

Week 4: The Elephant in the Room:



Clobbered, but by **WHO**?

"You bring new witnesses against me and increase Your anger toward me; Your forces come against me wave upon wave."

Job 10:117

"Then know that God has wronged me and drawn His net around me." Job 19:6

God, according to Job

"As surely as God lives, who has denied me justice, the Almighty, who has made my life bitter . . . " Job 27:2

"He destroys both the blameless and the wicked." Job 9:22 "He mocks the despair of the innocent." Job 9:23

God, according to Job

"When a land falls into the hands of the wicked, [God] blindfolds its judges. If it is not He, then who is it?" Job said. Job 9:24

Never once does Job consider that Satan is the source of his afflictions, even though Job likely was familiar with the history of God's creation, mankind, and Satan's fall.

Scholars believe Job was a not-too-distant ancestor of Shem, a son of Noah, and, therefore, he would have known the story of the flood, the iconic story of conflict between good and evil following creation.

Eliphaz appears to reference the great flood:

"Will you keep to the old path that the wicked have trod? They were carried off before their time, their foundations washed away by a flood."

> Eliphaz to Job Job 22:15-16

Eliphaz also was familiar with the great conflict in heaven between God and Satan. Twice, Eliphaz referenced the Lord charging His angels with error.

".... 'If God . . . charges his angels with error" Job 4:18

"If God places no trust in His holy ones, if even the heavens are not pure in His eyes, how much less mortals" Job 15:15-16 These could not have been "good angels," because nowhere else does Scripture suggest they erred.



Although Eliphaz recognized the existence of demonic forces, Job, in all his many words, did not.

Satan is the proverbial elephant in the

room.

"The invisibility of the devil and his demons makes them little feared by the ignorant world."

> - William Gurnall, The Christian in Complete Armour, one of the greatest books on spiritual warfare ever written



Who is Satan?

Satan was anointed and ordained as a Guardian Cherub, created blameless.

Ezekiel 28:14-15

He lived in Eden, the garden of God. Ezekiel 28:13

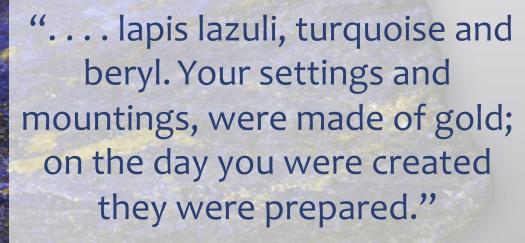
He was first called Lucifer, "Son of the Morning" or "Morning Star."

"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!"

Isaiah 14:12 (KJV)

Satan was adorned with splendor and beauty. ".... every precious stone adorned you: carnelian, chrysolite and emerald ...





Ezekiel 28:13

Who is Satan?

Then Lucifer became proud. Given free will by God, he misused his power and denounced the source of his extraordinary gifts.

He sought to be equal with God to make himself like the Most High

"You said in your heart, <u>I will make myself</u> <u>like the Most High</u>."

Isaiah 14:12-15

Compare Satan's pride with Christ's humility "Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage"

Philippians 2:6

As a result of his pride, Satan was thrown to earth.



"Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God and I expelled you, guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth"

Ezekiel 28:16-17

"The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him." Revelation 12:9



Many believe Leviathan of Job 41 is Satan.

"Nothing on earth is its equal a creature without fear. It looks down on all that are haughty; it is king over all that are proud."

Job 41:33-34

Supporting Scripture

"In that day, the LORD will punish with his sword his fierce, great and powerful sword — Leviathan, the gliding serpent, Leviathan, the coiling serpent; he will slay the monster of the sea."

Isaiah 27:1

"He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan, and bound him for a thousand years."

Revelation 20:2

Is it a coincidence that the Lord dedicated a full chapter to introducing Job to Leviathan? "Can you pull in Leviathan with a fishhook or tie down its tongue with a rope? Can you put a cord through its nose or pierce its jaw with a hook? Will it keep begging you for mercy? Will it speak to you with gentle words? Will it make an agreement with you for you to take it as your slave for life?"

Job 41:1-5

Satan's rebellion created a war between two kingdoms: The Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Satan.

Every angel and human being is in one kingdom or the other.

In this verse, Christ spoke of both kingdoms:

"If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can <u>his kingdom</u> stand? And if I drive out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your people drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. But if it is by the Spirit of God that I drive out demons, then the <u>kingdom of God</u> has come upon you."

Matthew 12:26-28

Each kingdom has a hierarchy.

"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."

Ephesians 6:12 (KJV)

Michael, the Archangel, is called a "prince" who protects the Israelites

Daniel 11:1; Jude 1:9

Satan is called the "prince" of demons, suggesting authority and hierarchy.

Matthew 12:24

For when Satan left the highest heaven, he took a third of the angels with him.

"Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth."

> - About the enormous red dragon Revelation 12:3-9

Satan is not omni-present. Although he was thrown to earth, Satan roams both <u>earth</u> and <u>heaven</u>. "One day the angels came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came with them. The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?"

> Satan answered the Lord, "From <u>roaming throughout the earth</u>, going back and forth on it." Job 1:6-7

Some, like the Rev. Dr. Derek Prince, believe Satan and his demons are headquartered in the "second" heaven.

> See Derek Prince – <u>The Enemies We Face</u> <u>Casting Down Strongholds</u>

Derek's Logic: 1. There are multiple heavens.

"In the beginning, God created the <u>heavens</u> and the earth."

Genesis 1:1

Derek's Logic: 2. In fact, there are at least three heavens. "I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven . . . He was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell."

