

BEHIND THE SEEN

Angels, Demons & The Battle for the Human Soul

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Chapter 2

Lucifer, the Anointed Cherub

He ranked high in the heavenly host, a formidable creature who worked for God and had a “corner office” in the heavenlies. His authority and position were well-known, granted with an eternal purpose in mind. He “had it good,” as they say...but it wasn’t enough. The anointed cherub dreamed of stretching his wings and strutting his stuff on *higher* ground. He was impressed with himself and eager to freelance. He’d had enough of doing God’s work and abiding by His standards. He didn’t want to toe the divine line anymore; he was ready to start his own firm.

So he challenged The Boss. He should have anticipated the fall that would follow his pride, and he probably did. Nevertheless, he forged ahead with an audacious plan in his heart:

...I will ascend into Heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.

—ISAIAH 14:13–14

I will. *I will*. Currents of rebellion echoed through the spirit realm. The anointed cherub raised his fist to the Most High and divided the heavenly population. One-third followed the cherub; two-thirds witnessed what happened next. Clearly, the cherub's plan was flawed. He had won a following and split the kingdom...but occupying the "farthest sides of the north" and becoming like the Most High? None of that was going down. Instead, the once-anointed cherub and his sympathizers were kicked to the celestial curb, their credentials pulled, and their fate sealed.

Now two kingdoms existed instead of one, and they were at war. In reality, Cherub & Co. lost the war when the first "I will" entered his heart. The self-appointed master deceiver had brilliantly deceived *himself*.

Where "North" Is

Lucifer boasted that he would sit on "the mount of the congregation, on the farthest sides of the north" (Isa. 14:13). The congregation in this case were the creatures that occupied the Heavens. The place was the third Heaven, "the farthest sides of the north" (*north* being equated with *up*). This was Lucifer's intended destination, the territory he would have to occupy to be "like the Most High." But God had other plans. In the fullness of time, He "raised [Jesus] from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come" (Eph. 1:20–21). The highest place is not occupied by a rebel, but by the King of kings.

Lucifer and Satan: One and the Same . . . or Evil Twins?

Lucifer's biography is pivotal to the history of sin and spiritual warfare, yet it is often disputed. When his name comes up, questions arise and misconceptions come to light. The questions are good ones, while the misconceptions deserve a decent burial. So let's start digging. But first, some "housekeeping"...

For simplicity's sake, we will use the male pronouns *he* and *him* when speaking of Lucifer (who by the way was named Helel by God; Lucifer is his Latin name), as Scripture supports this. Be aware, nevertheless, that there are aspects of his personality that arguably are feminine; and I would advance, too, *purposely ambisexual*, or as some might call it, *intersexual*. In fact, *androgyny* is one of Satan's calling cards. Remember, if God is not the author of confusion (I Cor. 14:33), as the Word tells us, then it would have to be Satan who *is*.

The most discussed question about Lucifer involves his identity. Some in the church see him as a separate entity from Satan. Ezekiel 28 prevents me from agreeing with them. It is true that the entire chapter is “the word of the LORD” (Ezek. 28:11) for the wicked, earthly prince of Tyre. However, this is a double reference, one that compares the prince to a heavenly creature whose conduct was the template for his earthly wickedness.

“You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; you were on the holy mountain of God; you walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you. By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, And you sinned; therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones.”

—EZEKIEL 28:14–16

Before we fully explore Lucifer's treason, though, we need to point out his location. Scripture says that he was cast out of the mountain of God; this tells me he must have started out there. The anointed cherub had not been created for evil but for service to the One who anointed him. His expulsion was not God's choosing — it was God's necessary response to the cherub's rebellious choices.

Thus Lucifer the “light-bearer”¹ became Satan “the adversary.”² The cherub traded in his

anointing and wrote himself a new job description: steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10). The Bible does not explicitly say, “Lucifer became the devil.” I get that. But here is where critical thinking and biblical assumptions come in. We must take into account the cohesive story of the Bible, even when it is not explicit — not trying to make it say what we want, but examining what the larger story, or metanarrative, reveals.

