

## SATANOLOGY (6)

- 1) **Matthew 13:19-** Satan does an evil work in trying to keep people from accurately understanding God's Word. The specific issue discussed here is a dispensational issue. The term "kingdom" has different biblical meanings which refer to different time periods. So one way Satan does His evil work is to keep people fuzzy on dispensational theology.
- 2) **John 17:15-** Contextually a critical key to keeping the evil one away from the believer is by a precise knowledge of the Word of God (John 17:8,17).
- 3) **I John 5:18-19-** Satan has great power in the world, but he will never be able to stop the believer from having eternal life because the believer is kept and protected by the power of God.

(Name #5) - He is named dragon.

This title is one that refers to Satan's monster-like, ferocious nature and work. According to G. Abbott-Smith, the word was used in secular Greek of mythical monsters (*Greek Lexicon*, p. 122). When the term "dragon" is used in the Bible, it describes Satan's fierce nature, which is extremely dangerous and destructive. It is a nature that seldom loses: **Revelation 12:3-4,7,9; 20:2. Satan will never be anyone's friend and he cannot and will not ever be tamed.**

(Name #6) - He is named Lucifer.

This is the name that shows up in some English translations in Isaiah 14:12. The King James translates the Hebrew word "Lucifer," and the New American Standard and the New International Version translate it "star of the morning" or "morning star." Both the Hebrew text and the Greek Septuagint use words that describe a bright light from a celestial body. **The actual name "Lucifer" comes from the Latin word for morning star.** Here is one of those translation problems. The King James uses the name Lucifer, which unless one knows Latin, doesn't make much sense. The other translations are after the English meaning which is morning star.

The real significance of this name is that Satan was originally a shining, bright, celestial angelic being. The practical significance of the title "Lucifer" or "morning star" is that Satan can offer something that appears to be very shining and very bright. He has the ability and power to dazzle as a bright and shining light (II Corinthians 11:14-15). (For a good discussion see Lewis Sperry Chafer, *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 2, pp. 46-47)

(Name #7) - He is named Beelzebul.

This is a very unique title which literally means "Lord of flies." In Hebrew, the word comes from the idea of one who has dung as its habitation. The title draws attention to Satan's vile, loathsome nature that is involved in things that are extremely gross and filthy. Gross, vile, filthy things have their origin with Satan and this title emphasizes this reality.

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The fact that this title refers to “Lord of flies” indicates that Satan is the ruler over all demonic and evil forces (Matt. 12:24-27; Lk. 11:15-18). All gross forms of evil and all vile types of things have Satan as author. Satan at times will stir up evil things against faithful people of God, but when this happens God’s faithful people have nothing to fear (Matt. 10:24-28).

**(Name #8)** - He is named Belial .

This word is spelled in English exactly as it is spelled in Greek. The name means worthless . The Hebrew root, from which we get this word, means “lord of the forest” or “one who is in charge of a forest.” **If we combine the Hebrew and Greek, we get the idea that Satan is worthless and he is the one in charge over all that is worthless .** Paul uses this particular word to show the worthlessness of a believer having an intimate relationship with an unbeliever (II Corinthians 6:15). Satan will always attempt to lead in a worthless direction and those who follow him will be worthless in the sight of God.

**(Name #9)** - He is named tempter .

This is a name that means that Satan will do everything he possibly can to tempt or to solicit people to move in a direction that is contrary to God’s plan, Word and will. He will do whatever he can to lure one into sin and rebellion against God (Matt. 4:3; I Thess. 3:5). If we keep in mind the other names and titles used for Satan, we may conclude that Satan has an entire arsenal of tempting tricks and tactics to try and entice one to disbelieve God enough to leave the blessed, pure paths of righteousness. We may also observe, from the contexts of Matthew 4:2 and I Thessalonians 3:3-4 that Satan is particularly prone to tempt one when one is either physically (Matt.4:2) or emotionally (I Thess. 3:3-4) drained. Satan will use all of his weaponry to lure people away from the blessed path of righteousness and this very name indicates this. His seductions may come through people, including family and friends (Deut. 13:6-11).

**(Name #10)** - He is named accuser .

This name means that Satan is continually making charges, allegations and accusations against God’s people. Revelation 12:10 indicates that Satan continually makes these charges before God. Dr. Ryrie points out that the major accusation made against the believer would be in regard to a believer’s sin and failure. Since no believer is perfect, Satan does have good ammunition. However, since we have an advocate in heaven, our righteous Lord Jesus, who continually intercedes on our behalf, we have nothing to fear (I John 2:1-2; Romans 8:34). The accusing work of Satan does not just exist in heaven before God, but can exist in our own minds and consciences and words in regard to other believers. There is nothing Satan enjoys more than to get one believer to throw some past sin or failure into the face of another believer. Any believer who succumbs to such a verbal assault is a satanic tool. H.A. Ironside used to say: “...Satan is the accuser of the brethren. Let’s leave the dirty work to him.” (Ryrie, p.139)