



The Greatest Story Ever Told

Sworn Adversary To All Nations

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ASCRIBE PUBLICATIONS

— Matt. 13:44-52 —

“BECAUSE I WILL PUBLISH THE NAME OF THE LORD:
ASCRIBE YE GREATNESS UNTO OUR GOD”

“Sworn Adversary To All Nations”



“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” (1 Peter 5:8)

Who is this mysterious entity called the devil and satan, the villain upon which all other villains are based? What are his origins? How has his name become associated with fear and nightmares? Is he worthy of the horror, the thought of his approach provokes?

According to the Scripture quoted above, the answer would be yes. He is not a toothless lion, he is a bold ravenous beast seeking to prey upon the weak and the strong. He is fearless, undaunted by the odds against him.

The details of his origins have been distorted into the many myths and legends of the ancient pagan gods, and heathen deities. The ridiculous depictions of his physical appearance as a red-skinned hideous demon with bull horns and a pointy tail, are calculated to make his existence seem absurd. The perverted images of him as a goat headed hermaphrodite, though full of significance, is in reality, a classic example of his mastery of the arts of deception through distraction and misinformation.

The Scriptures alone give an unadulterated account of satan’s origin and outward appearance, which in some ways is more shocking than the fables previously mentioned. And for those who find dramas that are full of mystery, intrigue, betrayal, and conflict interesting, will discover the truth is far more entertaining than fiction. Of satan it is written under the title of “the king of Tyrus”...

“Thus saith the Lord God; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.” (Ezekiel 28:12)

Let it be understood that the words used here to describe satan’s attributes “sealest, full, and perfect,” imply that he was God’s masterpiece of all intelligent beings. The word “sum” means “pattern.” So when it says “Thou sealest up the sum,” it means he was the complete pattern. In other words, all created beings would receive various powers, abilities, and attributes, satan however, because of the exalted position he was intended to fill, was gifted with them all.

His original name, Lucifer, means “light bearer.” “Light” is symbolic for knowledge, wisdom, and understanding. “Bearer” means to carry or to bring. As his name depicts, Lucifer was to receive light from God, and carry it as God’s messenger to all the orders of intelligent beings. To be able to instruct all other created beings on the correct use of their diverse gifts, he was chosen to be the possessor, and master of all the gifts, which God would distribute among the various orders of intelligent beings. So not only was he the “complete pattern,” he was “full of wisdom,” meaning he had mastery of the sciences and mathematics upon which the universe was created, as well as the musical and geometrical arts, organizational genius, and the list goes on.

Far from the grotesque images discussed earlier, we are told he is “perfect in beauty.” His physical features are not at all of a quality to repulse. On the contrary, his power to attract, and orbit the attention of others around his stellar appearance will prove irresistible to most. Beyond the staggering mental and physical attributes he was blessed with, he was also outwardly adorned with all the tokens of a highly decorated officer of the celestial courts.

“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: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.” (Ezekiel 28:13)

At the time the prophet Ezekiel penned these inspired words, the garden of Eden had long since been taken from the earth during the time of the flood in the days of Noah. This is our first clue that the one being spoken of is not the visible “king of Tyrus,” but an ancient being who exerts his influence upon the visible world, from the covert of an invisible dimension.

“Every precious stone was his covering.” Without a rival, Lucifer stood head and shoulders above all orders of created beings in gifts and talents. We are given an insight to the magnitude and scope of his musical capabilities in the phrase, “the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.”

(“Created,” not born. This is our second clue that this is not a human being.)

“Tabrets” are percussion instruments that set and keep the rhythm of music. “Pipes” are wind instruments that make the melody of music. Take note that Lucifer was not simply given wisdom on how to play these instruments, but the principles of these things were “prepared in him,” they were a part of his very DNA. Making melodies is not second nature to him, it has been encoded into his genetic makeup from the day of his creation.

The power of music is unequaled in its ability to convey a message across the boundaries of language, nationality, age, or gender. How beautiful the results when

music is used as was intended, to lift up the thoughts in thanksgiving and praise to the Creator. Yet, how destructive to the moral fabric of society, when it is weaponized to degrade and mislead.

“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.” (Ezekiel 28:14)

In this Scripture the “king of Tyrus” is unmasked, and we see “the anointed cherub.” A cherub is one of the orders of celestial beings we have come to know as angels. We are first introduced to them in the garden of Eden after the fall of Adam and Eve.

“So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way; to keep the way of the tree of life.” (Genesis 3:24)

Cherubim is the plural form of cherub. Lucifer, was call “the anointed cherub that covereth.” This too is an insight to his unique and exalted position. When Moses was instructed of God to make the Sanctuary, He was commanded to fashion the Mercy Seat. The Mercy Seat was a representation of God’s throne, where His visible glory was to be made manifest. To “cover” the Mercy Seat and God’s glory, Moses was commanded to make cherubim.