2 Corinthians 12:2-4



3. There is the <u>highest heaven</u>, where the Lord sits on his throne.

"Glory to God in the <u>highest heaven</u>, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

Luke 2:14

"The highest heavens belong to the LORD, but the earth he has given to mankind."

Psalm 115:16

"... To Him who rides across the <u>highest heavens</u>, the ancient heavens, who thunders with mighty voice."
Psalm 68:33 "To the LORD your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it." Deuteronomy 10:14

"You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you." Nehemiah 9:6

Derek's Logic: 4. There is the lowest heaven, which is visible to human beings. "When I consider your heavens, the works of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place"

Psalm 8:3

"Look up at the heavens and see; gaze at the clouds so high above you." Job 35:5



5. Logic, then, dictates that there is a "second" or at least one "middle" heaven.

Because multiple verses speak of spiritual warfare occurring in heaven, Dr. Prince reasons that this is where Satan has his throne.

"For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."

Ephesians 6:10-12 (NIV)

"As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient." Ephesians 2:1-2 Read this epic example of heavenly warfare, precipitated by the prayers and fasting of a godly man, Daniel, for the nation of Israel. "On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was standing on the bank of the great river, the Tigris ... "... I looked up and there before me was a man dressed in linen, with a belt of fine gold from Uphaz around his waist. His body was like topaz, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude." Daniel 10:4-6

"Then he continued, 'Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them ...



.... But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days.

.... Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia."

Daniel 10:12-13

".... Soon I will return to fight against the prince of Persia, and when I go, the prince of Greece will come; but first I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth. (No one supports me against them except Michael, your prince.)"

Daniel 10:20-21

Knowing that we are members of a kingdom at war—and understanding the agenda and the character of the adversary—are essential if we don't want to become hapless victims of the battle.

Pride, murder, and lies are Satan's signature activities.

Jesus Christ:

"He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

John 8:44

Satan's ambition: to be equal with God. Satan's ambition: to usurp God's glory. Satan's ambition: To lead the whole world astray.

Satan masquerades as an angel of light, mimicking God.

He pretends to be on the side of humans, but ultimately leads them to destruction.



Beware of religion that talks little of sin or repentance.

Job cooperated with Satan when he fell into little white lies – exaggerations.

Prais Of Men

Job reflected Satan's character when he sought the praise of men.

Rather than denounce the promptings of Satan or his demons, Job turned off the soundings of his own conscience.

"My conscience will not reproach me as long as I live." Job 27:6

Job opened himself up to envy, a sin that consumes Satan.

Envy

Job, About the Wicked

"Why do the wicked live on, growing old and increasing in power? They see their children established around them ... Their homes are safe and free from fear; the rod of God is not on them. Their bulls never fail to breed; their cows calve and do not miscarry They spend their years in prosperity and go down to the grave in peace. Yet they say to God, 'Leave us alone! We have no desire to know your ways.'"

Job 21:7-14

The Psalmist, About the Wicked

"They have no struggles. Their bodies are healthy and strong. They are free from common human burdens; Pride is their necklace; they clothe themselves with violence. From their callous hearts comes iniquity; their evil imaginations have no limits. They scoff, and speak with malice; with arrogance they threaten oppression. Their mouths lay claim to heaven, and their tongues take possession of the earth. Therefore, their people turn to them and drink up waters in abundance. They say, 'How would God know? Does the Most High know anything?'"

Psalm 73:4-11

The Psalmist said he, the Psalmist, nearly lost his foothold and his feet had nearly slipped because he envied the arrogant when he saw their prosperity.

The Psalmist caught himself—exhibiting a form of spiritual warfare—but Job did not.

Satan works through nations, making rulers his puppets.

"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!"

Isaiah 14:12 (KJV)

He enters people.

"Then Satan entered Judas, called Iscariot, one of the Twelve."

Luke 22:3

"Jesus turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.'"

Matthew 16:23

And his demons enter people.

"When an impure spirit comes out of a person, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that person is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation." Matthew 12:43-45

Demons cause disease and sickness.

".... so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them."

Acts 19:12

"Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?"

Luke 13:16

"At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind."

Luke 7:21

When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." Mark 9:25

Satan and demons rob us of our joy.

"What the locust swarm has left the great locusts have eaten; what the great locusts have left the young locusts have eaten; what the young locusts have left other locusts have eaten." Joel 1:4

> "Surely the people's joy is withered away." Joel 1:12

Satan withered away Job's joy long before his devastation.

Job was driven by fear, the opposite of faith.

0

"What I feared has come upon me; what I dreaded has happened to me," Job said. Job 3:25 Satan created the events that devastated Job, but God permitted Satan to act. WHY?

Because turning errant men over to Satan is a Scriptural way to redeem them. Job's suffering was for his healing and redemption.

Satan

Paul told the Corinthians to hand a man over to Satan for the destruction <u>of the flesh</u>, so that his spirit may be saved on the Day of the Lord. I Corinthians 5:4

In the New Testament, Hymenaeus and Alexander were handed over to Satan to be taught not to blaspheme. I Timothy 1:20 22:31

Peter was delivered from his pride by being sifted like wheat.

And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat." Luke

But God is merciful and restores the joy the locusts have taken. "I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten—the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm —my great army that I sent among you."

Joel 2:25

He doubled Job's portion.

"Return to your fortress, you prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you."

Zechariah 9:12

But there is a condition . . .

"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity." Joel 2:12-13

Consider that the wheels of Heavenly help went into motion after Daniel humbled himself, fasted, and <u>set his mind to gain understanding</u>. Although He permits Satan to rule on earth to purify and refine us, not wishing any to perish, the Lord will ultimately be victorious. "Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. The last enemy to be destroyed is death."

I Corinthians 15:24