

Pentwater Bible Church

Ephesians Message 14

Spiritual Warfare

Demonology & World Unrest



Angels and Demons or Angel of Light © George Grie, March 2008

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The Book of Ephesians

Message Fourteen

Spiritual Warfare: Satan Conclusion & Demonology

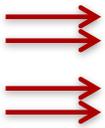
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Review:

The Six Successive Domains of Satan:

- ~~1. The Throne of God (Past)~~
- ~~2. The Jeweled Garden of Eden (Past)~~
3. The Atmospheric Heavens (Present)
4. The Earth (Future)
5. The Abyss (Future)
6. The Lake of Fire (Future)



The first two domains of Satan which were in the past are found in Ezekiel 28:11-15.

SATAN'S FIRST DOMAIN, THE HOLY THRONE OF GOD

In verse fourteen we are told that he lived in the Holy Mountain of God. Mountain, in the Bible's prophetic passages, refers to a king, kingdom or throne. There are two extremes when interpreting the prophetic symbols in the Bible. One is to ignore them because they are thought to be impossible to interpret and those who say this are not sure of what they mean. The other is to apply guesswork to speculate. Both extremes will not produce the God intended meaning of the prophetic passages. Balance must be utilized to understand the passages. The Bible does use many symbols but it is consistent in their application. Symbols are consistent in about ninety-five percent of the time throughout both the Old and New Testaments. For example when ever the word stone is used symbolically it is always referring to the Second Person of the Trinity, Jesus. Satan's first domain is said to be the Holy Mountain of God. Verse fourteen says he was "over the holy mountain of God." This means that he was upon the Throne of God as a canopy or overshadowing the Throne of God.

Verse 12 says that Satan *sealed up the sum, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty*. The root of the Hebrew word seal means to weigh or measure off. We see this usage in Ezekiel 43:10 where it means to fill up or complete the pattern. To seal up a sum means to "fill up" or "complete" the pattern completely. This means that Satan was the one who "sealed the measurements" in that he was perfect in the areas of wisdom and beauty. Of all the created beings Satan was the wisest and most beautiful. This obviously differs from the various speculative paintings of him as an ugly creature.

The highest order of celestial created beings are the cherubim and they are responsible for carrying the Shekinah Glory and are closest to God's Throne (cf. Ezekiel 10). The seraphim surround the Throne and the angels are in front of the Throne (Revelation 4; 5). At some time in eternity past God elevated Lucifer to be the most anointed cherub. As the anointed cherub that covers he had the position of being a canopy

or covering over the Throne of God. In Ezekiel chapter one while other cherubs were carrying the Throne Lucifer was over it. He was the most prominent of all of the cherubs.

One other aspect of his nature was given in verse fifteen as being perfect in all his ways from the day he was created. When God created him was perfect. That perfection meant that he had the power to make contrary choice. That is a choice contrary to his nature. Mankind does not have that choice since we must choose according to our fallen nature. By nature he was holy and perfect and he had the power to make a choice that was unholy and imperfect.

THE SECOND DOMAIN THE JEWELLED GARDEN OF EDEN

Sometime after the creation of the celestial beings (Job 38: 4-7) God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1). Lucifer was given authority over the earth as the passage states: *you were in Eden the garden of God*. This Garden of Eden is not the same as the garden in Genesis. This is a jewel garden. The Genesis Eden is a vegetable garden. This passage describes the original creation being covered in jewels with no oceans or seas. The jewels exuded a light and are so-called as “*the stones of fire*” in verse fourteen. Satan, walking up and down these had dominion over it for some unknown amount of time. This was before any other earthly being was created. The stones also served as a canopy over Satan. Because the jewels and gold mentioned are almost exactly the same as the breastplate to the High Priest in the Tabernacle the text strongly suggests Satan had a priestly role in the first Garden of Eden.

The term “*the workmanship of your tabrets and of your pipes was in you*” is a reference to musical instruments, which would add credence to the thought that he was a High Priest in heaven leading worship of God. It can also refer to the sockets, which hold the jewels mentioned. The Hebrew context accommodates both meanings. Finally, the verse says that; *in the day that you were created they were prepared*. This means that from the moment he was created he was assigned certain responsibilities.

