

# THE PATHFINDER

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## Mystery of the Angels (Part 3)

Satan

An Angel of Light?

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Continuing in memory of our dear friend, Charles (Chuck) Weller (1948 - 2001), and our joint effort of unfolding some of the ***Mysteries of the Angels.***

## Satan

To grasp the importance of the subject of this world-renowned character known as Satan, the devil, that old serpent, it is paramount to understand some rudiment issues about it. First, the word, ***Satan***, in the Old Testament of Bible is *not a translation* from a Hebrew word but a *transliteration*. A Transliteration from one language to another is simply to write a letter or word using the closest corresponding letters of a different alphabet or language.

For example, the Greek letters of the word ***Χριστός*** is not comprehensible to those who do not know the Greek alphabet or language; therefore, the first part of *transliterating* the word would be to use English letters of the alphabet, which would be written as ***Christos***. Since *Christos* does not sound like an English word, the next step in *transliterating* it would be to make it sound English. This done by slightly changing it; such as, dropping the last two letters, making it, ***Christ***. However, to *translate* the word would be to give its definition, which is, ***anointed***.

Ah, now we understand the word. We know it has to do with someone that has oil poured or rubbed upon them. And so, we have the Hebrew word, **שָׂטָן**, that is either a translation or a transliteration. A translation would be "***an adversary***." A transliteration would be **śâtân**, **satan** or **Satan**.

You see, a ***translation*** conveys the actual meaning of the original word, while a ***transliteration*** is the way the alphabetical letters are written. This is so that people of the other language can recognize them; but this does nothing to convey the meaning of the word. However, although the definitions of transliterations are not given, when they are used over a period of time in the new language, they usually take on a meaning, and depending on how it is used in that language will determine its definition

which may or may not have very little to do with the word from which it came.

As it was with *Christos*, the same happened to the Hebrew word, שָׂטָן/śâtân and the Greek σατανᾶς/*satanas*. They were carried over from both languages to the English as *transliterations* rather than *translations*. The definition of śâtân simply means *an adversary, an opponent, an obstacle, someone or something that hinders*.

To illustrate, we will *transliterate* the Greek word, θάνατος and use it as such in a familiar verse of the New Testament— “There shall be no more *thanatos*.” We are familiar with the individual English letters of **thanatos**; but it makes no more sense to us than when it is written in the Greek language, θάνατος. It is just as much Greek one way or the other. However, if it were to be used for a period of time, it would eventually take on a meaning, depending, of course, on the context of its use, as mentioned above. We might define the word as to what the meaning is in the Greek, but we might not. As it stands now, if θάνατος /**thanatos** is used as a transliteration, most people would have no idea what the word means. Yet, when translated, everyone understands it; for then it is read that “There shall be no more **death**.” (*Revelation 21:4*). It is easily understood what is being said; for it has been *translated* to the language that we know and understand. It is one thing to make a word to look like it is English

Thus, the difference between a *translation* and a *transliteration*, and “*Satan*,” is one of those transliterations that became an entity’s name rather than an entity’s definition due to a large part of how it first appeared in the Latin Vulgate. It was, and still is, a word without an accurate definition. It carries the thought of something completely convoluted from its true meaning, for which Catholicism had been largely responsible. Not finding fault with that religious order, just mentioning a bit of history to

see from where the word came.

So what does this mean? Very much, to say the least; for instance, the Hebrew Bible, as well as with Judaism, *Satan* is never portrayed as Western Christendom has come to imagine this infamous character to be. This *adversary* is never portrayed by either as a narcissistic despot of an evil empire, or as the general of an hostile army of angels and degenerate demons that wages war on God, His creation, and everything that is good. Frankly, such scenarios came from the influence of pagan religions, Catholicism, and continued with Protestantism; but it has never been a part of the the Old Testament, the Talmud or Jewish thought. It is strange, however, that Islam's view of Satan is much the same as Christendom's.

In Islam, the *Devil* is known as *Iblis* (Arabic: إبليس), *Shaytan*. The primary characteristic of *Shaytan, the Devil*, is *hubris* which describes a personality quality of extreme or foolish pride or dangerous over-confidence. *Hubris* defies the norms of behavior and challenges the gods, which in turn brought about the downfall. Not only did *Shaytan, the Iblis* (Satan the Devil) deem himself as superior to God but also to Adam. *Shaytan* demonstrated arrogance by challenging Allah's judgment in commanding him to prostrate before Adam. His primary activity is to incite humans to commit evil through deception, which is referred to as "whispering into the hearts." The Quran mentions that *satans* are the assistants of those who disbelieve in God.

