

## SATANOLOGY (9)

**(Name #15)** - He is named Abaddon.

This is the Hebrew word for the Greek word Apollyon, which means destruction, or the one who destroys- Rev. 9:11. Many take this to be a title of Satan, specifically designed to show that he and his entire demonic army are destructive. The final five names or titles for Satan are designed to describe his influence upon this world:

**(Name #16)** - He is named ruler.

Satan is called the “ruler of this world” (John 12:31). The word means that Satan is the chief magistrate of this world. His goals and objectives are being worked out in both the secular and religious places and people. Satan is able to use all kinds of things to keep people’s minds blinded to the truth.

**(Name #17)** - He is named god.

Satan is called the “god of this world” (II Cor. 4:4). He has tremendous power in governing all things that pertain to this world. His goals and objectives are being worked out in both secular and religious places and people. He is able to use all kinds of things to keep people’s minds blinded to the truth.

**(Name #18)** - He is named prince.

This title means that Satan is “the” ruler and chief authority of the air (Eph. 2:2). G. Abbott-Smith says the word “air” refers to several things- that which surrounds the earth, that which is of higher region, that which is the demonic realm and that which is of no purpose (I Cor. 9:26) or that which is not understood (I Cor. 14:9). Based on these observations, it is legitimate to conclude that Satan is the highest, evil ruling power who is actively involved in all that is on earth and everything in this atmosphere. With his demonic forces, he works in ways not grasped by most to lure them into a purposeless direction in the sight of God.

**(Name #19)** - He is named deceiver.

Satan is one who is “the” deceiver of the whole world (Rev. 12:9). The idea behind this word is that Satan is the root cause of all wandering, straying and erring from God that exists in the whole world. He is “the” key deceiver who has pulled the world off the true paths of righteousness. The fact that most people know little about the Word of God or sound doctrine and the fact that most are not dedicated to doing the will of God indicates that Satan has in fact just about deceived the whole world.

**(Name #20)** - He is named roaring lion. I Peter 5:8

The picture is that of a lion who is silently crouched on the verge of viciously attacking. Satan is on the lookout for any believer he can attack. We need to stay alert at all times.

## SATANOLOGY (10)

These names clearly indicate that Satan is very active in this world and in many respects dominating the world. This means that all philosophies, education, objectives and goals of this world are all part of a carefully orchestrated, satanic system designed to move people away from the truth of God. A major mistake that believers can make is to assume that Satan only does those things which society says are evil. Dr. Chafer well observed, "...the system which Satan has constructed includes all the good which he can incorporate into it and be consistent in the thing he aims to accomplish" (Vol. 2, p. 100).

**QUESTION #4** – What is the twofold main objective of Satan?

Satan's twofold primary objective is: 1) Exalt himself; 2) Oppose God. Because Satan has great power in this world, the believer may expect a hostile warfare, especially if we keep these two main objectives in mind.

God is working, in this present age, through His people and His Church to accomplish His will. Since Satan is out to exalt himself and oppose God, he will do everything he can to try to prevent the faithful believer and church from accomplishing God's will. The faithful believer and church will often discover that he is seemingly on the short end of the stick at times and will also discover that those who are totally alienated from God seem to be elevated. **This is due to the fact that the believer is right in the middle of a war between Satan and God. The believer is Satan's target because he is directly connected to God.** Three texts support this:

**(Passage #1)** - John 16:33 .

A believer will never find peace in this world, but will discover it will be a place of intense pressure ("tribulation"). The world will be a pressure cooker for the believer but we will always find our peace in our relationship with Jesus Christ.

**(Passage #2)** - II Timothy 3:12 .

The indicative mood indicates that it is a fact that all who even "desire" to live godly will, in some ways, suffer hardships and persecution. The more a believer moves toward areas of godliness in thinking and life, the more difficult life will be. God will never allow any believer to have more than he can bear, but all God will allow Satan will try to use.

**(Passage #3)** - I John 3:13 .

Believers will discover they are at odds with the world. There will be an intense, hateful animosity against those who love God and his Word. Our views, testimony, lifestyle and even our presence is a prime target for satanic assault.

The satanic world is out to cripple the believer and any believer or church that is moving in the true ways of God in knowing His Word can expect major assaults. More on this subject will be discussed later, but we need to realize that we are living in a world dominated by Satan.

## SATANOLOGY (11)

Dr. Charles Ryrie quotes Dr. Trench in saying: "...all that floating mass of thoughts, opinions, maxims, speculations, hopes, impulses, aims, aspirations, at any time current in the world, which may be impossible to seize and accurately define, but which constitute a most real and effective power, being the moral or immoral, (is the) subtle informing spirit of (this) world of men who are living alienated from God" (*Basic Theology*, p. 139). Satan is behind it all and his names tell us much about his character and work and they challenge us to sharpen our spiritual senses with an understanding of the Word of God.

**QUESTION #5** – When was Satan created?

The exact time of Satan's creation is unknown. Job 38:1-7 implies that Satan, along with the other angels, was created very early in God's creative work.

**QUESTION #6** – Why was Satan created?

Here is one of the great mysterious questions of theology. God knows all things from beginning to end and He obviously knew Satan would turn out the way he turned out. So the question arises- why did God even create Satan?

Before answering this question, we need to clearly remember that **God cannot ever be blamed for any evil. Evil is not a possibility with God (James 1:13)**. The blame then for Satan becoming evil must rest totally and completely upon Satan himself and not God. Satan could have remained a holy angel as 2/3rds of all the angels chose to do. Having said this, there are three reasons why God created Satan:

**Reason #1** - Satan was created to demonstrate the ultimate level of perfection in God's creative angelic ability. Ezekiel 28:12

**Reason #2** - Satan was created as a good creation of God (Gen. 1:31) to glorify God. I Peter 4:11

**Reason #3** - Satan was created by God and for God and this is still true today. Colossians 1:16

When all is said and done, God will have taken everything Satan has done and will have used it to accomplish His ultimate purposes. God is able to use Satan and even satanic things to accomplish His will. A perfect example of this is seen in John 13:2, 26-27, 31-32.

There is much about God we would never know if evil did not exist. We would not know about His love and His grace and His mercy. We would not know about His cleansing forgiveness. We would not know how sweet it is to fellowship with God without knowing what it was like not to fellowship with God. Satan plays an important role in that many of us know more about God through his existence.