1. He was the epitome of wisdom and beauty
2. He had musical instruments to use in worship
3. He was probably High Priest in the heavenly Tabernacle

This is the domain from which he had his fall.

Looking at his authority, wisdom, beauty and other aspects he became prideful and sinned. The first sin ever was the sin of pride. Sodom fell for this reason (Ezekiel 16:49) and we are warned not to appoint novices as elders in the church because of the same issue following Satan in his fall (I Tim 3: 6). Clearly Lucifer fell due to pride and he became Satan, which in Hebrew means adversary.

Isaiah gives us the content of that pride in the five wills.

1. I will ascend up to heaven. He was not satisfied with the domain God gave him. He wanted a higher position than God had assigned him. The only higher position was that of God Himself.

2. He desired to be sole authority over the angels (stars) of heaven. This would have deposed Michael as Archangel over the angels. This will lead to Michael battling with Satan in various disputes (Dan 10: 13; 12: 1; Jude 1: 9; Revelation 12: 7)
3. Sitting on the Mount of the Congregation refers to the Messianic Throne in the Millennial Kingdom.
4. Ascending above the heights of the clouds means to usurp the Shekinah Glory.
5. He wanted to make himself like the Most High. God when referred to as Most High (Genesis 14: 18-20) it means that God possesses the heavens and the earth. Therefore he wanted to be the sole owner of all of God's creation.

The result of Satan's pride was his leading a revolt in heaven against God. He was followed by one-third of the angelic host (Revelation 12: 3-4). In this way Lucifer or day-star, son of the morning became Satan the adversary. Judgment then came upon him.

Ezekiel 28: 15 states: *Till unrighteousness was found in you.* This is the only verse that describes the origin of sin in the Bible. The Hebrew word for unrighteousness is "wrongdoings." Ezekiel 28: 16-19 describes the content of his corruption.

The abundance of your traffic is a reference to Satan trafficking about to gain support for his wrongdoings among the heavenly host, the angels. He slandered God to win their allegiance. Eventually he convinced one-third of them to follow him (Revelation 12:4). In this manner Satan became the father of lies (John 8:44) because he originated lying. They filled you with violence refers to the net result of trafficking from angel to angel to lie about God. This led to violence in the revolt between bad angels and good angels. It will finally end in the middle of the Tribulation (Revelation 12: 7-12).

Verse 16b casts him out of the Mountain of God and destroyed (positionally) him from the midst of the stones of fire. He lost his first two domains. He further corrupted Heaven (sanctuaries) with his iniquity resulting in the necessity for The Messiah to provide the cleansing blood (Hebrews 9: 23-26).

Jesus had to ascend to God the Father with His cleansing blood to cleanse the heavenly sanctuary and tabernacle. This is why Mary Magdalene could not touch Him (John 20:17).

Satan was cast to the ground meaning he lost his first two domains. In the prophetic interpretive schema known as "prophetic perfect" it also refers to his being cast out of his third domain. Verse nineteen states the astonishment of those that see him in his punished state. Those who knew him someday will be astonished at his demise. They thought he would be their savior and leader. He has proven to be a failure. In this fall he has become a terror to the earth and the fallen angels who see their end in the Lake of Fire with him. Someday he will finally be finished and not have any more ability to terrorize.

When God judged Lucifer He judged all the original earth and the condition of Genesis 1: 2 came in to being. God created a perfect earth and Lucifer corrupted it. The "waste and without form" are the result of Satan's corruption. Some time after this came to creation account in Genesis one. The oceans are the result of the corruption and have been allowed to be partially removed but will be fully removed in the New Jerusalem (Revelation 21: 1) when the earth is restored and sin is finally removed. The new earth will look like to old earth with jewels and gold.

It must be realized that this is not the *gap theory*. That is a heretical theory. It says that there was a previous age in which there was another human race and supporters of that theory try to provide an integration of creation with the eons of time proposed by geologists and evolutionists. Some call this gap the dinosaur gap. Scripture nowhere supports this theory.

Finally when God finished creating He gave man authority over the earth, which was usurped by Satan at the fall, which gave him the dominion of the earth over which to pollute until he is cast totally to the earth removing any access to Heaven. For now he has access to Heaven and the earth (Matthew 4: 9; Luke 4: 6-7; II Corinthians 4: 4; John 12: 31; 14: 30).

