

SATAN'S DESCENT INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE

From the PRESENCE OF GOD into the LAKE OF FIRE

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[Still under "construction"]

HIS INITIAL RESIDENCE - THE 3RD HEAVEN

Initially, Lucifer [Satan] had access to the throne of God in the 3rd heaven.

The ESV Study Bible notes, "Sons of God refers to heavenly beings gathered before God like a council before a king. 'Satan' does not appear to be one of the company but who also came among them."¹

His sin restricts his access to God. His primary "realm" is earth or the 1st and 2nd heavens. "Ezekiel likens the downfall of the proud king of Tyre to the fall and curse on Satan in Gen. 3:1-15."²

- Ezekiel 28:11-19

¹¹ Again the word of the LORD came to me saying, ¹² "Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord GOD, "You had the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. ¹³ "You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were created They were prepared. ¹⁴ "You were the anointed cherub who covers, And I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked in the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁵ "You were blameless in your ways From the day you were created Until unrighteousness was found in you. ¹⁶ "By the abundance of your trade You were internally filled with violence, And you sinned; Therefore I have cast you as profane From the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁷ "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, That they may see you. ¹⁸ "By the multitude of your iniquities, In the unrighteousness of your trade You profaned your sanctuaries. Therefore I have brought fire from the midst of you; It has consumed you, And I have turned you to ashes on the earth In the eyes of all who see you. ¹⁹ "All who know you among the peoples Are appalled at you; You have become terrified And you will cease to be forever.'"

- Job 1:6-8

⁶ Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. ⁷ The LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it." ⁸ The LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil."

- Job 2:1 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD.

Although limited in mobility, he is still identified as the . . .

- John 12:30-33
³⁰ Jesus answered and said, "This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes. ³¹ "Now judgment is upon this world; **now the ruler of this world will be cast out.** ³² "And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself." ³³ But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die.
- John 16:8-11
⁸ "And He, when He comes, will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment; ⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me; ¹⁰ and concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father and you no longer see Me; ¹¹ and concerning judgment, **because the ruler of this world has been judged.**
- 2 Corinthians 4:3, 4
³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ **in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.**
- Eph. 2:1, 2
¹ And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, ² in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to **the prince of the power of the air**, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.
- Heb. 2:14, 15
¹⁴ Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death **He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,** ¹⁵ and might free those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

"The ruler of this world in its present fallen, sinful state is Satan. Now, at the cross, the Devil will be cast out, that is, decisively defeated. Jesus' triumph over Satan is his death and resurrection is the basis for his final triumph in the consummation (Rev. 20:10)."³

HIS SIN AND ITS CONSEQUENCE - CAST TO EARTH

Satan's defeat happens in the Life, Death, Burial, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus. At this point, He is bound.

- Luke 10:17-24
¹⁷ The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."
¹⁸ And He said to them, "**I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning.** ¹⁹ "Behold, **I have given you authority** to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you. ²⁰ "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to

you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven." ²¹ At that very time He rejoiced greatly in the Holy Spirit, and said, "I praise You, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants. Yes, Father, for this way was well-pleasing in Your sight. ²² **All things have been handed over to Me by My Father**, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him." ²³ Turning to the disciples, He said privately, "Blessed are the eyes which see the things you see, ²⁴ for I say to you, that many prophets and kings wished to see the things which you see, and did not see them, and to hear the things which you hear, and did not hear them."

- Luke 11:14-26

¹⁴ And He was casting out a demon, and it was mute; when the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke; and the crowds were amazed. ¹⁵ But some of them said, "He casts out demons by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons." ¹⁶ Others, to test Him, were demanding of Him a sign from heaven. ¹⁷ But He knew their thoughts and said to them, "Any kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; and a house divided against itself falls. ¹⁸ "If Satan also is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that I cast out demons by Beelzebul. ¹⁹ "And if I by Beelzebul cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? So they will be your judges. ²⁰ **But if I cast out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.** ²¹ **When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are undisturbed. ²² But when someone stronger than he attacks him and overpowers him, he takes away from him all his armor on which he had relied and distributes his plunder.** ²³ "He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me, scatters. ²⁴ "When the unclean spirit goes out of a man, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, and not finding any, it says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' ²⁵ "And when it comes, it finds it swept and put in order. ²⁶ "Then it goes and takes along seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they go in and live there; and the last state of that man becomes worse than the first."

The word "overpowers" in Luke 10:22 is **nikao**. It is the same word in John 16:33, "These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; **I have overcome the world.**" This same word occurs to describe those who believe in John's writings.

