

UNCONDITIONAL AUTHORITY

Lesson 5 – Outline

I. In almost forty years of being a Christian and studying God’s Word, I have come across several different opinions about where Satan came from and how he got his power.

A. In the midst of these different variations, a dominant doctrine has emerged in popular theology.

B. This widely-held understanding says God created a powerful, beautiful, godly angel named “Lucifer” (Is. 14:12 and Ezek. 28:13-15).

C. This Lucifer became prideful, turned into Satan, and rebelled against God.

D. At this point, popular theology also says Satan convinced one-third of the angels to follow him in rebellion.

E. This popular theology insinuates that our heavenly Father turned Satan loose in the Garden of Eden to tempt Adam and Eve.

II. God sent Lucifer—His top angel—down to earth to minister to Adam and Eve.

Are they [angels] not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

Hebrews 1:14

A. Lucifer hadn’t transgressed against God—and become Satan—yet.

B. He came to the Garden on a divine mission—to serve and to minister to Adam and Eve.

Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in

the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

Ezekiel 28:13-15

- C. Lucifer's transgression against God came in the Garden of Eden.
- D. It's described in Genesis 3, when he entered into the snake and used this serpent to speak to Eve and tempt her.
- E. Then he persuaded both Eve and Adam to eat of the forbidden fruit.

III. Lucifer came to the earth as an anointed angel on a divine assignment to minister to Adam and Eve.

- A. However, he saw something in them that he didn't have.
- B. As an angel, his power and authority was conditional (Andrew's supposition)—but Adam and Eve had been given unconditional power and authority over this earth.

God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion [power and authority] over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Genesis 1:26-28

- C. When God created man, He spoke and gave them dominion—power and authority—over all the earth (Ps. 89:34; Heb. 1:3, 6:18; and Num. 23:19).

- D. Knowing God as he did, Lucifer's antennae went up when he heard the Lord say to Adam and Eve "You have dominion" without any restrictions or qualifications.
- E. There was no chance of Lucifer directly rebelling at God, but perhaps he could rebel if somehow he could get a hold of that unconditional power and authority that had been given to man.

IV. Although angels have a free will, there's no reason to believe that their power and authority is unconditional like Adam and Eve's.

- A. Therefore, if an angel got out of line, God could cancel and recall the power and authority He had given them, and they'd be absolutely defeated.
- B. In light of this, there's no way Satan and one-third of the angels could charge God on His throne, who still retained two-thirds of the angels.

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Lesson 5 – Discipleship Questions

1. Who is Isaiah 14:12 talking about?
2. Who did Ezekiel 28:11-15 start out addressing?
3. Revelation 12:3-4 speaks of a great red what?
4. In Genesis 1:1-2, who moved upon the face of the waters?
5. Hebrews 1:14 reveals that angels are sent forth to minister for whom?
6. According to Genesis 1:26-28, God said “Let them have dominion” to whom?
7. Psalm 89:34 shows us that God will not break what?
8. Hebrews 6:18 and Numbers 23:19 say that it’s impossible for God to what?
9. According to Hebrews 1:3, what is held up by the word of His power?
10. Psalm 138:2 tells us that God has magnified _____ above His name.
11. At whose name shall every knee bow, according to Philippians 2:9-11?
12. In Proverbs 18:10, what is the name of the Lord?
13. What does Deuteronomy 29:29 say belongs to the Lord?
14. What belongs to us and to our children forever?
15. Second Peter 2:4 reveals that God spared not whom?

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Lesson 5 – Answer Key

1. Lucifer.
2. The king of Tyrus.
3. Dragon.
4. The Spirit of God.
5. Those who shall be heirs of salvation.
6. Man.
7. His covenant.
8. Lie.
9. All things.
10. His Word.
11. The name of Jesus.
12. A strong tower.
13. The secret things.
14. Those things which are revealed.
15. The angels that sinned.