Today's Message:

SATAN'S THIRD DOMAIN: THE ATMOSPHERIC HEAVENS

This is the domain of Satan that has been disclosed in the book of Ephesians, which we have been studying.

Ephesians 2: 2 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 6: 12 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.

Satan in these two verses is described as the prince of the power of the air and existing in the heavenly places. He lives in the atmospheric heavens or in the air. He has permission to access two places, Heaven, and the earth. We see his Heavenly access in Job 1:6; 2:1. Here he is the accuser of the brethren (Revelation 12: 10). He also accuses the nation Israel (Zechariah 3:1). When Adam fell, Satan became the prince of the power of this world (John 12:31), the god of this age (II Corinthians 4:4) and the prince of the kingdom of this world and can offer them to whomsoever he wills, as he did with Jesus (Luke 4: 5-7).

He comes to earth in two forms. The first is as a roaring lion (I Peter 5: 8). In this way he destroys and devours. We will examine this characteristic when we begin to see how the demons are so led. This form frequently results in physical persecution of Christians and the long campaign he has had against the Jews throughout human history. The second manifestation is as an angel of light (II Corinthians 11: 14). In this form he is a master deceiver. He has instigated a counterfeit program trying to be like the Most High. His program has been successful as he deceives believers to draw them away from a careful study of Gods Word. This program of deception has been carried out against both unbelievers (Revelation 20: 3) and believers (II Corinthians 11: 3). It is crucial that a believer study the Word of God in a line-by-line, verse-by-verse basis to ascertain the genuine story that God has provided. Knowing the genuine well will enable us to see the false when it is presented.

II Corinthians 11: 3-4 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. 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.

This simply speaks to the counterfeit. We have the genuine; we don't need the counterfeit. Many people depart from the genuine and embrace aberrant theologies because they do not know God's Word well. They start to listen to bad teachers and fall for the false because they do not know the genuine.

In II Cor 11: 4 *another Jesus, ...another spirit...* and *another gospel* needs clarification. There are two Greek words for different *allos* and *heteros*. *Allos* speaks to another of the same kind and *heteros* speaks to another of a different kind. In the preceding two verses the text speaks of another of the same kind of Jesus (*allos*) but another of different kinds (*heteros*) of gospel and spirit. The Jesus being presented is like the genuine but is actually a counterfeit because the Spirit and the gospel presented with him are a different kind, and therefore false.

II Corinthians 11: 13-14 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

The counterfeit teachers called apostles are false but don't seem to be because they transform themselves into what seems to be the genuine. They are reflecting the leading of their true lord Satan the angel of darkness who fashions himself as an angel of light. Jesus gives the extent of the program as a warning.

Matthew 7: 22-23 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

Their accomplishments are significant. They can cast out demons, prophecy future events and do miraculous healings. They are doing the things that Satan can do. Outward miracles are not the proof of the genuine. Proof of the genuine is conformity to God's Word. The sensational is never going to replace the genuine. Those who stay at a superficial knowledge of Christ and His Word never mature in Christ and will receive no rewards or any position when the Kingdom is established on the earth. If they have no desire to grow, they should also be concerned about the sincerity of their salvation. Satan, in this domain, is the great tempter causing man to fall.

THE FORTH DOMAIN: THE EARTH

The forth domain is yet future to us and is best described by the Revelation.

Revelation 12: 7-12; 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. 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.

In the middle of the Great Tribulation Satan will be cast down to the earth and confined there for the rest of the Tribulation. He will attempt to destroy the Jews once and for all. He will attempt to achieve this through the Antichrist and the False Prophet (Revelation 13).

THE FIFTH DOMAIN: THE ABYSS

Satan entering the Abyss is described in Revelation.

Revelation 20: 1-3 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.

Satan will be held captive during the one thousand year Kingdom period. During this time sin will be greatly reduced on the earth but not eliminated. Jesus the God-Man will rule the earth for this period and mankind will not have Satan the accuser to ruin his authority over the earth.