“And thou shalt make a mercy seat of pure gold... And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat... And the cherubims shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings...” (Exodus 25:17-20)

Lucifer was the attendant of God's throne. He was bathed in the light of God's presence continually, and as his name means, he bore that light reflected upon his very person. The scriptures give us a glimpse of this, in the story of Moses.

“ And he (Moses) said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory: And he (God) said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee..” (Exodus 33:18-19)

As a result of Moses seeing only a glimpse of God's glory we read this in the next chapter.

“And it came to pass, when Moses came down from mount Sinai with the two tables of testimony in Moses' hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moses wist not that the skin of his face shone while he talked with him. And when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come nigh him.” (Exodus 34:29-30)

Notice that it says that Moses “bore” in his hands “the two tables of testimony” which is the law of God written in the Ten Commandments. Consider what Proverbs says about the law in connection of the meaning of Lucifer's name “light bearer.”

“For the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:” (Proverbs 6:23)

Moses who went into the presence of God, and came out to instruct the people in the ways of God, was illustrating the position Lucifer once held in heaven. Likewise the reflection of God's glory upon the face of Moses, while at the same time bearing the light of the law in his hands, was an illustration of the work Lucifer was anointed to do on a universal scale. Bearing the light of

God's glory reflected upon himself, and instructing all created beings of the light of his law, was encapsulated in his name "light bearer."

The same awe at the glory of God reflected upon the face of Moses that the children of Israel had as he descended from the mount of God, was the same awe the angels and every other order of intelligent beings had when viewing the light of God's glory reflected upon Lucifer. Imagine how that light would have been amplified by passing through, and reflecting off of, the rainbow color of "every precious stone, when he descended from "the holy mountain of God," and from "walking up and down in the midst of the stones of fire," that illuminated the pavement of God's throne*! Completely dazzling! (*Revelation 4:5-6 & 15:2)

"Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee." (Ezekiel 28:15)

This Scripture should make it clear that God did not create satan which means "adversary," or a devil which means accuser. Lucifer was "perfect in all his ways," without sin, until, iniquity was found in him.

How could this happen? The very gift that makes an intelligent being intelligent, is the very thing that makes sin in a perfect atmosphere possible; free will, the power of choice.

Free will is the gift that sets intelligent beings apart from the instinctive creatures. Free will allows for reasoning, morality, and comprehension of righteous principles. Free will also allows for choosing to be selfish, fostering pride, jealousy, and to do other than the purpose God has given us gifts to accomplish. In other words the gift of free will allows intelligent beings, to make the foolish choice to exalt their will, above the will of God.

“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 28:16)

“The multitude of merchandise” is reference to the fact that Lucifer received every gift possible for a created being to receive. But somehow, though all he possessed was given to him as a gift from God, he looked upon his attributes as entitlement to have what no created being could ever have. To understand what that was, we must refer to a Scripture in Isaiah where Lucifer is called by name.

“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! ...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 14:12-14)

Lucifer though exalted by God above all other created beings in position, power, and gifts, grew dissatisfied with merely having the honor of a superior officer. He began to be attracted to that which was an honor due to the Creator alone. The submission of one's free will, to yield themselves to obey and serve the will of another, in other words, worship.

One cannot help but notice the often repeated phrase “I will,” in the Scripture quoted from Isaiah 14. It illustrates that Lucifer exercised his free will to rebel against the purpose for which he was created, to seek something it was not possible for him to obtain. His efforts which began with stealth and intrigue, eventually “filled him with violence,” and thus we have the origin of all (and I do mean all) the conflict and war that has ever taken place.

Before we explore his casting out in the phrase, “I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God,” and his certain destruction in the phrase “I will destroy thee, O covering cherub,” we will discuss the inner workings that led to this most exalted messenger of God, becoming the most detestable adversary of God.

“Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty; thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness...” (Ezekiel 28:17)

Lucifer did not make himself, his outstanding beauty was a gift from God. But instead of his heart turning to God in appreciation and gratitude, he turned his heart to appreciate himself which “lifted up” his pride. The gift of his brightness which was more splendid than any other created being, which was continually amplified by his privileged position to stand continually in the glory of God’s presence, corrupted the light of his wisdom so that he bent his energies to attract attention from God to himself.

“Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick...” (Ezekiel 28:18)

Sanctuary is a term used for a place of worship. In the Hebrew nation it was synonymous with the temple. To understand the “sanctuaries” Lucifer defiled, it is important to know that a physical building is only a representation of the true temples or sanctuaries of worship.

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy; which temple ye are.” (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)

The “sanctuaries” that were defiled by the multitude of Lucifer’s iniquity were other created beings. This defiling began with the angels of heaven, and continued afterwards with the citizens of earth. But how did Lucifer “traffick” his defiling substance which was concealed in his heart?

