

Your Kingdom Come: Lesson #8

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The Deceiver

Who is Satan? Also called Lucifer, the devil, the accuser, the dragon, the serpent, and the enemy, Satan is a fallen angel. God created the angels sometime before the creation account of Genesis chapters one and two. Satan, along with many other angels (who became demons) rebelled against God. There was war in heaven, and Satan and his followers were cast out of heaven. Satan is strong and very intelligent, but he is not as strong as God because God created him. God is the only uncreated being in all the heavens and the earth. Satan knows and sees much, but unlike God, he is not all-knowing. Isaiah chapter fourteen, though addressed to the king of Babylon, speaks to Lucifer, or Satan, the spiritual power behind that king:

"How are you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart; 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds. I will be like the Most High.' Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the pit." (Isaiah 14:12-15)

Notice Lucifer's five 'I wills.' He wanted to be exalted above that place that God had assigned to him. Not content to be the son of the morning, he wanted a throne above God's throne. He wanted to be king over the heavens and the earth. Instead, he became the prince of darkness, and God will cast him into the pit, the lake of fire, along with all the other evil angels who followed him in rebelling against God. Likewise, in Ezekiel chapter twenty-eight, he is addressed as the power behind the king of Tyre. God said that he was wise but that he became proud. He was the anointed cherub. God had established him on the holy mountain of God, and he was perfect until iniquity was found in him. He was filled with violence from within, and he sinned. His heart was lifted up because of his beauty. His wisdom was corrupted, so God cast him down. Satan's pride, ambition, and rebellion created disharmony in heaven. God judged him and cast him out of His

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