In this case, the larger story shows God having *one* archenemy, not two. If we conclude that Lucifer and Satan are separate creatures, then we must also conclude that God has two adversaries. Because this idea is not supported by Scripture we can only reject it, and make the biblical assumption that Lucifer and Satan are the same creature at different stages in the biblical narrative.

Perhaps, though, even more important than resolving the Lucifer-Satan question is knowing that the Enemy is a defeated foe. Unfortunately, he wins many skirmishes, not because he is so mighty but because we fail to understand or remember that his defeat was signed, sealed, and delivered in blood...Jesus’ blood! Yes, Satan is cunning and skilled, and he is especially good at convincing people that (1) he does not exist, or that (2) they are powerless against him. The truth is that he *does* exist, because God created him; and because God created him, his power will never supersede God’s power — including the power and authority we have over him, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Created vs. Creator

Like all heavenly creatures, Lucifer was created for a purpose, and subject to his Maker (Col. 1:15–16). As God told King Cyrus, “I am the Lord, and there is no other; I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the Lord, do all these things” (Isa. 45:6–7). The created thing cannot command its Creator, nor can it do any creating. Even the perversions

of God's creation exist only because the original creation existed first. For example, evil cannot exist apart from good, because evil is the perversion of good.

Lucifer did not say, "I will *replace* the Most High"; as Hell-bent on rebellion as he was, he knew better than that! Rather, he said, "I will be *like* the Most High" (Isa. 14:14), but in the end, he failed miserably even at that. Still, he managed to commit an act of pure, unadulterated evil, which began the way all evil begins — with a thought that every human has wrestled with: "Nah, I'm not doing it God's way. I know what He said to do, but I'm opting out."

Thinking he could usurp the highest Heaven, Lucifer dropped God's plan for his own. The Most High was unshaken, nevertheless, knowing the created thing could not write the eternal script. In response He said, "Therefore I cast you...out of the mountain of God" (Ezek. 28:16). Lucifer's fall was dramatic, and Jesus witnessed it. He told His disciples millennia later, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from Heaven" (Luke 10:18).

Thus, the light-bearer became, ironically, the prince of darkness.

The Enemy's Names

After Lucifer was exiled, his new identity as Satan ("adversary") took effect. My belief is that the name *Lucifer* was now off-limits to him because it was attached to his original purpose and anointing. Although that name now evokes negative connotations, it was not always so; "Lucifer" was a beautiful name, with pleasant meanings — not only "light-bearer" but also "morning star" and "shining one."³ We saw in Job 38:7 that the "morning stars" rejoiced when God created the earth. (Might they have been under Lucifer's authority? Was he chief among the morning stars?) Neither Lucifer nor the morning stars were inherently evil. As a matter of fact in the New Testament, Jesus is called the "Bright and Morning Star" (Rev. 22:16). So Lucifer once having borne this name shows that he started out as one of the good guys.

Satan is also known as the “Devil.” This term appears throughout the New Testament and speaks directly to Satan’s reputation as a slanderer and accuser. The word *devil* comes from the Latin *diabolus*, which literally means “to throw” slander.⁴ Revelation 12:10 confirms this aspect of Satan’s nature, calling him “the accuser of the brethren.” We also see this behavior in the Book of Job, when Satan lobs accusations at a man God calls righteous (Job 1 and 2).

Master of Accusation

Adam and Eve had a sweet deal in the Garden of Eden, even with one tree having been declared off-limits to them. God had provided for their every need, as well as more than enough nutritional choices. But Satan drove a wedge between the humans and their Creator, with the exact same sinful idea that had already blown up in his four faces: the idea of becoming like God. Not in a humble way where one wants to be more holy and like the Father, mind you, but in a way that challenges and competes with Him. “He said to the woman, ‘Has God indeed said, “You shall not eat of every tree of the garden”?’” (Gen. 3:1). When the woman explained that the fruit of one tree was banned and deadly to eat, the accuser leaned in for the kill. “You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and *you will be like God*, knowing good and evil” (Gen. 3:4–5). Satan accused God of suppressing the garden-dwellers’ “rightful” destiny. Did Lucifer use the same tactic when he drew one-third of Heaven’s creatures into rebellion? While the Bible is silent on this, I propose that this is likely what he did!

