



Systematic Theology

A study of the major doctrines of Scripture

TOPIC 3 – THE DOCTRINE OF ANGELS

LESSON 68 – LUCIFER: ANGEL OF LIGHT – PART 1

BIBLICAL DOCTRINE – JOHN MACARTHUR, PGS. 665-737

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY – WAYNE GRUDEM, PGS. 397-438

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Satan is Real

- ▶ Yes, Satan exists. He was created by God with the rest of the angels.
- ▶ He was created holy but later fell into sin by coveting God's place and rebelling against Him.
- ▶ Satan, like the other angels, is a spirit being who possesses the characteristics associated with personhood: intellect, emotion, and will. He is not omnipresent nor omniscient.
- ▶ He is the Father of Lies – a master deceiver who, as an angel of darkness is able to appear as an angel of light. He deceived Eve while disguised as a serpent in the Garden of Eden.

Satan Opposes God's People

- ▶ Satan “prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour” (1 Peter 5:8). He is also involved in telling lies (John 8:44), influencing people to lie (Acts 5:3), snatches the gospel from unbelieving hearts (Matt. 13:19), holds unbelievers under his power (Eph. 2:2; 1 John 3:8-10; 5:19), traps and deceives unbelievers holding them captive to do his will (2 Tim. 2:26), tempts believers to sin (1 Cor. 7:5; Eph. 4:27), seeks to deceive believers (2 Cor. 11:3), and seeks to destroy believer's faith (Luke 22:31).
- ▶ He wages war against the church, seeking to thwart the progress of ministry (1 Thess. 2:18; Eph. 6:11-17).

Old Testament Events

- ▶ Creation of Satan – Neh. 9:6; Job 38:7; Psa. 148:2, 5; Ezek. 28:13, 15; Col. 1:16
- ▶ Moral Fall of Satan – Isa. 14:12-13; Rev. 12:4
- ▶ Deception of Eve – Gen. 3:1-6; 2 Cor. 11:1-3; 1 Tim. 2:14; Rev. 12:9; 20:2
- ▶ The Curse – Gen. 3:15; John 16:11; Rom. 16:20
- ▶ Accusing Job – Job 1-2
- ▶ Dispute with Michael – Jude 9
- ▶ Provoking David – 1 Chron. 21:1
- ▶ Lying to Ahab – 1 Kings 22:1-40; 2 Chron. 18:1-34
- ▶ Influencing the King of Babylon – Isa. 14:12-14
- ▶ Influencing the King of Tyre – Ezek. 28:12-17
- ▶ Accusing the High Priest – Zech. 3:1-2

New Testament Events

- ▶ Birth of Christ – Rev. 12:4
- ▶ Temptation of Christ – Matt. 4:1-11; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-13
- ▶ Debilitating a Woman – Luke 13:16
- ▶ Sifting Peter – Luke 22:31
- ▶ Defection of Judas – Luke 22:3; John 13:2, 27
- ▶ Influencing Ananias to Lie – Acts 5:3
- ▶ Hindering Paul – 1 Thess. 2:18; 2 Cor. 12:7
- ▶ Empowering the Antichrist – Rev. 13:2, 4
- ▶ Performing False Signs – Rev. 16:13-14
- ▶ Bound and Released – Rev. 20:1-3, 7-9
- ▶ Final Judgment – Isa. 27:1; Rev. 20:10

Counterfeiting God

- ▶ Satan makes evil look good, making lies more attractive than truth.
- ▶ Satan mimics God while offering counterfeit substitutes:
- ▶ The False Trinity – Dragon/Antichrist/False Prophet
- ▶ The Kingdom of Darkness – Col. 1:13
- ▶ Angels – Matt. 25:41; 2 Cor. 11:14; 12:7
- ▶ The Throne – Rev. 2:13
- ▶ Churches – Rev. 2:9; 3:9
- ▶ Worship – Rom. 1:25; Rev. 13:4
- ▶ False Christs – Matt. 24:5, 24; Mark 13:22; 1 John 2:18, 22