What the majority generally embraces concerning whom or what *Satan* is, does not make it so. Please know that the Kingdom of God is not a democracy, and the beliefs of the majority are not the factors of rule. The majority does not rule in the Kingdom. He rules, whether His truths conflict with them or not, and one of those truths is that *God did not create a good angel that turned bad*. He purposely created an *adversary* to exercise us. Scriptures and experience testifies that Satan is here to

make things difficult for us so we can overcome every obstacle. That is a primary purpose of Satan, this agent whose purpose has been determined by God.

Satan is not a fallen angel. Satan is an entity with a dirty job. Satan does not have a rival kingdom. Satan is a servant and is not in competition with God. Satan simply has a job that he was conscripted to do, just like every other angel (messenger) whether flesh or spirit. Angels have no freewill. They do as God has called them.

One might think that since Judaism uses what we call the Old Testament that they believe very much the same as most of Christianity. But not so. Satan, the devil, is not a main focus in their religion; whereas, so much of Christianity is preoccupied with the devil. In Christianity he is viewed as an enemy of God, a perpetual opposing force, and something very bad, the epitome of evil., Satan has a level of power that is considered almost equal to that of God, and at times more so. But this cannot be. Satan is an agent of God, created by Him for a specific purpose which always turns out as something very good. Satan is not a rival of God, but His servant. Man's adversary is unable to do anything outside of God's will. Period!

*Satan, have you considered my servant Job who is righteous in all his way and hates evil? Go ahead. Give it your best shot against him, for he is in great need of you so he not only knows about Me, but HE SEES ME.*

One has written concerning Judaism's point of view: "In contrast to Christian literature, where Satan is understood to be an evil force, the archenemy of God, in Jewish literature, he is seen as a blessing to His people. Why? Let's consider for a moment what Satan means. As mentioned before, the word not only means an adversary, but a stumbling block or an obstacle. What exactly is an obstacle? It is something which is put in our path requiring us to overcome it. Obstacles in this life give us opportunities to stretch

our muscles and to grow stronger.

“In the Genesis account of creation, we are told that God saw that each day was good, but on the last day it says that He saw that everything was VERY good. The Jewish Talmud teaches that this even refers to the evil inclination, which would include the serpent/Satan. Why is this good? It is the Evil inclination that provides our passions and desires, it is the evil inclination which is responsible for not only all the evil that transpires in this world, but also for all the good. For if we did not have passions, appetites and desires, we would also have no motivation and we would accomplish very little, either good or bad in this life.

“If you look at the use of Satan in the Hebrew bible, you find that as a concept, **it is much more about an experience than a person**, an experience where God has put a roadblock in front of us. This is Satan. This is an adversary. So why is this a good thing? Because if we were to go through life without ever experiencing these roadblocks or adversaries, obstacles in life, there would be no potential for virtue in the world. For if we were never tempted to do the things that we are not supposed to do, then not doing them would be of no value to us. It is only in coming up against a desire to do what is wrong and overcoming this that we grow as spiritual people.

“This evil inclination, or Satan, provides friction. Can you imagine a world with no friction, no resistance? Think about a car, how does it go? It is the friction between the tires and the road that allow the car to make progress, to go forward. Now, to the tires the friction is not necessarily a positive thing, the friction slowly destroys the tire, and yet without the friction, the tire is worthless.

“If there is no resistance to overcome, we have no environment for growth. When we come up against an obstacle, either we crash

into it and fall (definitely a negative experience – the evil inclination) or we have to climb over it, and by climbing over these obstacles in life, we develop our spiritual muscles, so to speak. If we never exercise our muscles, we atrophy. So these forces in the world, these experiences, no matter how difficult or uncomfortable, are positive and important.

“To reiterate, everything was created by God, both good and evil and everything is under His control. There is only one force, not two, whereas, in Christianity Satan is not under the control of God but is rather, a competing force against Him. Christian theology makes Satan so powerful that he is erroneously given the title, ‘the god of this world.’