There are many other titles for the wicked one, too. Ephesians 2:2 calls him “the prince of the power of the air.” Notice that he is not called “the prince of the power of Hell.” Regardless of how he is depicted in the culture, the devil is *not* a pitchfork-wielding imp whose home is Hell. Believe it or not, Satan has actually never visited Hell; he wants no part of it! He *will* experience its torment one day, but not until he is cast into Gehenna, which is the Lake of Fire (more on this in Chapter 8).

Satan's minions are not in Hell either. His whole bunch is busy roaming the earth to harass humans. Unlike God, though, they are not omnipresent; because of their mobility and large numbers, they might *seem* to be everywhere at once, but they are not. They do, however, get around, traveling not only the earth and the heavenlies but also the airwaves, where they shape culture and entertainment.

Other titles for Satan are “the ruler or prince of this world” (see John 14:30 and 16:11), and “the god of this age” (see 2 Corinthians 4:4). In the garden, Adam relinquished his God-given dominion over the entire earth and made Satan the *de facto* ruler of the world system. Satan has never owned the earth and is not entitled to it; God never intended for him and his followers to run rampant in the earthly realm. Yet through cunning and deceit he became a skillful squatter, with more freedom to operate than God ever intended him to have! To the degree that we appropriate the name of the Lamb and exercise our authority, we restore and enforce the dominion God gave us when He first created mankind. One day, this restoration will be complete.

Satan is also called the “ruler of the demons” (Matt. 9:34), while the King James Version calls him the “prince of the devils.” Matthew 13:19 calls him “the wicked one” who snatches away the seed of the Word that is sown in the human heart. The apostle Peter describes him walking about “like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour” (1 Pet. 5:8), though in fact, Satan has no bite — because Jesus pulled his teeth at Calvary!

John 10:10 calls Satan “the thief.” Notice the definite article: John doesn't specify *a* thief, but *the* thief. Contextually, the passage speaks of hirelings whose care of the sheep is suspect; but I believe the passage compares earthly hirelings to Satan, whose mission is to rob God's flock of life in every form. Jesus also calls him “the father of lies” in whom there is no truth

(John 8:44). In the Old Testament, he is “the fowler” and “the devourer” (Ps. 91:3; Mal. 3:11), and in 1 Thessalonians 3:5, he is “the tempter.”

Scripture also indirectly names Satan by explaining *what God is not*. It was Paul who wrote that “God is not the author of confusion” (1 Cor. 14:33). Because Satan embodies the exact opposite of all that is God then, we can deduce that he *is* the author of confusion. Scripture supports this conclusion, saying, “Where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there” (James 3:16). Envy and self-seeking are Satan’s “offspring,” and confusion is one of his trademarks.

Just as God’s many names describe His character, Satan’s names rattle off his wicked ways as the chief perverter of all that is good. Everything about him — his methods, his character, and his names — reflects his hate-filled resistance to God and his assault on those who choose the path of life.

What About Belial and Beelzebub?

Are you wondering yet why Belial and Beelzebub did not make the list? Their names are widely accepted as references to Satan, however, they are not. We will soon see that these two wicked characters are Satan’s lieutenants and not Satan himself. Two other names often confused with Satan, Death and Hades, are also his underlings.

Lucifer as Cherub

When we say that Lucifer was the anointed cherub, we often focus more on *anointed* than on *cherub*. The point is, Lucifer belongs to a very specific class of heavenly creatures. Therefore, everything that applies to them as a group applies to Lucifer in particular. Let’s take a quick Cherubim Refresher Course, then, with Lucifer in mind...

