

## CHAPTER 5

# The Diabolical Dragon

People sometimes talk about the devil. Is the devil real or is the devil just pretend? Is Satan some imaginary, fictional, mythical character or is he for real?

If the devil is real, have you ever seen him? What is he like? Is he red with horns on his head and with a pitchfork in his hands? Is he powerful? Is he intelligent? Is he clever? What is he doing in the world today? What is going to happen to him in the future? Should I be afraid of Satan?

The Bible has much to say about the devil. Indeed, it is impossible to have a correct understanding of the devil apart from what God has revealed in His Word. Satan is a *very real* person. He is just as real as you are. Read what the Lord Jesus said in Luke 10:18. Did Jesus Christ believe that Satan was a real person? \_\_\_\_\_ In this chapter of notes we want to learn about Satan and what will happen to him in the future!

### An Angel Called Lucifer

God did not create the devil. That is, He did not create a wicked, sinful creature. God created a beautiful angel who was righteous and holy and good. He was a special kind of angel known as a CHERUB (Ezekiel 28:14). This angel is sometimes known by the name of L \_\_\_\_\_ (Isaiah 14:12). He was very close to God and he served in the very presence of God. He was one of the most important angels that God created.

God tells us what this angel was like in Ezekiel 28:11-19. Did God create this angel perfect or imperfect (Ezekiel 28:12,15)? \_\_\_\_\_

### The Fall of Lucifer

Something terrible happened to this angel! Concerning Lucifer the Bible says, "Thine heart was \_\_\_\_\_ because of thy beauty" (Ezekiel 28:17). He became PROUD of his beauty and his wisdom and his power. In his heart he said something like this:

**LUCIFER  
SAID→**

**"How beautiful I am! How wise I am! God is not the only One who is great. I'm great too. Why should all the angels worship God? I want them to worship me. I WILL BE LIKE THE MOST HIGH" (see Isaiah 14:12-14)**

For Lucifer to think this way was **sin**. Lucifer was once perfect, but he was perfect no more: "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, until \_\_\_\_\_ was found in thee" (Ezekiel 28:15).

The word "iniquity" means "SIN, EVIL, CROOKEDNESS." God found evil and sin in the heart of this angel. This angel sinned and became Satan the devil. God did not create Satan. Lucifer became Satan because of sin.

For another study on the fall of Satan, see [The Origin of Sin--Part 1 \(the Fall of Satan\)](#).

### The Devil's Five Names

In the Bible names usually have meaning. For example, the name "JESUS" means "Saviour" (see Matthew 1:21). The devil has several names and each name tells us something about what he is like. In Revelation 12:9 and 20:2 we find **four names** for this wicked person. What are these four names?

1) \_\_\_\_\_ 2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4) \_\_\_\_\_

Let's learn about these names:

#### 1. The Dragon

Usually when we think of a dragon we think of a huge, imaginary creature that looks like a dinosaur and breathes fire out of its mouth or nostrils. The devil is no imaginary creature. HE IS FOR REAL! And the devil is a creature who is very deadly. Jesus described this dragon in John 8:44 and said, "He was a M\_\_\_\_\_ from the beginning."

From the very beginning of human history Satan the dragon has been trying to get people to choose his way (THE WAY OF DEATH) instead of God's way (THE WAY OF LIFE). God told Adam not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil because if he ate from this tree he would surely \_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 2:17). Did Satan the dragon try to get him to eat this fruit (Genesis 3:1-5)? \_\_\_\_\_ Was the devil successful (Genesis 3:6)? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note:** There is evidence that "dragons" may have been real creatures living on earth. Many ancient societies mentioned dragons in their written records or in their legends. Those who are students of history know that throughout man's time on earth there have been stories of dragons. Dragon legends and pictures can be found in Africa, India, Europe, the Middle East, the Orient and other parts of the world. The stories and pictures bear certain similarities. The dragons are described as being very strong, and having massive bodies, long strong necks, and huge, powerful tails. Could it be that the dragon stories and dragon pictures are actually based on fact? Were the ancients familiar with real animals that fit these kind of descriptions? Many have concluded that these dragon legends, though full of exaggerations and fictional elements, have their basis in truth, and that these dragons were actually reptile-like creatures which are known today as dinosaurs (terrible lizards). For two remarkable Biblical descriptions of dinosaurs, see Job chapters 40 and 41 (Behemoth and Leviathan). Evolutionists believe that dinosaurs became extinct long before man evolved, and it is unthinkable to them that men and dinosaurs could have lived on the earth at the same time. However, the Biblical record is very clear. Land dinosaurs were created on the very same day as man, Day 6 of the creation week (Genesis 1).