“Again, Satan is a servant of God who provides opportunities for us to grow, to respond to our passions and desires by producing things of value in this world and to become stronger spiritual people. (The Jewish View of Satan, Penina Taylor).

More properly, Satan should be called, *the Satan*, for it is not a proper name, and such is not God’s opponent. Although an opponent to people, the idea that there is anything in existence capable of setting itself up as God's opponent would be considered polytheistic; that is, we are setting up the devil as a god.

The notion of an angel having freewill is foreign to the scriptures. There is a debate over whether angels lack the potential for freewill, or whether they simply perceive reality too clearly to have any choices to make. But in any case, without the fence-straddling of the human condition, it is apparent to us that there is no freewill. Satan acts as a servant of God, not as an opponent or even a disobedient angel.

We find that the Hebrew word, *sâtân*, appears as *an adversary* in Numbers 22:22 —“And God's anger was kindled because he went:

and the angel of the LORD stood in the way for ***an adversary*** against him....” “And he was ***an adversary*** to Israel all the days of ***Solomon....***” **1 Kings 11:25.**

The word for ***adversary*** in these verses is *śâtân*, and in each case the word was translated appropriately. The Lord’s angel was an adversary and came against Balaam. God was an *adversary* to Israel. To *transliterate* the word, ***God Himself*** would be called ***a satan***, not Satan as a proper name, but ***a satan*** as ***an adversary***.

Even so, they both, *He* and *His angel*, came *as opponents, as adversaries*, but *not as a two horned, evil eyed, tail swishing devil by the name of Satan*. In the first and second chapters of Job there is a *śâtân* that serves as an obedient servant of the Lord by being an *adversary to Job*.

The Hebrew word, *śâtân*, is also found in this verse: “And ***Satan*** stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel.” **1 Chronicles 21:1.**

Who, or what, was this ***Satan***? We believe the ***satan*** that stood up against Israel and provoked David to sin was a ***nation***, most likely the ***Philistines*** that they were at war with during that time. David’s ***satan/adversary*** was a real, tangible threat to his kingdom, and he numbered his army, and trusted in it rather than God. It seems that he wanted to see if he stood a chance of winning the war and coming out alive. Since this ***satan*** was not named in particular, we can only speculate; but for sure, his ***adverse satan*** was not a fairytale demonic being that grew horns, bat wings, and a tail after being thrown out of heaven.

We see that it is *transliterated* as *Satan* which can cause the reader to think it is a personal being that is being referred to. The important thing to note is that in the Old Testament Hebrew ***Satan/śâtân*** never once describes a particular person. It is not used as a proper noun. It is not used as one’s name. The role of ***satan*** is that of a servant which brings about



God's purpose. It is simply an *adversary*, an *opponent*. The corresponding Greek word is *diabolos* which means *to throw through, to traduce, to throw [bolos] something across [dia, as in diagonally] one's path*. In Spanish the word is transliterated as, *Diablo* and *Satan* as *Satán*.

Hebrew storytellers often attribute misfortune to human sin. Some, however, also invoke *adversarial satans* that by God's own order block or oppose human plans and desires. And these messengers are not necessarily evil. In the story of Balaam, God sends a donkey as a messenger, taking on the role of *a satan, adversary*, to prevent Balaam from disobeying God.

We find in **Job 2:1** that God gathered together the sons of God, and verse two states that Satan came also among them. Satan was found in the same classification, position or rank as the sons of God in that he was in the presence of the Lord; but this does not make him equal to God or to the sons of God. Yet he was a created vessel to serve in any realm to which God called him, from the lowest of human depravity to the highest of honor.

Consider these verses: "I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things." **Isaiah 45:7**. "And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb." **Exodus 4:11**. "All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made." **John 1:3**. And "**For by him were all things created**, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and **by him all things consist.**" **Colosians 1:16-17**.

Surely, we don't think the omniscient, all knowing God would create something that could become a threat, out of His control, and win the majority of the His beloved creation to an everlasting hellfire torment.

Satan was one of those things that was created by Him, for His purpose, and by Him consists to do His bidding. Nothing more, nothing less. Take heart and keep in mind what Paul wrote in one of his letters: “And we know that **ALL THINGS** work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” **Romans 8:28**.