Each one [cherub] had *four faces*, and each one had *four wings*. Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like *the soles of calves' feet*. They sparkled like the color of burnished bronze. The *hands of a man were under their wings* on their four sides; and each of the four had faces and wings. Their wings touched one another. The creatures did not turn when they went, but *each one went straight forward*.

As for the likeness of their faces, each had *the face of a man*; each of the four had *the face of a lion* on the right side, each of the four had *the face of an ox* on the left side, and each of the four had *the face of an eagle*. Thus were their faces. *Their wings stretched upward; two wings of each one touched one another, and two covered their bodies*.

—EZEKIEL 1:6–11, EMPHASIS ADDED

Ezekiel continues, saying that the cherubim look like “burning coals of fire” and “torches,” with lightning shooting from their flames (Ezek. 1:13–14). We can assume that Lucifer shared these features with his fellow cherubim. However, Ezekiel 28 mentions what seem to be Lucifer’s added features, which are not shown to belong to all cherubim and, therefore, would appear to distinguish him as a leader among them:

You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone *was* your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, beryl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created.

—EZEKIEL 28:13

Lucifer’s appearance was flat-out sensational! We are already getting used to the idea of four wings and four faces (befitting a deceiver, by the way), but what about Lucifer’s bling? No star on the red carpet could bring more flash to the party than he could! His jewels were part of his very essence, which was covered in *every* precious stone. Can you picture that? And what about his timbrels and pipes? That’s right you’re reading that correctly. Instruments were also a

part of his makeup. This cherub was created as a one-man worship band!

Without question, the pre-fall Lucifer was one impressive dude. Still, I believe that, stripped now of God's glory, his appearance is not beautiful as it once was. Absent the glory, the cherub's goat face is pretty fierce and uninviting. Nevertheless, because he is a cherub and of higher rank than an angel, he is able to transform himself into an angel of light, and even into some semblance of the shining light-bearer he used to be (2 Cor. 11:14). Yet underneath any brilliant appearance he can project, is nothing but vile darkness and the putrid distortion that resulted from his disobedience.

Appearances can be quite deceiving, however, so we need to be wise in distinguishing between beauty and what is actually goodness. Lucifer's ability to transform into an angel of light does not mitigate his darkness, nor does his ability to present himself as an attractive man make him any less wicked. So, keep your guard up, ladies, and beware of the fine-looking sweet-talker, who promises to be your world! Be wary as well, gentlemen, of the beauty who turns your world upside down! I'm not suggesting that ugliness is next to godliness, but I *am* saying that too many poseurs have learned their craft from their father, the Devil.

Understanding the once-anointed cherub's appearance will help you avoid the clichés that keep millions of people, believers included, unaware of and unprepared for the Enemy. If you are standing guard against the guy in the red suit and horns, you will miss the real thing when he appears on your doorstep. In whatever form he chooses to arrive — whether in your thoughts, in plain sight as an angel of light, or in what you thought was a harmless image on the cover of your favorite CD — you need to recognize the one who comes to steal, kill, and destroy.

The Anointed Cherub Who Covers

When we speak of *covering* in the spiritual sense, we refer to positions of authority. I

believe Lucifer was the highest-ranking cherub. God decked him out in precious gems and musical instruments that were built into his very essence. Lucifer's involvement in worship was priestly in the sense that he brought other Heavenly creatures before the Father in Heaven, much as a mediator would. The instrumentation within him suggests an intensity of worship that was not only audible but also tangible. Lucifer did not just merely *do* worship; in terms of his constitution, he *was* worship — the choirmaster, choir, and orchestra all rolled into one! However, these instruments no longer serve a glorious purpose, necessarily. Is it possible they are instead being used for evil purposes, to infiltrate the church through music? (Some would argue, "Yes!") And did these amazing gifts and features possibly contribute to sparking Lucifer's arrogant pride and ultimate treason? As the prophet Ezekiel wrote of him, "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor" (Ezek. 28:17).

