

Solid Rock Christian Church Manassas, Virginia

Bible Study - November 9, 2023

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Title: Angelology - The Doctrine of Angels - Part V

"The Character of Satan"

I. Introduction

A. I sincerely hope, trust, and pray that you are being blessed through our study of the doctrine of angels.

B. We will delve a little deeper into the Word of God during this study session as we look at the character, and the future position of Satan.

C. Please feel free to share what you glean from this and any of the other lessons that have been covered. Let us now search the Scriptures and reason together.

II. The Character of Satan

1. He is the adversary.

a. An adversary is one who takes a position against another. From the opening pages of Scripture, Satan is seen as the one who is set against everything that is righteous, good, and holy.

b. He is the archenemy of God and His children. To stand with Satan and his philosophy is to stand against God.

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."

(1 Peter 5:8)

2. He is the accuser.

"Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought? Hast not thou made a hedge about him and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? Thou has blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land. But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face." (Job 1:9-11)

"And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night." (Rev. 12:10)

- a. Evidently anything that Satan does today is by permission of God.
- b. As the accuser of the brethren; he mocks everything that is holy and just. He ridicules the spiritual Christian before God day and night.
- c. Once allowed by God to tempt an individual, he will try everything at his disposal to make the holy unholy.
- d. But we have the confidence that "greater is he that is in you [God], than he that is in the world [Satan]"

(1 John 4:4)

- e. God will never allow us to be tempted by Satan to an unbearable degree.

"There hath not temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer [allow] you to be tempted above that ye are able: but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (1 Cor. 10:13)

3. He is the tempter.

- a. Of all Satan's character traits this one word describes him in his primary occupation. He is continually tempting man to follow his evil ways.

III. Biblical Titles of Satan

- A. Abaddon, Apollyon (Rev. 9:11) - both mean "the destroyer."
- B. Lucifer (Isa. 14:12) - means "day-star," "bright one," or "shining one."
- C. Devil (Rev. 12:10) - means "accuser."
- D. Dragon (Rev. 12:9) - indicates his power.
- E. "The accuser of our brethren" (Rev. 12:10)
- F. "The adversary" (1 Pet. 5:8)
- G. Beelzebub (Matt. 12:24) - means "lord of the flies."
- H. Belial (2 Cor. 6:15) - means "worthlessness" in the Old Testament; and "Satan" in the New Testament.
- I. The deceiver of "the whole world" (Rev. 12:9)
- J. "An enemy" (Matt. 13:28)
- K. "The wicked one" (Matt. 13:19)
- L. "The father of lies" (John 8:44)
- M. "A murderer from the beginning" (John 8:44)
- N. "The prince of the power of the air" (Eph. 2:2)
- O. "Prince of this world" (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11)
- P. "That old serpent" (Rom. 12:9)
- Q. "The tempter" (Matt. 4:3; 1 Thess. 3:5)

IV. The Tempter

"And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son

of God, command that these stones be made bread." (Matt. 4:3)

A. It is important to understand how Satan tempts us so that we can be prepared to defend ourselves (in God's power) against him.

B. From 1 John 2:16 we learn that the Devil has three primary methods of temptation.

"For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. (1 John 2:16)

C. Satan used these three areas of temptation with Eve as well as with Jesus Christ.

D. Christ's glorious victory over the Devil's temptations gives us confidence that we too, can overcome his temptations.

E. By submitting to the Holy Spirit and using the Word of God, we can overcome the temptations of the Tempter. We need not fear what he can do to us. Our confidence is in the One who soundly defeated the Devil.

"And fear not them [followers of Satan] which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him [God] which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." (Matt. 10:28)

"Greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

(1 John 4:4)

Three Areas of Temptation

Area

Temptation of Eve

Temptation of Christ

Lust of the flesh

"Eat the fruit"

"Turn stones to bread"

Lust of the eyes	"Your eyes shall be opened"	"All the kingdoms will be yours"
Pride of life	"Ye shall be as gods"	"God won't let you die"

V. The Future Position of Satan

A. Satan's Future Position

1. Christ has defeated Satan in the past.

- a. During Christ's temptation (Matt. 4:1-11). Jesus Christ soundly defeated Satan at His temptation. Although Christ could have defeated Satan with divine power, that was not His purpose.
- b. Jesus wanted to be an example to all mankind in His defeat of the Devil. He overcame outward temptation by submitting Himself to God the Father and resisting the Devil (James 4:7), which is the way that each Christian must also resist temptation.
- c. Three times during the temptation Christ quoted from the Old Testament book of Deuteronomy.
 - Matt. 4:4 - Deut. 8:3
 - Matt. 4:7 - Deut. 6:16
 - Matt. 4:10 - Deut. 6:13; 10:20
- d. Christ is our example of obtaining victory over sin and Satan.
 - "Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." (Ps. 119:11)

2. Satan was defeated at Christ's crucifixion.

- a. In the Garden of Eden, God promised mankind that Satan would be ultimately defeated.
"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." (Gen. 3:15)
- b. The Devil is a defeated foe. The death of Jesus Christ on the cross spelled defeat for the forces of Satan.
"Now the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die."
(John 12:31-33)
"And when he [the Holy Spirit] is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged." (John 16:8, 11)
- c. Because of Christ's victory, Christians can experience victory over sin and Satan.
- d. As Christians, we are:
- Saved from the **penalty** of sin in the **past**.
 - Saved from the **power** of sin in the **present**.
 - Saved from the **presence** of sin in the **future**.
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It is once again interactive time. Please complete the following biblical passages by filling in the blank spaces. Each passage has been taken from the King James Version (KJV) of the Holy Bible.

"And the _____ returned again with joy, saying Lord, even the _____ are _____ unto us through thy name. And he said unto them, I _____ Satan as _____ fall from _____."

[Luke 10:17-18]

"Ye are of your _____ the _____, and the _____ of your father ye will do. He was a _____ from the _____, and abode not in the _____, because there is no _____ in him. When he speaketh a _____, he speaketh of his own; for he is a _____, and the _____ of it."

[John 8:44]

"Now the _____ was more _____ than any _____ of the field which the Lord God had _____. And he said unto the _____, Yea, _____ God said, Ye shall _____ of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the _____, we may _____ of the _____ of the trees of the garden. But of the _____ of the tree which is in the _____ of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall _____ eat of it, neither shall ye _____ it, lest ye _____."

[Genesis 3:1-3]

"But if our _____ be _____, it is hid to them that are _____: In whom the _____ of this world hath _____ the minds of them which _____ not, lest the _____ of the _____ gospel of Christ, who is the _____ of God, should _____ unto them."

[2 Corinthians 4:3-4]

"Finally, my brethren, be _____ in the _____, and in the _____ of his might. Put on the _____ armour of God, that ye may be able to _____ against the _____ of the _____."

[Ephesians 6:10-11]

"Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee _____: for it is _____, Thou shalt _____ the Lord thy God, and him _____ shalt thou _____.

[Matthew 4:10]

"Be _____, be vigilant; because your _____ the _____, as a _____ lion, walketh about, seeking who, he may _____: Whom _____ stedfast in the _____, knowing that the same _____ are accomplished in your brethren that are in the _____."

[1 Peter 5:8-9]

Thank so much for being a part of another Bible Study Session and I pray that you have been blessed.

In the Master's Service

Pastor Austin