucifer to do. We have already seen that cherubim are a special order of angels who have a responsibility connected with the throne of God. The cherubim seem to outrank all the other angels. They are always pictured as nearest God’s Throne and as responsible for leading others in worship of God. In verse 14 Satan is referred to as “the” cherub and not as “a” cherub, which seems to say he was to be the chief of all cherubim. Another interesting thing is that he is referred to as the “anointed” cherub. In Old Testament times men were anointed only if they were to fill three offices – the prophet, the priest, and the king. It seems logical to say that Satan, as “anointed”, held all three offices. As priest, he served God and was responsible for leading the angelic host in worship of God. As prophet he was charged with watching over the truth of God and seeing that all angels be instructed in God’s wisdom. Only of Lucifer was it said he was “full” of wisdom. As king, he held the position of being the leader of all angels. The expression “that covereth” refers to his having wings which “over-shadowed.” This seems to refer to some type of protection he gave concerning the throne of God. Possibly he was in charge of seeing that there be no rebellion among the angels which would lead them to attempt to take over the throne of God. This aspect of Satan’s work is no doubt what verse 16 means when it speaks of Lucifer as the “covering” cherub. We can only speculate regarding much of what the work of Satan was before he sinned and fell.

How did Lucifer come to have such a high position near the throne of God?

Ezekiel 28:14 _____

What other place, besides Eden, was Satan privileged to be and walk in?

Ezekiel 28:14 _____

The “Holy mount” of God has reference to that place where God Himself resides, the center of His power, government and eternal Throne. The stones of fire” seem to have some connection with the Throne itself (read Ezekiel 1:25-27). Satan, before he fell, was allowed to dwell very close to the Most High God, The psalmist once referred to this mountain in what way?

Psalm 48:1

Satan, in his original condition, walked in unbroken relation to God and divine holiness.

What is the concluding remark we can make regarding Lucifer as he came from the hand of God.

Ezekiel 28:15

Again it must be mentioned that this passage of Scripture (28:11-15) could not refer to any human being, because no mere human being has ever done and been all that is said about this King of Tyre. It has to refer to Satan.

To sum up, we are told the following about Satan in his original state:

- 1) He was created by God
- 2) He belonged to the cherubic order
- 3) He was the head of all angels
- 4) He was the sum total of wisdom and beauty
- 5) He appears to have been anointed to fill the offices of prophet, priest and king
- 6) His dwelling place was next to God's Throne
- 7) He frequented Eden, the garden of God
- 8) He originally stood in the truth
- 9) He was perfect in all his ways
- 10) The position he held was given him by God