Whether Satan is *a spirit, the carnal mind, a man, or a religion, an army, or a nation*—they all can serve as *an adversary* to someone or something—and each can be called *a satan*. For instance, Iran calls America ***The Great Satan***. We are not sure what their mind-set might be on this; but in reality, until the past few years, *this nation had been the greatest adversary* Iran has ever had. Therefore, they were right on target by calling us ***The Great Satan***.

Jesus was confronted and tempted by His own *adversary/satan/the devil* when he was led into the wilderness by the Spirit **Matthew 4:1-11**. On another occasion He pointed out and accused the sons of Satan, as well as shedding light on what their father was and had always been. The **International Standard Version** has Him saying to the Scribes and Pharisees: “You belong to your father the devil, and you want to carry out the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning and **has never stood for truth**, since there is no truth in him. Whenever he tells a lie he speaks in character, because he is a liar and the father of lies.” **John 8:44**.

It is obvious that Jesus is speaking to a group of people who were not literally fathered by a devilish being during some sort of satanic ritual by their mothers in a place like the Bohemian Grove where the rich and powerful go to misbehave, but they were spiritually related in the sense of their carnal-minded religious schemes and practices. Everything about them was ***adverse*** to righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. The whole pit, ***they and their father*** were ***adversaries, satans, devils***. Jesus

was addressing the issue of enforcing upon the people their dogmatic legalism. They were as whited sepulchers in nature of having a show of righteousness in their hypocrisy; but they were like tombs that held the spiritually dead. They were satans of the lowest kind. They were from beneath, with Satan's cycle of death in their hands, and Jesus did not mince words with such ilk.

He made it clear that **Satan was their father and was a murderer from his very beginning**, and at no time had he ever stood in the truth. This is contrary to traditional Christian teaching, this we know; but truth is always contrary to religious fantasies, and so many of their traditions are but fantasies.

Frankly, dear friends, I am so at odds with tradition: religious tradition (tradition of the fathers), politically right tradition, even social tradition, that I sometimes make an effort to rebel against all of it, and I am not of the 1970s hippie generation of rebellion. I thought they were stupid then, and I think many of them still are, but that's beside the point. Even so, rebellion for the sake of rebellion is not a good thing; but when tradition makes slaves of us, it is an honorable thing and can be abolished as the truth floods our being.

Most of the theologians today believe, traditionally, that Satan was once good, became evil, and then fell. An argument for this is based upon ***Isaiah 14*** and ***Ezekiel 28***, as we noted in our previous article. However, Jesus clearly states that Satan was evil from the beginning. The word beginning here means from the original starting point. The word *beginning* is in reference to the very beginning, whether it is of Satan or of creation, but not some starting point that came after the beginning. Even though theologians preach the scenario of Satan being good and then falling, it seems that they have not considered another verse, ***1 John 3:8***, which reads in the NAS, "...For the devil has sinned from the beginning..." This could not be true of any other vessel. For instance, Adam was good

and then fell; but Satan is first found as the serpent in the garden and is evil from his very first appearance.

## **An Angel of Light?**

Church dogma of Satan having been an angel of light and then having fallen from heaven cannot be true. Although Jesus said that He saw Satan fall as lightning from heaven, it is not in reference to having lost the war against God and having been cast out of heaven. There are two thoughts about this, and either or both are true:

First, “I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven” would seem to give credit to the traditional thought; however, if we take it in the context of what had just happened in **Luke 10:1-20** the seventy that Jesus had sent out to all the cities to deliver people from the powers of demons and sicknesses, we will see something else. The falling was when the seventy had cast Satan out of the heavenly dominion he had over the people who were sick and demon possessed. It was at that time He had seen him falling from heaven as a lightning bolt rather than thousands of years in the past.

The only other verse we can recall which mentions anything about Satan in reference to light is **2 Corinthians 11:14**. It says Satan is able to transform himself into an angel of light. The Greek word for *transform* is *metaschēmatizō*, meaning to *masquerade* or *disguise*. This is as close as he has been or will ever be to being light, that is, as a masquerading actor.