Lucifer's Treason

Lucifer's rebellion against God and His kingdom was a treasonous act, for sure. It was consummated, in fact, the moment he said in his heart, "I will ascend into Heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High" (Isa. 14:13–14).

The "stars" above which Lucifer wanted to elevate his throne appear to be more than those heavenly bodies that twinkle at night. We have already seen the words *star* and *angel* being used interchangeably in Scripture, and in this case, the Hebrew word translated "stars" is *kowkab*, which can speak figuratively of "a prince,"⁵ or the angelic creatures who were assigned to parts of galaxies. In other words, the members of the celestial hierarchy we studied in Chapter 1 are likely the "stars" to which Lucifer's prideful statement refers.

In verse 12 of Isaiah 14, Isaiah makes another curious reference, this time to nations:

“How you are fallen from Heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!” If Lucifer’s fall predates Genesis 1:2, what nations were there in existence for him to weaken? Many who hold to a pre-Adamite humanity believe Isaiah refers to a race that existed before Adam and Eve were created. However, we must also take into consideration that Isaiah was giving a lamentation to the king of Babylon, so that portion of the prophecy may not apply to Lucifer. This is called the law of double-reference, and both Ezekiel and Isaiah use it. Personally, I think the idea of a gap between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2 is highly plausible, yet I do not believe there was a pre-Adamite humanity.

Ezekiel’s account raises similar questions. Right after stating that Lucifer was cast out of the mountain of God for his iniquity, Ezekiel records God’s comments and mentions “the peoples”:

I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, that they might gaze at you. You defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your trading; therefore I brought fire from your midst; it devoured you, and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you. All who knew you among *the peoples* are astonished at you.”

—EZEKIEL 28:17–19

The passage starts in the Heavens and ends on the earth, where Lucifer was turned to ashes “in the sight of all who saw [him].” Are these “peoples” necessarily humans? I submit that this could refer to Lucifer’s heavenly brethren, the “children of Heaven,” as they are sometimes called. The Hebrew for “peoples” can also mean “troops,” as in the heavenly hosts of spirit warriors.⁶ But again, in the Scripture above, an Old Testament prophet is lamenting the luciferian behavior of the evil human king of Tyre, so the latter half of the prophecy may not directly apply to Lucifer. Looking at this more closely, nevertheless, it would appear that *three distinct*

windows of time — past, present, and future — are referred to by both Isaiah and Ezekiel, particularly as it pertains to Lucifer’s story. Either way, there were witnesses to Lucifer’s treason and exile from Heaven, and some of them were the celestial creatures who rebelled with him.

These details are important to Lucifer’s account and the biblical record, but the predominant theme of Lucifer’s rebellion is found in his five declarations of “I will.” Through them, sin entered the scene; not only the sin of humankind, but sin, *period*. This became the template for all sin — the raising of the individual’s will above that of the Maker. Lucifer deceived himself into believing he could become like the Most High. He then replicated that deception in the Garden of Eden, when the serpent told Eve she could “be like God, knowing good and evil” (Gen. 3:5).

For his sin, Lucifer was cast out of God’s mountain; for theirs, Adam and Eve were cast out of Eden. Both offenses had cosmic consequences, but the first set the stage for the second. The fall of Lucifer divided the celestial hierarchy and positioned God’s archenemy to sow his wickedness into the ranks of humankind. His treason reverberates among us to this day!

As always, the Enemy overplayed his hand, however. He started his own company and became its CEO, but his influence has an expiration date. The Almighty has declared the traitor doomed:

Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit. “Those who see you will gaze at you, and consider you, saying: ‘Is this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms, who made the world as a wilderness and destroyed its cities, who did not open the house of his prisoners?’”

—ISAIAH 14:15–17

Lucifer threw down with God, but he never stood a chance of winning!

Who Was the Serpent?