Counterfeiting God

- ▶ False Prophets – Matt. 7:15; 24:11, 24; Mark 13:22; 2 Peter 2:1
- ▶ False Apostles – 2 Cor. 11:13; Rev. 2:2
- ▶ False Teachers – 2 Peter 2:1
- ▶ False Believers – Matt. 13:38, 40; 2 Cor. 11:26; Gal. 2:4
- ▶ False Gospels – Gal. 1:6-7
- ▶ False Doctrine – 1 Tim. 4:1
- ▶ False Miracles – Matt. 7:21-23; 2 Thess. 2:9; Rev. 16:13-14
- ▶ False Communion – 1 Cor. 10:20-21

Satan's Power

- ▶ His power is certainly nowhere equal to God's power and sovereign rule.
- ▶ He is compared in power and ability to Michael the Archangel (Dan. 10:13, 21; 12:1; Jude 9; Rev. 12:7).
- ▶ He is a master schemer and tactician (2 Cor. 2:11; 11:3; Eph. 6:11; Rev. 12:9; 20:8; 1 Tim. 3:7; 2 Tim. 2:26).
- ▶ He rules this world's sinful system (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; Eph. 6:12; Rev. 13:2, 4-5, 7) as the Prince of the Power of the Air, that is, ruler over the demonic host (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 12:7, 9).
- ▶ He accuses believers before God (Rev. 12:10) and has the ability to perform false signs and wonders (2 Thess. 2:9-10; Rev. 13:13-14).

Satan's Power

- ▶ He has the power of death, but Christ has rendered him powerless for believers (Heb. 2:14).
- ▶ He has the power of deceit, but Christ has exposed him (2 Cor. 11:3, 14-15; 2 Cor. 2:11).
- ▶ He has sinned, murdered, and deceived from the beginning (1 John 3:8; 2 Cor. 11:3; John 8:44).
- ▶ His scheming is described as using snares or traps (1 Tim. 3:7; 2 Tim. 2:26); strategies (2 Cor. 2:11); and schemes (methodia – Eph. 6:11).
- ▶ He attempts to lure us into sin by appealing to our flesh or pride, and by deceiving our minds (1 John 2:15-17).

Satan as a Servant

- ▶ Satan's worst attacks are still under the direct power of God's sovereignty.
- ▶ Fourteen events demonstrate that Satan is under the authority and direction of God:
- ▶ Judges 9 – sent by God between Abimelech and the leasers of Shechem to punish both sides for idolatry and murder.
- ▶ Job 1-2 – given permission to take Job's wealth and possessions and kill his family.
- ▶ 1 Samuel 16 – tormented Saul but opened the door for David to find favor and eventually become King.
- ▶ 1 Kings 22; 2 Chronicles 18 – a lying spirit brings a false prophecy through 400 prophets but is used to prove Micaiah was a true prophet.

Satan as a Servant

- ▶ 1 Chronicles 21; 2 Samuel 24 – provoked David to presume that his success as king came from his own abilities and doing. His census disregarded direct opposition from godly counsel failing a test of humility and dependence upon God. Later David penned Psalm 33:16-17 “No king is saved by the multitude of an army; A mighty man is not delivered by great strength. A horse is a vain hope for safety; Neither shall it deliver any by its great strength.”
- ▶ Zechariah 3 – accused Israel of being unworthy to receive God’s blessing by charging the High Priest Joshua, allowing an opportunity for God to declare His acceptance of His people based on His own elective decision and not their works.

Satan as a Servant

- ▶ Matthew 4 – allowing Satan to tempt Christ in all points of human weakness proved Jesus' Messiahship and Deity.
- ▶ Luke 22 – Sifting Peter to attempt to crush his faith, leading him through the three denials of Christ, ultimately failed as Jesus restored Peter and we see him stand as the preeminent apostle on the day of Pentecost.
- ▶ John 13 – entering Judas to betray Christ played directly into the preordained crucifixion of Christ for the sins of His people.
- ▶ Acts 5 – Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Spirit and the church and their immediate deaths lead to a greater fear of God in the church.
- ▶ 2 Corinthians 12 – Paul's thorn in the flesh, a "messenger of Satan" kept Paul from pride. What Satan intended for evil and harm God used for good.

Satan as a Servant

- ▶ 2 Thessalonians 2 – in the end of the last days Satan will be given more power to deceive, causing most of the world to believe a lie and worship the Antichrist.
- ▶ Revelation 13 – global deception by the Antichrist and False Prophet will end in the final victory of Christ and judgment of the world.
- ▶ Next week: Lesson 69 – Satan's Strategies and the Believer's Defenses.