Eric Ellis also wrote about this: “Satan easily orchestrates religious works of the flesh whenever people are moving in their carnal minds and not in the mind of Christ. This façade can be seen through when one has the mind of Christ. Christ will alert us when there is a form of godliness that lacks the life of the Son of God. Religion with its works denies the power of Christ, substituting another spirit in disguise. This disguise is

typically the *instead-of-Christ* spirit. To have the mind of Christ one must also have the Spirit of Christ....; without the mind of Christ, we would tend to judge by outer appearances, and we would often be wrong. It is not the visible form that is so important as the spirit behind it. **Satan is not and never was an angel of light**, but he can disguise himself to look good to the carnal mind. That is his territory. His dominion is the realm of darkness, (for he feeds on the dust of the flesh-nature). This counterfeit is *instead-of-Christ*. It is the spirit force behind the knowledge of good and evil when one is apart from Christ, the Tree of Life.

**“When Jesus saw Satan fall as lightning from heaven, did that indicate a fall from a higher place...an anointed position?”**

“No. To see what really happened we will look at that verse in context.

*“Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, ‘Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.’ And He said to them, ‘I SAW SATAN FALL LIKE LIGHTNING FROM HEAVEN. BEHOLD, I GIVE YOU THE AUTHORITY to trample on serpents and scorpions [devils], and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather REJOICE BECAUSE YOUR NAMES ARE WRITTEN IN HEAVEN.’ Luke 10:17-20 (NKJV).*

“Another way to say this key phrase is, *‘I saw the power of Satan cast out of the people that you 70 ministered to. I saw this happen quickly, as fast as lightning is cast out of heaven.’* Satan was not in an anointed position in heaven. He was never a *light-bearer*. There is no scripture to support such a fantasy. The demonic powers of Satan were ruling in the people to which the 70 ministered the delivering power of Christ. The 70 had the power of Christ because they were found in Christ and it was the Spirit of Christ operating through them. Jesus was saying that without being present in His body, He was there in Spirit. It was His Holy Spirit that did the work of deliverance. Jesus knew that the demons would have

to obey those 70 who were found in His nature...His Spirit.

“Verse 17 in context is merely an acknowledgment by Jesus to the 70 disciples that Satan cannot remain when the Spirit of Christ is ruling, (which is why the demons obeyed them). Jesus could see that happening without being there in person for He was present in Spirit. He also knew that the disciples would work within His Spirit and authority, and that when they did, things would happen suddenly and powerfully, like lightning.” —End quote.

The other thought is closer, more personal. It is that of our dear friend, J. Preston Eby:

“The devil tried that tactic [of suggestion, accusation] on the firstborn Son of God and He answered, ‘It is written!’ ‘God hath said!’ ‘And the devil departed from Him.’ In that blessed moment Satan was forever cast out of His heavens! No wonder Jesus could say, ‘I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven’ (**Luke 10:18**). This enlightening statement is in no way a reference to the myth, the fable, legend, folklore, and fairy tale about Lucifer being expelled from heaven. It wasn’t something Jesus had witnessed in some far-off heaven before God spoke the creative fiat, ‘Let there be light.’ Oh, no! It was what He had experienced in His own encounter with Satan in the heavenly places of His sonship to God! Jesus beheld Satan fall from His own heaven, the heaven of His mind, the battleground where the battle was fought, just as every son of God must fight the same battle on the same battleground and behold Satan falling from their very own heaven!” —End quote.

We find Jesus being tempted by Satan in **Matthew 4:1-11**. Here the word devil is used which is the Greek *diabolos*. It is the same word used by Jesus in **John 6:70** when He said that Judas was the devil. Later, it says that at the last supper *Satan* entered him (ref. **Matthew 26:25**, **Luke 22:3**), indicating that they are one and the same.

Jesus states that Peter is Satan in **Matthew 16:23**. “But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, **Satan**: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.” It is clear that Jesus did not think that his friend was that old serpent, the devil. Peter was simply a man who had desired that which was *adverse* to the mission upon which Jesus had been sent; namely, to be crucified so that all he died for would be saved from all sin and death. And we are so glad that he will be victorious in that supreme mission.

We will take note again that it says this adversary masquerades as an angel of light in **2 Corinthians 11:14**. “And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.”

It goes without saying that a plethora of religious people appear to be holy, pure, and righteous; but in truth, it is the exact opposite—*satans*, they are. They are *adverse* to the truth and what is good for the people. Moreover, whether inwardly or outwardly, each and every masquerader can easily be conquered by Christ. Any *satan* is less than Christ in power, for this accuser is a created vessel. And don't we know that one's creation is always less than its creator.