Lucifer lost his bid for the mountain of God but he's never stopped sniffing for a fight. His kingdom clearance is gone and his name is changed, yet this one-trick pony keeps his skills sharp! Ezekiel 28:13 mentions Lucifer in relation to Eden. While most translations place him in "Eden, the garden of God"; other translations say he was in paradise.⁷ Whether this implies the earthly Eden or the heavenly Eden after which it was replicated, we know that the serpent in the earthly garden skillfully deceived Adam and Eve into breaking ranks with God, just as Lucifer had done. God then cursed the serpent and set him at enmity with "the Seed," which is Christ (Gen. 3:14–15).

When He spoke to the snake, it was the Prince of Darkness whom God addressed. Whether Satan acted as the serpent's ventriloquist, using the creature as his "dummy," or he transformed himself to appear as a snake (which is possible, given that Revelation 12:9 calls him "that serpent of old"), the master deceiver was definitely at work.

Lucifer's Celestial Followers

Misery loves company, and Lucifer's had plenty since his exile began. A full one-third of the heavenly retinue trailed him in his downward spiral. And as I stated earlier, based on Paul's reference to "spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly places" (Eph. 6:12), I believe that the grand sweep of the dragon's tail (Rev. 12:4) corralled not only literal angels but also a cross-section of all the heavenly creatures we discussed in Chapter 1 — including thrones, principalities, dominions, and powers.

Remember, the entire celestial hierarchy was impacted by the rebellion. So what typically happens when an established order becomes divided? Whether on earth or in the Heavens, the members of the hierarchy take sides, and many in their respective chains of command tend to stick together. It is not conceivable to me that angels were the only ones who followed the fallen

cherub; they were not in Lucifer's class of creatures to begin with but were much farther down the food chain, if you will. So, for example, what happened to the several classes of creatures below the cherubim and above the angels? Did they all sit out the fight? That possibility defies logic, in my opinion.

What happened to the rebels also intrigues me. Revelation 12:4 says that the dragon's tail "threw them to the earth." Consider this in light of the opening words in Genesis: "In the beginning God created the Heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep" (Gen. 1:1–2).

This description begs a question. Please understand that I am not questioning the validity of Scripture — I am 100 percent sold on its accuracy! But because the biblical text leaves some things unsaid, my curiosity is triggered. Genesis 1:2 describes the earth as being "without form and void," but does not say why this was so. I wish it did, because the state of the planet at that time makes no sense to me. Nothing God creates is ever formless or void. *Nothing*. So why was the earth in this condition?

I would submit this possible explanation: the fall of Lucifer and his cohorts did not end in a soft landing. We just read that the dragon's tail threw them down to the earth, after all! As we know, at least some of these were heavenly creatures, as "stars" are mentioned specifically. How many were in the one-third that struck the earth? We do not know exactly, but it was for certain a large number. What do you suppose that looked like? Could the earth have been knocked out of whack by this series of incredibly-forceful impacts? My answer is, *How could it not have been?*

This might explain the formless and void state of the earth at the beginning of the Book of Genesis. By extension, it might also explain the mystery of the dinosaurs' demise, which most scientists claim happened more than 50 million years ago.

Bouncing from talk of angels to stars, to the condition of the earth, to the demise of dinosaurs, might *seem* confusing, but it is all part of the same story. This study is layered because the Scriptures are multidimensional. That is a major part of what I love about the Bible. Every verse somehow connects to all the others!

Follow me here, though. You and I can probably agree that if one-third of the celestial hierarchy followed Lucifer, to their own detriment, then it is reasonable to assume he had major influence among them. And now that the dark kingdom has carved out its own hierarchy, this contingent, whether through solidarity or because of fear (or both), clearly remains faithful to its prince. Together with the hordes of demons that would appear later (we will cover this in chapter 4), they are his wicked army of thrones, principalities, dominions, powers, and angels — a diverse subset of the hosts of wickedness in heavenly places (Col. 1:15–16; Eph. 6:12).

Job’s Brontosaurus?

