

THE ANGEL WHO FELL

Ezekiel 28:11-19

I. INTRODUCTION-

- a. The theme of Hebrews is Jesus is better... the first truth the writer of Hebrews presents is that Jesus is better than the angels.
- b. Last week we talked about what the Bible teaches about angels... and how the angels are involved in the world... and in the life of the believer.
- c. Before we look at how Jesus is better than the angels... I want to talk about an angel who fell... and that angel's name is Lucifer... who after he rebelled and sinned against God... became known as Satan and the Devil.
- d. Many people... including many Christians... have a hard time believing that Satan is real... but the Bible presents Satan as a real creature.
- e. After He was baptized by John the Baptist...the Bible says that Jesus went into the wilderness to pray and prepare Himself for His public ministry.
- f. But that holy ground of prayer and preparation ... soon turned into a battle ground... as Satan came to tempt Jesus.
- g. Jesus was not tempted by a myth... He was not tempted by a fantasy ... He was not tempted by a fairytale... Jesus was tempted by a very real creature ... a fallen angel called Satan.
- h. Satan and the fallen angels who took part in his rebellion against God ... are still very much in the world today... opposing the people, plan and purposes of God.
- i. It is a serious mistake for believers and non-believers... to dismiss the reality of Satan.

- j. 2 Corinthians 2:11 says that believers are not to be ignorant... of Satan's devises and schemes.
- k. God does not want His people to be ignorant of what Satan wants to do in the life of the believer...and how he wants to do it.
- l. God does not want believers to be ignorant of what Satan is doing in the world... and how we are to use the power and resources of God to oppose his evil plans.
- m. So today I want us to learn more about Satan... and what he is doing in the world.
- n. Today I want us to see... Satan's history... Satan's ministry... and Satan's destiny.

II. SATAN'S HISTORY-

- a. Where did Satan come from?... believe it or not... the Bible says that God created Satan.
- b. But, God did not create Satan as the evil being that he is today... God did not create Satan as Satan...He did not create the devil as the devil.
- c. God created an angel He named Lucifer... before he fell...Lucifer was a good angel... the story of Lucifer's fall... the power behind the King of Tyre... is found in Ezekiel 28:11-19.
- d. Ezekiel says that before Lucifer fell... he was the chief... the highest of all the angels... created by God.
- e. Before his fall... Lucifer was perfect and full of wisdom... he had unfettered access to God... he was God's chief of staff ... he was Heaven's Prime Minister.
- f. Ezekiel says before His fall... Lucifer led the angels in praise and worship of God.

- g. But then Lucifer became filled with pride... and instead of being the guardian of God's throne... Lucifer decided that he wanted to sit on the throne of God... he wanted to overthrow God... He wanted to take the place of God.
- h. Isaiah 14:12-14...tells us what Lucifer said when he rebelled against God.
- i. *Isaiah 14:12-14 "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! For you have said in your 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.'"*
- j. When Lucifer rebelled against God... other angels joined in his rebellion ... Revelation 12:4 says one third of the angels joined in Lucifer's rebellion.
- k. And when Lucifer and his angels were defeated and cast out of Heaven and the presence of God... he became Satan... the devil... and the fallen angels who followed him became the demons... who still follow Satan.
- l. *Revelation 12:9 "So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."*
- m. Satan and the demons he leads... are still on the earth today... opposing God... His purpose... His plan... and His people.
- n. There are a thousand questions about all of this... that the Bible does not answer.
- o. Why would Satan and his angels... rebel against the good, kind and gracious God who had created them and loved them?

- p. I don't know... sin is stupid... why would we rebel against the good, kind and gracious God who created and loves us?
- q. Why didn't God immediately destroy Satan and the fallen angels? ... I don't know... why doesn't God immediately destroy us when we sin and rebel against Him?
- r. Will there be any more angelic rebellions?... no... apparently after Lucifer's rebellion... the choice of the angels was fixed... there will be no more angelic rebellions.
- s. If you have any more questions... you will just have to wait until we get to Heaven to get them answered.

Satan's History

III. SATAN'S MINISTRY-

- a. Satan has a ministry... but his ministry is not a good one... Satan's ministry is an evil ministry... Satan is God's adversary.
- b. Satan hates God...he hates the plans of God...he hates the purposes of God... and Satan hates the people of God.
- c. In fact... Satan hates all people... he hates those who believe in Christ and those who don't believe alike with an equal passion... Satan is nobody's friend.
- d. Satan hates God... he hates the Word of God ... he hates the church of God... and he hates anything and everything to do with God.
- e. In Satan's evil ministry of hate... he has three targets... the lost world ... the church... and Christians.
- f. Satan's goal in the lost world is to keep as many people as possible ... deceived and locked in spiritual lostness and darkness.
- g. Satan has many tools that he uses... to blind people to their lostness and to their need of Christ.