Surely, we know that in and through Christ all things have been created, so therefore, it is all placed under our feet. We are victorious because the serpent's meat is the dust of the earth, the adamic nature. With us being seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, we are far removed from his feeding troughs, and from this pinon place, rather than being cast down, devoured, and trodden asunder by this adversary, we do the casting down.

“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.” **Revelation 12:9**.

The word *old* in the Greek is *archaios* and is from where we get the transliterated word, *archaic*. The Greek means, *original*, that which was from its very beginning. If we were to go to the root word we would find that it comes from *archomai* which means *to commence in order of time*.

With this in mind, let us share another thought from Preston Eby:

*“MAN, on the one hand, says that a fallen angel, Satan, used the serpent in Eden. God, on the other hand, says that the original serpent IS THE DEVIL and Satan. I once read a book which explained how Satan was the greatest ventriloquist of all time, he threw his voice into the serpent so that the serpent only appeared to speak - it was really the Devil! GOD SAYS that THE SERPENT HIMSELF WAS MORE SUBTLE than any beast of the field, that the SERPENT SPOKE, and that the serpent IS THE DEVIL AND SATAN! MAN says that the Devil somehow got into the serpent and spoke through its mouth, whereas GOD declares that **THE ORIGINAL SERPENT I-S THE DEVIL!**”*

To move forward in time, we see that the serpent was a symbol of religious Babylon. The book of Genesis was written many years after creation, some say by Moses. If this is so, then it was written around 1500 BC. The symbolism selected would be current ideas of that era, and Babylon was a great power then and would reemerge as a power centuries later as well. During that period, the serpent was the symbol of false religion.

Satan touches the *earthy* creation with *false religion*. *The serpent’s diet consists of the earthy, carnal mind, especially the carnal religious mind*. Thus “...Upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust of the earth thou shalt all the days of your life.” **Genesis 3:14**. The first Adam is made of the earth. Satan has his existence in the flesh. Without the carnal mind,



he dies of starvation. In **Matthew 4:1-10** we find Jesus was tempted in three areas: lust of the flesh (turn stones into bread), lust of the eyes (seeing kingdoms to rule over) and the pride of life (worshiping Satan). These same three temptations are found in **1 John 2:16** and affect the saints.

Again we find the same three temptations in **Revelation 21:8** which present three areas of failure. First in importance are idolaters, sorcerers, and liars. This represents spiritual corruption. Secondly is murders and the sexually immoral which represents sins of the flesh. Thirdly are things related to the carnal mind—unbelief, cowardly. Thus all three areas of corruption are seen—mentally, fleshly and spiritually.

Paul said to "Deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus." **1 Corinthians 5:5**. This statement by Paul is to show that the desires of the flesh—lust of the eyes, lust of the flesh and the pride of life have to be overcome. One cannot be free, even a Christian, since Paul is writing about a Christian in particular, until the desires are conquered. These desires are in the arena of the carnal mind and must be destroyed. Such enmity against God has to go. But let us know that without an adversary, Satan, we would never know we were lacking nor had a need to overcome anything. We would think that our calling was nothing more than saying the sinner's prayer and wait to fly away some glad day.

However, when reality sets in, we understand that this is not the case, and for many, the fullness of corruption must occur first before a person seeks deliverance: "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." **James 1:15**. "Fill ye up then the measure of your fathers." **Matthew 23:32**.

Hopefully, we have shown that *satan* is a spirit of corruption but not one spirit in particular; that *satan* is not necessarily a person; that *satan*

is a created being for a purpose in God's great plan; that *Satan* did not fall but was evil from the beginning; that *satan* is *an angel, a messenger, a spirit, the carnal mind, a man, an army, a nation*, and more.

Lastly, *Satan* is called to do God's service, as it is written: "Behold, I have created **the smith** that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and I have created **the waster** to destroy." ***Isaiah 54:16***. And the waster will not only destroy that which he is called to destroy, but will also be destroyed after his work comes to an end. When the rod of chastening is no longer needed, when every soul lives and has its being in the joy of Jesus Christ to the glory of God, it is cast aside to never be used again!

Now, isn't this good news?

To be continued...



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