Job 40 describes a creature that sounds much like a brontosaurus: “Look now at the behemoth, which I made along with you; he eats grass like an ox. See now, his strength is in his hips, and his power is in his stomach muscles. He moves his tail like a cedar; the sinews of his thighs are tightly knit. His bones are like beams of bronze, his ribs like bars of iron” (Job 40:15–18). We have just discussed Lucifer’s fall and its possible connection to the dinosaurs’ extinction. Creationists believe dinosaurs were created on day six of the Genesis account. Other believers say dinosaurs lived between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2. Many scientists claim dinosaurs lived 200 million years or more, before their demise 65 million years ago. Job 40:15 says God created the behemoth along with Job, which would date dinosaurs back 6,000 to 11,000 years. Whatever the timing of dinosaurs, we know they existed, and that scientists almost universally agree they were annihilated when a great comet struck the earth. Does their comet theory possibly describe the fall of Lucifer and his devotees?

Earthly Followers of Lucifer and Satan

Lucifer's heavenly followers aren't his *only* followers, by the way. Millions of humans overtly revere and even worship the Adversary, just as Christians and Jews worship the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. There are subsets among these groups, too; we will focus on three main categories.

Luciferians revere Lucifer, and some worship him as deity. Either way, they regard him as the teacher who offers enlightenment and guidance. Luciferians believe that any connection between Lucifer and Satan was fabricated by Christians to besmirch Lucifer's reputation. Imagine that! They also believe that God victimized their leader by trying him unjustly and casting him out of His mountain without cause. Therefore, they say he is entitled to a retrial and full exoneration. It is noteworthy, of course, that they base their claims on the biblical record.

Although Luciferians focus on the cherub as their leader and spirit-guide, their belief system is ultimately preoccupied with *self* and its endeavors. Not surprisingly perhaps, many Luciferians are involved in the creative arts.

Satanists are possibly the best-known anti-God group. Although they often gather in "churches," they typically are not worshippers. Satanists are atheists, rather, who believe that neither God nor Satan exists. Their allegiance is not to a spirit or creature, but to Satan's image and all it represents, including *sin*.

Satanists glorify sin but take issue with God's idea of what sin actually is. Just as the serpent did in the garden, they question God's assertions and revere the idea of opposition to all that He is and asks of His creation. Therefore, Christ's command to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Matt. 6:33) is *anathema* to Satanists. They instead worship self, and dutifully cater to the demands of the flesh.

At the same time, Satanists disagree with the high place humans hold in God's creation. They believe that the human is just another animal and often the most vicious animal of all. Remember that Satan is the author of confusion, so the clear incompatibility of worshipping self while also reducing self to animal status is perfectly reasonable in satanic terms!

Three of the "Nine Satanic Statements" (or guiding principles) of The Church of Satan illustrate their disdain for the God they claim does not exist. Their tone distinctly echoes the audacity of Lucifer's "I will" statements, too. As you read these tenets, remember that Satanists embrace all that Satan represents.

Satan represents indulgence instead of abstinence!

Satan represents vengeance instead of turning the other cheek!

Satan represents all of the so-called sins, as they lead to physical, mental, or emotional gratification!⁸

The official insignia of The Church of Satan is the Sigil of Baphomet. The Hebrew characters inscribed between its inner and outer rings are intentionally distorted. The names *Samael* and *Lilith* are taken from ancient Jewish mysticism and folklore; the two are said to have been "an item" before Adam and Eve came together. The story further claims that Cain is the child of Eve and Samael (whom I believe to be a fallen angel and whom some have identified as Lucifer, the latter which I disagree with), but this mythology has no basis in Scripture.

Does the goat face pictured in the sigil ring any bells? As stated in Chapter 1, I believe the cherub face (one of the four faces of the cherubim) is the same as an ox face, which is not so different from the goat head. The Sabbatic Goat, as it is called, is an androgynous figure, having male and female features. It is also associated with Freemasonry and other fraternal orders, secret

societies, and the Illuminati. The symbol is frequently seen in artwork connected with hip hop and other popular music; I've included the image here so that you can be alert and aware of its meaning. There is nothing hip or cool about it — wherever you see the Sigil of Baphomet, Satan is being glorified!