- h. He uses drugs... immorality... pride... and sins of all kinds and all sorts... he uses godless religion... Christ-less Christianity... sophistication... low living... high living...
- i. Satan will use whatever he has to use... to keep a person locked in spiritual darkness ... to keep a person from coming to Christ so that they might be saved.
- j. Whatever reason a person has for not coming to Christ to be saved... that is a reason that Satan has inspired and influenced them to use.
- k. Satan is no one's friend... he wants everyone to go to hell.
- l. The Bible says that Satan is the one who is controlling... the lost culture and the lost world around us.
- m. Satan is the source of all the trash, filth, garbage, godless entertainment, godless beliefs, philosophies and all the evil works ... that floods our world today.
- n. And Satan uses all of those things... to bind, blind, engross and trap people in spiritual darkness.
- o. Satan also targets the church... Satan hates the church... and he will do all he can to hurt, harm and destroy the church.
- p. Satan inspires the lost world he controls... to attack the church... and that is getting worse... even in America.
- q. Satan is most effective... when he is able to infiltrate a church and hurt it from the inside.
- r. It is a sad reality today... that for all intents and purposes... many churches are run by Satan.
- s. When a church denies Jesus Christ... when a church denies His reality... denies His deity and humanity.

- t. When a church denies the saving work of Christ... when a church denies the gospel... and denies the Word of God.
- u. When a church welcomes, accepts, condones and even celebrates what God has clearly condemned in His Word ... when a church compromises with the world ... when a church cowers in fear before a snarling and hateful lost world ... then that is a church controlled more by Satan than it is by God.
- v. Satan may be at work in liberal churches... but he also targets evangelical churches... churches like ours... too.
- w. Satan loves nothing better... than to split and divide and destroy the unity and fellowship of a church.
- x. Satan loves to cause fights in the church that will divide and distract a church from its mission... and destroy a church's witness in its community.
- y. Satan targets church leaders... with temptations to sin... with oppositions... and discouragements in order to hinder the church.
- z. Whatever Christ is doing in a church... Satan will oppose.
- aa. That is why we as a church must constantly and incessantly pray every day ... that God will rebuke Satan in this church... and keep us pure... keep us on mission... and united.
- bb. Satan also targets Christians... don't think just because you are a Christian that Satan is going to leave you alone.
- cc. If you are saved... Satan cannot steal you from God... but he will do everything he can to cause you to fail and fall... to get you caught back up in the world that you have been saved from... to ruin your Christian testimony... to stymie your Christian growth... to unplug you from the power of God... and to negate your influence as a Christian.

dd.If you are a Christian... every day Satan is going to try to trap you ... ambush you... and get you caught up into some kind of sin and deception.

ee. This is why every day you need to pray, worship, plant the Word of God in your heart... put on the armor of God... and prepare yourself for spiritual warfare... cling to Christ and focus on Him... and you will have victory in Jesus over Satan.

ff. I am convinced that the greatest sin that Christians have allowed Satan to plant in their life today... is the sin of indifference and apathy toward God and the things of God.

gg.I implore you today... do not be a Laodicean Christian...do not be lukewarm and indifferent to the worship of God... to the work of God... to the things of God... have a passion for the God who so passionately loved you that He gave His life for you.

Satan's History... Satan's Ministry

IV. SATAN'S DESTINY-

- a. Satan is not the equal opposite of God... Satan is a created being... Satan and the angels who followed his rebellion have already been judged by God ... and one day they will be cast away and locked in hell forever.
- b. In Matthew 25:41... the Lord Jesus said that hell is the prepared and final destination of the devil and his angels.
- c. The outcome is not in doubt... Satan and his evil forces... Satan's evil plans, desires and designs will not win ... the victory has already been won... and it was won by the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- d. Satan is a loser and he knows it... and the closer we get to the end times and Satan's final judgment... the more active, open and aggressive he will be with his evil.

- e. *Revelation 12:12 (NKJV) “Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.”*
- f. Hell is not only the destination of Satan and his fallen angels... it is the destination of every human being who joins in Satan’s rebellion against God... by rejecting Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.
- g. The Bible says that Satan is the spiritual father and the master of unbelievers... those who have disobeyed the gospel and who have rejected Christ.
- h. Because of their unbelief ... their pride... and love of sin... Satan has been able to blind them to their lostness... and their desperate need of Christ.
- i. The Bible says that if a person dies without Christ... if they die in their sins... they will share the same hell prepared for the devil and his angels.
- j. If you are not a Christian... I pray today that God will open your eyes and your heart today to your lostness and to your need of Christ... and I pray that you will come to Him today.

V. CONCLUSION-

- a. Jesus is better and greater than the angels... and He is greater than Satan.
- b. Jesus is the strong One... who has defeated Satan and is able to set anyone who believes in Him free from the bondage of Satan and sin... believe on Him today.
- c. Whatever reason you use for not coming to Christ to be saved... that is a reason that Satan has inspired and influenced them to use.

- d. Christians need to be awake... be aware ... be armed and ready... for Satan's attacks... his assaults... and his schemes... to trap you in sin ... walk in the Lord every day and live in victory.
- e. *James 4:7 (NKJV) "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."*