## 2. That Old Serpent

When the devil tricked Eve, through what animal did he speak (see Genesis 3:1-4)?

\_\_\_\_\_ When the devil is called "that old serpent" it reminds us of the time when he tricked Eve in the Garden of Eden. Was the serpent (the devil) trying to help Adam and Eve or harm Adam and Eve? \_\_\_\_\_ Was this serpent their friend or was he their foe (their enemy)? \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. The Devil

The name "DEVIL" means "one who slanders, one who accuses, one who says false things about someone." The devil loves to accuse God and God's people.

After Lucifer fell into sin, God sentenced him and told him what his punishment would be: EVERLASTING \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 25:41). When Satan learned this he probably accused God and said something like this:

**THE DEVIL SAID**→

That's not fair! How can a loving God send His creature into a lake of fire forever and ever?

He accused God of being unfair. Satan is not the only accuser in the world. Many other people accuse God just like the devil did. They might say something like this: "GOD IS NOT FAIR TO SEND PEOPLE TO HELL JUST BECAUSE THEY DO NOT BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST!" But God is fair and God is righteous, and we know that the Judge of all the earth will do what is R \_\_\_\_\_ (Genesis 18:25)!

Satan once accused Job and said something false about him. Read Job 1:8-11:

**THE DEVIL SAID**→

Job does not really love God. He only serves God because of all the blessings God has given to him. If God takes away all of Job's blessings then Job will curse God.

Did God let Satan take away Job's blessings by bringing destruction and death to his possessions and to his family (Job 1:12-19)? \_\_\_\_\_ Did Job curse God (Job 1:20-22)? \_\_\_\_\_ Was Satan right or wrong? \_\_\_\_\_

The devil loves to accuse God's people and speak against them. How often does he do this (Revelation 12:10)? \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. Satan

The name SATAN means "the adversary, THE ENEMY, the foe." Satan is no friend; he is the dreaded foe! He is the enemy of God and he is the enemy of God's people. He hates God and he hates God's people. Jesus spoke about this ENEMY in Matthew 13:28 and 39. Satan is not for God; he is AGAINST GOD.

Jesus once said, "He that is not with Me is \_\_\_\_\_ Me" (Matthew 12:30). There are only two sides and no one can really sit on the fence. A person is either WITH GOD (on God's side) or AGAINST GOD (on the devil's side). Every person is either a child of the D \_\_\_\_\_ or a child of \_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 3:10). How does a person become a son or child of God (John 1:12)?

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Satan wants people to be on his side. He does not want people to become children of God. According to Luke 8:12, what is it that the devil does **not** want people to do? Satan does not mind if people are religious. Can people go to church and still be unsaved? \_\_\_\_\_ Can people say prayers and sing hymns and still be unsaved? \_\_\_\_\_ Can a person be religious and still be on the devil's side? \_\_\_\_\_ In John 8:44 Jesus was speaking to a group of people who were very religious. He said to them, "Ye are of your father the \_\_\_\_\_." Satan wants to blind people and keep them in a state of UNBELIEF (read 2 Corinthians 4:3-4). He is the great enemy of our souls !

Even though Satan is our great enemy, does the Christian need to be afraid of him? The Bible tells us in 1 John 4:4 that "greater is He that is in \_\_\_\_\_ than he that is in the \_\_\_\_\_." The GOD who is in you (if you are a believer) is greater than the DEVIL who is in the world! Satan is much greater than you, but is Satan greater than your God? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you need to be afraid of the devil? \_\_\_\_\_

## 5. The Tempter

Matthew 4:3 records another name for the devil, where we learn that the T \_\_\_\_\_ came to Jesus. Who was this TEMPTER (Matthew 4:1)? \_\_\_\_\_ The devil loves to tempt people and try to make them sin. In Matthew chapter 4 the devil tempted the Lord Jesus but he was not able to make Jesus sin.

This does not mean that we should blame everything on the devil and always say, "THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT!" No, our own sinful heart made us do it (see James 1:14)! When we fall into sin we really have no one to blame but ourselves. The devil loves to see people fall into sin and he will do all he can to lead people into sin, but we must not blame the devil for the sins which we do. The one who should really be blamed is the person who has sinned! When Eve sinned in Genesis 3:1-6, did the devil play a part in it? \_\_\_\_\_ Did he tempt Eve? \_\_\_\_\_ Who did Eve blame (Genesis 3:13)? \_\_\_\_\_ Whose fault was it? \_\_\_\_\_

## What are Satan's Limitations?

### 1. Satan is not present everywhere (OMNIPRESENT).

The devil can only be one place at one time. He cannot be everywhere at the same time. He cannot be in India and in California at the same time.