The third group in the Enemy's camp are *Devil-worshippers*. Unlike the Satanists, they are theistic. They not only are devoted to what Satan represents, they also believe he exists, and

they overtly worship him as their god. Like all godless groups, their beliefs focus on *self*.

The Satanic Bible vs. The Devil's Bible

Anton LaVey, the deceased founder and high priest of The Church of Satan, authored *The Satanic Bible* in the 1960s. It is composed of four vile books that I encourage you *not* to explore: “The Book of Satan,” “The Book of Belial,” “The Book of Lucifer,” and “The Book of Leviathan.” Another well-known book is often called *The Devil's Bible*. This massive volume is officially known as *The Codex Gigas* (“The Giant Book”). People call it “The Devil's Bible” because the Devil is pictured in the front of the book. This medieval work is *not* about the Devil, however. It contains the Latin Vulgate manuscript and many other documents believed to have been compiled by a monk, and the celestial hierarchy is among its many subjects.

What Satan Wants and What We Allow

Whether in the Heavens or on the earth, Satan and his followers continue the tradition that fueled Lucifer's revolt. Whatever God does or says, they oppose it vehemently. Modesty is out. Truth is ridiculed. Division is stoked. In the Heavens, media, politics, government, and academia, the anti-God crowd has a foothold and exerts its influence with a vengeance!

Satan is contemptuous of God and those who are made in His image and likeness. He envies our identity and the dominion God gave us. Because he deceived himself, he seeks to deceive us, too! (Again, misery loves company, right?) He wants us to deny and defy our Maker like he did, looking inward instead of upward, rejecting the life-giving Kingdom of God, and embracing the life-depleting kingdom of *self*.

Satan's wicked accomplishments require the absence of truth. The prophet Hosea warned: “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge” (Hosea 4:6). Many of God's own misunderstand the unseen battle, unfortunately, and blame God for what *Satan* is actually doing

behind the curtain. When a child's life is snuffed out they say, "God called my baby home." When storms, earthquakes, or floods bring destruction, they say, "This was an act of God."

This is the voice of the accuser. The Father of Lies speaks!

Those who lack knowledge don't just blame God unjustly, they also give Satan far too much credit. When Lucifer tried to take the highest place in Heaven, God swatted him away. Lucifer had no recourse and no path to victory. But when we attribute to him more power than he has, we back his lies, misrepresent God, and neutralize the authority God has given us to overcome "all the power of the enemy" (Luke 19:10).

Satan's power is broken and his fall is complete, as we'll see in the next chapter. Child of God, stand your ground. The anointed cherub is anointed no longer!

Endnotes

¹ Strong's Hebrew Lexicon (NKJV), *Blue Letter Bible*, s.v. "heylel" (H 1966), accessed June 16, 2016, <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=H1966&t=NKJV>.

² *Satan* means "an opponent...[translated] KJV—adversary." Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary, CD-ROM, Biblesoft, Inc. and International Bible Translators, Inc. (2006) s.v. "satan" (OT 7854).

³ Strong's Hebrew Lexicon (NKJV), s.v. "heylel" (H 1966).

⁴ *Online Etymology Dictionary*, s.v. "devil," accessed June 14, 2016, <http://www.etymonline.com/index.php?term=devil>.

⁵ Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's, s.v. "kowkab" (OT 3556).

⁶ Strong's Hebrew Lexicon (NKJV), s.v. "'am" (H 5971), accessed June 17, 2016, <https://www.blueletterbible.org/lang/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?Strongs=H5971&t=NKJV>.

⁷ The Douay-Rheims Bible and The Septuagint Version of the Old Testament.

⁸ "The Nine Satanic Statements," Church of Satan, accessed June 17, 2016, <http://www.churchofsatan.com/nine-satanic-statements.php>.