

THE ANGELIC HOST

LESSON 9

OUTLINE:

1) *Satan – His Fall*

QUESTIONS & COMMENTS:

Though Satan was created as the highest and most perfect angel, he did not remain so. As we will clearly see, his fall was not God's fault. Satan did something that brought about his expulsion from the position he held from the time of his creation. What he did is worthy of our consideration.

SATAN – HIS FALL

It is hard to conceive how one so blessed as Lucifer could wish to go against God. From our viewpoint, he had nothing to gain and everything to lose. Though wiser than all the other angels combined, Satan is seen to do a very foolish thing. One is never wiser who disobeys God. Lucifer had special privileges, special duties and a special standing. "He was perfect in all ways." Where did he go wrong? For an answer, we return to where we left off in our last lesson – Ezekiel 28.

Satan was said to be perfect until the day God discovered what?

Ezekiel 28:15 _____
(Iniquity refers to evil, sin, unrighteousness or transgression of God's will. Satan did what God forbid.)

What was Satan's iniquity? Apparently the glory which the loving God showered upon Lucifer was too much for him. The direct cause of Satan's sin was thoughts he had of himself. Thoughts came first and evil acts followed. This is the way all sin is carried out. Satan set the "way-to-sin" pattern, and it has never changed.

What two charges are brought against Satan?

Ezekiel 28:17 _____

Instead of "the anointed cherub" finding his chief delight in the wisdom and glory of God, he became occupied with his own assets of "multitude of merchandise" referred to in Ezekiel 28:16. Pride was his sin. He must have failed to carry out his purpose and was guilty of unfaithfulness.

What are we warned concerning pride?

Proverbs 16:18 _____

What did Paul tell Timothy was the chief sin of the Devil?

1 Timothy 3:6 _____

What is a follower of God supposed to hate?

Proverbs 8:13 _____

What will a man be who lets pride take over his mind?

Obadiah 1:3 _____

In Mark 7:22 Jesus speaks of pride as being evil. What did He say such evil would do to a man?

Mark 7:23 _____

Who does John say is in no way responsible for pride within man?

1 John 2:16 _____

Proverbs speaks of seven things God hates. What is first on the list?

Proverbs 6:17 _____

Satan's first mistake was refusal to do as James urges all Christians to do, which is?

James 4:10 _____
(Satan refused to stay in his place.)

Thought about his personal importance and surpassing beauty was his first step towards the fall. Pride brought on evil ambitions. Satan permitted these selfish and greedy desires to lead him to do evil.

How far did Satan's pride drive him? In Ezekiel 28:16 he is charged with acts of what?

In Ezekiel 28:18 he is blamed for doing what to the sanctuaries which he was assigned?

How many inquiries or offenses was he charged with?

Ezekiel 28:18 _____
(One inquiry after another was his interest; it became his trade or "traffic.")

For a more detailed description of the violence attempted by Satan, we need to look at what God told Isaiah. What five things did Satan's pride cause him to believe he should attempt?

Isaiah 14:13-14 _____

Before his fall, what is the name given him while still an angel of God?

Isaiah 14:12 _____
(The word means "day star")

In Ezekiel 28:14 we are told that "God put Satan in the high position he held." From Isaiah we see that Satan was not willing to remain in the position given him by God, for he said, "I will be equal with the Most High." This was his desire and endeavor.

Satan was charged with "corrupting his wisdom." He knew better but he let pride deceive him. Because he permitted himself to be confused, what is said of him?

John 8:44 _____
(Jesus rightly said of Satan, "he abode not in the truth.")

The root of pride is a lie. We come to believe we are something we are not, better than we really are, wiser than we are and more glorious than we are. Pride leads to idolatry or worship of another besides the true God. Satan's pride caused him to say he would be like God. Pride causes man to put himself ahead of God. He does only what pleases him, for he believes he deserves to come first.

Some may ask, how could Satan ever be allowed to sin in the first place? Who tempted him? No one, he was tempted by his own thoughts. God created all angels, Satan included, with the power and right to choose. The choice was not between good and evil, for there was not evil. The only choice open to all angels was whether to stay as they were and do what they did. Satan was not satisfied with remaining in his God ordained position. Pride was the beginning of all the sin in the universe. Satan put his will against the will of God. This was treason, for he led a rebellion against God.

What did God do when Satan attempted to carry out all his "I will's"?

Isaiah 14:12 _____

Ezekiel 28:16 _____

Not only was Satan cast out of the presence of God, but he was successful in getting other angels cast out. The only explanation we have is that they joined Satan in rebellion against God. How many angels joined Satan in refusing to be content with the position and work God created them for?

Revelation 12:4 _____

(In verse 7 of this same chapter the dragon is identified as Satan and the stars, as has already been pointed out from the Book of Job in a past lesson, are to be taken as referring to angels.)

Satan tempts others in the same way he tempted himself. Pride is at the root of all sin. What was the first temptation Satan put in the mind of Eve?

Genesis 3:4-5 _____

Satan planted the idea that she should not stay as she was. God had been unfair. She deserved something better. "You can be like God" was the offer he wanted her to consider. She listened to pride and disobeyed God, just as Satan originally did.

"Doing as one pleases" is the direction pride encourages one to take. Pride makes one dare to call God a liar and then set out to prove it. Pride aims at making man believe that he is far better than he is. It blinds one to the truth and gives answers that are not true. It encourages acts that are not possible. Pride caused Lucifer to have thoughts like, "You are wise enough, and powerful enough, glorious enough to be equal with God. There is no reason to remain in subjection to God." Pride causes one to lie to himself and then makes him believe the lie to the point of making him risk everything, including his life, to try and prove it. Satan made a fatal mistake in listening to pride.