Hebrews 2: 5-9 For unto the angels hath he not put in subjection the world to come, whereof we speak. But one in a certain place testified, saying, What is man, that thou art mindful of him? or the son of man that thou visitest him? Thou madest him a little lower than the angels; thou crownedst him with glory and honour, and didst set him over the works of thy hands: Thou hast put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that he put all in subjection under him, he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we see not yet all things put under him. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels

for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man.

THE SIXTH DOMAIN: THE LAKE OF FIRE

Revelation 20: 7-10 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.

As a result of Satan finally being removed and cast into a permanent punishment along with the fallen angels and unredeemed humanity he can do no more harm. Death will finally be permanently removed (I Corinthians 15: 24-26) and the seas and oceans will no longer exist as the earth had no seas in the first creation, Satan's second domain (Revelation 21: 1).

Part 2 Biblical Demonology - Introduction

Many in the first four centuries of the Church, such as Lactantius and Augustine, wrote of the demons. This doctrine has fallen silent for nearly 1600 years except for a few obscure writers. With Adolph Hitler's appearance and his know demonic influence the subject has received some attention by theologians. Paul Tillich the liberal protestant German theologian wrote of the demonic forces controlling modern history. It is most important to see what the Bible reveals about the demons and demonic forces.

We have seen that sin was originated in Satan (Ezekiel 28: 15). He is a king with a kingdom (Matthew 12:26) and a portion of that kingdom consists of demons (Matthew 12: 24). Scripture does not give us the specific *exact* origin of the demons. The New Testament tells of the angels who defected with Satan and "kept not their first estate" and "are reserved unto judgment of the great day" (II Peter 2: 4; Jude 1:6). Most competent conservative Bible teachers view the demons as the fallen angels. This fall happened during Satan's second domain, the Jeweled Garden of Eden. The Bible has a lot to say about the demons and their capabilities. Some refer to them as disembodied spirits. The Bible is vastly superior in its exposition of demonology to the superstitious exaggeration in the general population.

Demons do exist, the Bible says they do. In the Old Testament they were the power behind the idols prohibited by God for the Israelites to entertain. In Hebrew, the demons are called *Shedhim* (Deut. 32: 17; Psalm 106: 36-37) as well as *Seirim* (Lev. 17:7; II Chron. 11: 15; Isaiah 13:21; 34: 14).

The New Testament has much to say about the demons.

1. They exist (James 2: 19; Revelation 9:20).
2. Describe their nature (Luke 4:33; 6: 18).
3. Describe their activity (I Tim 4: 1; Revelation 16: 14).
4. Discuss their expulsion from human bodies (Luke 9: 42).
5. Suggest their organization under Satan (Matthew 12: 26; Ephesians 6: 12).
6. Show their abode (Luke 8: 31; Revelation 9: 11).
7. Show their final doom (Matthew 25: 41).
8. Jesus commanded His disciples to cast them out (Luke 9: 1).
9. He cast them out himself (Matthew 15: 22; 28).
10. He rebuked them (Mark 5:8).
11. He had complete power over them (Matthew 12: 29).
12. Viewed His demonic conquest as conquering Satan (Luke 10: 17-18).
13. Can possess humans (Mark 1:32).
14. Know who Jesus is (Luke 4: 41).
15. The unsaved serve them (I Corinthians 10: 20).
16. Humans cannot serve both demons and Christ (I Corinthians 10: 21).
17. Demons can deceive by doing miracles through some people (Revelation 16: 14).
18. They are characterized as foul spirits (Revelation 18: 2).

The demons have keen and supernatural knowledge. It is not as powerful as God's holy or our saving knowledge. They are confirmed in evil, never seek forgiveness and never plead for purity. They know that Jesus is the Lord of the spirit-world but don't have a trust in Him or submit to Him. They worship Christ but not in adoration or joy in Holy Communion. They bend to His will in resentment and hate. They like Satan have limited knowledge and ceaselessly attempt to thwart God's plans and purposes. They are depraved and completely morally corrupt. These evil beings have a desire to corrupt and are frequently called unclean in the Bible (Matthew 10:1; Mark 1: 27; 3: 11; Luke 4: 36; Acts 8:7; Revelation 16: 13).

Next session: The Realm of Demonology and Their Effect on Humankind.

Please Call or e-mail with any questions or comments.
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