The devil can, however, get to places in a hurry. In Job 1:6-7 we learn that Satan can go from earth to heaven (v. 6) and he can travel all over the earth (v. 7). Also, the devil has thousands and thousands of demons (wicked angels) that serve him and carry out his work. So even though Satan cannot be everywhere at once, he has so many helpers that it almost seems like he is everywhere in the world. Think of Santa at Christmas time. There are so many people dressed up

like Santa in the different stores throughout the country that it almost seems like Santa is everywhere. There are many people that look like Santa and that are doing the work of Santa. The same is true with Satan because of all of his helpers. Of course, Satan is real and Santa is not. See our study entitled, **The False God of Christmas**.

## 2. Satan is not all knowing (OMNISCIENT).

The devil does not know everything. Only God knows everything. In Job chapter 1 Satan thought he knew why Job feared God, but he was wrong. He does not know everything, but this does not mean that Satan is stupid. He was created "full of wisdom" (Ezekiel 28:12) and even though he fell into sin he is still very smart and very clever and very intelligent. He is so smart that he has tricked and fooled millions of people who have believed his clever lies (John 8:44).

## 3. Satan is not all powerful (OMNIPOTENT).

Satan is very powerful but he is not all powerful. Who is greater than Satan in power (1 John 4:4)? \_\_\_\_\_ In Revelation 12:7-9 we learn that Satan and his army fought against Michael (another angel) and his army. Was Satan powerful enough to win this battle? \_\_\_\_\_ (Note: Actually this battle has not taken place yet, even though it is described in Revelation 12 as if it already took place. It will take place in the future.) Are Satan's darts powerful enough to destroy the believer if the believer is wearing God's armour and holding God's shield (Ephesians 6:16)? \_\_\_\_\_

Satan is not all powerful, but he is **much** more powerful than we are. A little boy was asked, "What would you do if Satan were to knock at your door?" The youngster had the right idea: "I would send the Lord Jesus to the door!" God can handle the devil! We cannot!

## Two Extremes to Avoid

There are two extremes to be avoided in dealing with the devil.

### 1) Over-emphasizing the devil

Some people emphasize the devil too much. They think about him all the time. They see the devil's hand in everything that happens. They talk about him all the time. They are all wrapped up in Satan. But the believer in Christ needs to be all wrapped up in God. We need to have our thoughts centered in the Lord our God. We need to see God's hand in everything that happens. We don't need to constantly be thinking about the devil, because the God who lives in us is infinitely greater than Satan (1 John 4:4).

### 2) Under-emphasizing the devil

We do need to recognize the reality of the devil and clearly understand all that the Bible teaches us about this evil fallen angel. We need to know our enemy and understand his deceptions. We should not be ignorant of Satan and his devices, but God should always be our main focus. To learn how to handle the devil, study Matthew chapter 4, **The Temptation of Christ**.

### What Is Satan Doing Today?

Today Satan is very much alive, and he is very busy! Satan is quite active on planet earth. To see this, do the following MATCHING problem:

- |          |  |   |
|----------|--|---|
| 1. _____ | <b>He is deceiving and tricking the nations.</b>   |   |
| 2. _____ | <b>He blinds the minds of unbelievers and tries to keep people from believing the gospel.</b>  | A. 1 Peter 5:8<br>B. Revelation 20:3                          |
| 3. _____ | <b>He is like a roaring lion seeking to attack those that he can.</b>  | C. John 16:11;<br>John 12:31<br>D. 2 Cor. 4:3-4;<br>Luke 8:12 |
| 4. _____ | <b>He is the prince or ruler of this world. He rules in the hearts of unsaved men and carries out his wicked program in the world.</b> |   |

### Satan Expelled From Heaven

Today Satan is allowed to have access to heaven, as we learn by reading Job 1:6 and Job 2:1. However, there will come a time when Satan will be forced to leave heaven. We read about this in Revelation 12:7-12. Since the devil can no longer be in heaven, where must he be (Revelation 12:9,12)? \_\_\_\_\_ Read Revelation 12:12 carefully:

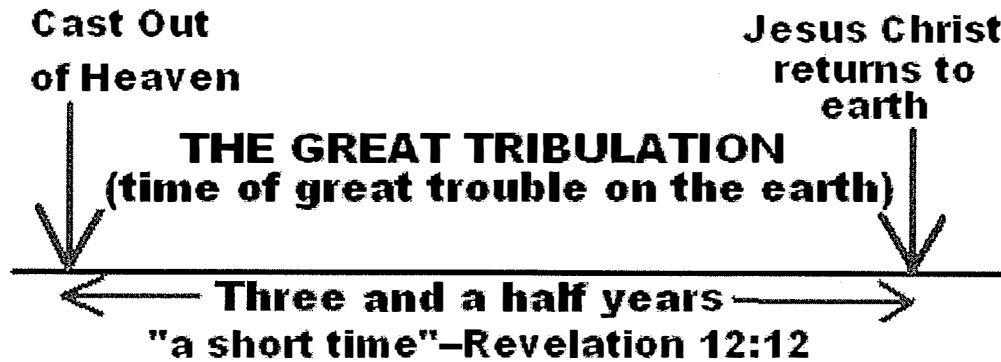
**Those In Heaven Say →**

**"Rejoice! Be glad! Let's celebrate! The devil is gone! He has been kicked out of heaven! HURRAY!"**

**Those On Earth Say →**

**"Woe unto us! This is bad news! The devil has been cast down to earth and he is very angry. He has been causing trouble on earth for thousands of years but he is really going to cause trouble now! HELP!"**

When will this great event happen? The following diagram may help.



We will learn more about the great tribulation in the next chapter; in Chapter 8 we will learn about the man that Satan will use during this time. This is also the time that the DRAGON (Satan) will persecute and try to destroy the WOMAN (the nation Israel). We read about this in Revelation 12:13-17. If the devil cannot fight God directly then he fights against God's people (Rev. 12:17).

### Satan Will be Put In a Special Prison

When Jesus Christ returns to the earth Satan will be put into the bottomless pit (the abyss) and chained there (Revelation 20:1). This is a special jail that God will use to keep Satan away from the earth. How long will the devil be bound (Rev. 20:2)? \_\_\_\_\_  
 During these years Jesus Christ will be ruling as King over all the earth. At the end of these 1000 years what will happen to Satan (Revelation 20:7)?

\_\_\_\_\_ This will be Satan's last opportunity to cause trouble in the earth. We will study this more when we come to Chapter 11 in these notes.

### Satan's Eternal Home

Where will the devil's final home be (Revelation 20:10)?

\_\_\_\_\_ This is the place God has prepared for him (Matthew 25:41). It is here that Satan will be tormented (punished, tortured) day and night for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Revelation 20:10).

Will other people also be in this lake of fire (Revelation 20:15; 21:8)? \_\_\_\_\_ Those who are on Satan's side will spend their eternity in the same terrible lake. Those who are on God's side will spend their eternity in the place that Christ has prepared for them (John 14:1-3). Where are you going to spend eternity?

Yes, the devil is very real, but God is very real also. Satan wants to curse us; God wants to bless us. Satan wants men to spend eternity with him but God wants men to spend eternity with the Lord Jesus Christ. The devil is our foe; God is our Friend. Whose side are you on? Are you on the winning side or the losing side? Are you on the right side or the wrong side? Are you for God and against Satan or are you against God and for Satan? Who are you serving? Who are you living for? Who are you following? **THE CHOICE IS YOURS !**

# THE CAREER OF THE DEVIL



See the paper entitled, WHEN DID SATAN FALL?

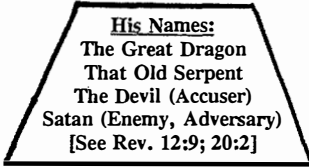
For a detailed study of Satan and His fall, see the set of Adult SS notes entitled ANGELS (a 68 page study)

Messiah will bruise the Serpent's head; The Serpent will bruise Messiah's heel. (See Genesis 3:15)

"thou wast perfect in thy ways" (Ez. 28:15)  
"full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty (Ez. 28:12)

"iniquity was found in thee" (Ez. 28:15)  
"thine heart was lifted up" (Ez. 28:17)

1 John 3:8  
John 8:44



Cast out of Heaven  
Into the Earth  
(Rev. 12:7-17)

**The Downward Falls of Satan**  
(as described in Revelation)

1. His **FALL** to the earth (Rev. 12:9,12)  
This takes place in the middle of the **TRIBULATION**.
2. His **FALL** to the abyss or bottomless pit (Rev. 20:1-3).  
This takes place at the second coming of Christ.
3. His **FALL** to the lake of fire (Rev. 20:10).  
This takes place after the 1000 year kingdom.

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"the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the sons of disobedience" (Ephesians 2:1-3)

Access to God's Presence (Job 1-2)

Dispute with Michael over Moses' body (Jude 9)

"Not My Will" (Not "I WILL")

Voe to the inhabitants of the earth (Rev. 12:12)

**The Beast's Reign of Terror**  
For 3½ years Satan empowers the Antichrist (Rev. ch. 13 and 2 Thess. 2:9-10).

Leads Final Rebellion (Rev. 20:7-9)