“...an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.” (Luke 6:45)

“For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness.” (Isaiah 59:3)

“And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie” (Revelation 21:27)

“..the devil...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)

The intoxicating substance Lucifer began “trafficking” amongst the angels which defiled them, was lies. In the book of Revelation this same story is depicted in symbolism, in which satan is illustrated as a “red-skinned dragon with multiple horns and a tail, (which I presume Lucifer used as the template for the absurd portrayals of himself most popular in the world).

“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.” (Revelation 12:3-4)

This is (as previously stated) symbolism. Satan is pictured as a dragon as a description of his character, and the nature of his work. The “tail” which drew a third of the “stars,” is symbolism which relates to the traffick we have been discussing. What is this tail? And what are those stars?

“...the prophet that teacheth lies, he is the tail.” (Isaiah 9:15)

“The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest... The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches...” (Revelation 1:20)

The “tail” of the dragon which drew the “stars of heaven,” represents the “lies” by which Lucifer drew the “angels of heaven” away from God. As a result, they were defiled by his iniquity, and joined him in rebellion. As unbelievably shocking as this drama sounds, it is indeed the truth. How is it possible that he could sway such large numbers?

Satan had two advantages. First he had a position of trust and authority, and all the beings under him loved and respected. He was the “Light Bearer” from God’s throne, they were accustomed to believing his words without question. Secondly, lies were unheard of. None would suspect him of an evil design, because none had ever gone against the will of God. The art of deception, is to convince someone you mean no harm, and that your motives are innocent. Couple that with the level of trust and confidence already placed in him, and you have the workings of a successful strategy.

Remember Lucifer was described as “full of wisdom.” What happens when someone of genius level intelligence, bends their mastermind to deceive those who already love and trust them? The chaotic results are before us.

“..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)

The pride which lifted up Lucifer’s heart, created a desire for worship not rightfully his to have, leading him to seek it aggressively by using lies to draw large numbers to his side. This fueled his ego until the brewing violence that “filled the midst of him,” broke forth into open war.

The number of heaven’s angels is described in the Bible as countless. To say that Lucifer drew a third of them to his side, is to say he has an unimaginable force at his disposal. This is the genuine truth upon which every myth, every legend, every story of intergalactic war, and every conflict of supernatural proportions is based.

If the drama ended there it would be well enough, but this war of intelligence and violence though cut out of heaven, was like a cancer that metastasized to the earth. For six millennia now, satan has been stealthily building up myths, legends, and fairytales (all synonymous words which package his lies for better trafficking), to deceive mankind that his existence is nothing more than folklore. While at the same time, he is using every bit of his genius, to develop in humanity the same selfishness, pride, covetousness, and violence that exists in his own heart.

All who refuse to place themselves under the protective grace of God, he makes his servants. Unconscious many may be of their bondage, yet the end result shall be the same. The cords of sin are chains which bind his subjects to his kingdom. And according to Christ, he is the father over a vast household, and his offspring are *“the children of*

disobedience” (Ephesians 2:2). Consider what the Scriptures testify of him and those who follow the ideas he whispers into their thoughts.

“He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning” (1 John 3:8)

“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He...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)

O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? (Acts 13:10)

“His own iniquities shall take the wicked himself, and he shall be holden with the cords of his sins. He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray” (Proverbs 5:22-23)

“Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: (Matthew 25:41)

Contrary to the belief of some, satan is not the equal of God the Father, or Christ. Christ the Son of God, is He who made all things, Lucifer included. This war is not a conflict between equivalent powers. Satan’s genius is no match for infinite wisdom. As One who is confident of certain victory, God sits in calm assurance, as satan moves about erratically trying to delay the inevitable. Yet the same Scriptures that revealed his origins, also foretell his end.

“...I will destroy thee, O covering cherub...I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee... therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to

ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee. All they that know thee among the people shall be astonished at thee: thou shalt be a terror, and never shalt thou be any more.” (Ezekiel 28:16-19)

“...Woe to the inhabitants of the earth! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time. (Revelation 12:12)

Of course a story such as this raises many valid questions. Questions which deserve an answer, such as:

“Since God can see the future, why did he create Lucifer if He saw that his existence would lead to a rebellion?”

“Or, Why didn't God destroy Lucifer as soon as he rebelled? Why is God waiting for some future time?”

We cannot explore in one setting all that can be said upon this topic and stay within a short template, but as this series continues we will cover all those questions and more.

Will you take the simple step of asking God to give you the Holy Spirit to guide you into all the truth of the Bible, and investigate if the things you have just read are true?

Yes? _____

“These were more noble...in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.” (Acts 17:11)

Or No? _____

“Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do.” (Luke 23:34)



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