- Rev. 12:7-12

⁷ And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war, ⁸ and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven. ⁹ And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; **he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.** ¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, **for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down**, he who accuses them before our God day and night. ¹² "For this reason, rejoice, O heavens and you who dwell in them. Woe to the earth and the sea, **because the devil has come down to you**, having great wrath, knowing that he has only a short time."

The word [**deo**] Matthew uses (12:29) for binding the strong man is the same as found in Revelation 20:2.

- Rev. 20:2 And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

“The kingdom of God is inaugurated, though not completely realized, in the ministry of Jesus. Jesus was able to expel demons because he had bound Stan, the strong man. Beginning with Jesus’ victory over Satan during the temptation in the wilderness (Matt. 4:1-11), Jesus demonstrated that Satan was powerless to prevent him from proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and demonstrating the reality of its presence through his work and his words.”⁴

HIS DEFEAT AT THE CROSS AND CURRENT BINDING

Jesus Christ won victory. He is the conqueror (John 16:33). He receives authority from the ANCIENT OF DAYS (Dan. 7). This same authority transfers to His people (Matt. 28:18).

- Col. 2:13-15
¹³ When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, ¹⁴ having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. ¹⁵ **When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.**

This current binding keeps him from deceiving the nations (Rev. 20:3). See also Daniel 10:10-14. He is restricted from deceiving on a “national” level, but not on an individual level.

- Rev. 20:3 and he threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, **so that he would not deceive the nations any longer**, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.

He still actively seeks the destruction of the woman’s seed (1 Peter 5:8, 9).

- 1 Peter 5:8-11
⁸ Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, **the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.** ⁹ But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. ¹⁰ After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you. ¹¹ To Him be dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Revelation 12 speaks of this “devouring.”

- Rev. 12:9, 10

⁹ And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, **who deceives the whole world**; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. ¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, **he who accuses them before our God day and night**."

"The dragon is identified as the ancient serpent . . . the devil and Satan, as in 12:9-17, which portrayed its expulsion from God's heavenly court and the thwarting of its efforts to destroy the church. The dragon's being bound with a great chain and thrown into the bottomless pit, which is shut and sealed, symbolizes God's restriction of Satan's ability to inflict harm for a long but limited era."⁵

HE SHALL BE RELEASED AT THE 2ND COMING OF JESUS

Once he is released, he shall deceive the nations for the final encounter with God.

- Rev. 20:7, 8
⁷ When the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison, ⁸ **and will come out to deceive the nations** which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together for the war; the number of them is like the sand of the seashore.

Satan is currently "bound." From this bondage, he shall be released at the 2nd Coming of Jesus. The following verses are taken from the KJV [abyss].

- Lu 8:31 And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep.
- Ro 10:7 Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)
- Re 9:1 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. 2 And **he opened the bottomless pit**; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.
- Re 9:11 And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon.
- Re 11:7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, **the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them**, and shall overcome them, and kill them.
- Re 17:8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and **shall ascend out of the bottomless pit**, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.
- Re 20:1 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and **after that he must be loosed a little season**.

Paul references this event in 2 Thess. 2:6-12.

- 2 Thess. 2:6-12

⁶ And you know what restrains him now, **so that in his time he will be revealed.** ⁷ For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; **only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way.** ⁸ **Then that lawless one will be revealed** whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming; ⁹ that is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, ¹⁰ and with all the deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. ¹¹ For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, ¹² in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

The 2nd Coming of Jesus “triggers” the opening of the bottomless pit. At that time, evil shall be fully destroyed by the breath of His mouth.

From his release and defeat, he shall be cast into the LAKE OF FIRE.

HIS ULTIMATE ABODE - LAKE OF FIRE

- Mt 25:41 "Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into **the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;**
- Re 19:20 And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; **these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone.**
- Re 20:10 And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.
- Re 20:14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire.
- Re 20:15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Concluding Observations

1. Satan is a created and limited being.
2. His end is certain.
3. Believers have overcome him by their identity in Christ (1 John 2:13, 14; John 16:33). Thus, they can rest and be encouraged. His end is certain and our end is equally secured and certain.

¹ ESV Study Bible on Job 1:6.

² ESV Study Bible on Ezekiel 28:11-19.

³ ESV Study Bible on John 12:31.

⁴ ESV Study Bible on Matthew 12:28 and 29.

⁵ ESV Study Bible on Revelation 20:1-3.