"LUCIFER'S CREATION AND PERFECTION" Ezekiel 28:1-19
or
"SATAN BEFORE HIS FALL"

INTRO: **A.-How To View Evil:**

1-**QUOTATIONS:**

Christian

--John Newton--"Many have puzzled themselves about the **origin of evil**. I am content to observe that **there is evil**, and that **there is a way to escape** from it; and with this I begin and end."

Secular

--**Plutarch**--"It was a very ancient opinion, that there are certain wicked and malignant demons who envy good men, and endeavor to hinder them in the pursuit of virtue, lest they should be partakers at least of greater happiness than they enjoy." (Cited by LSC, II, P. 37)

2-**ILLUS**--I remember a **World War II poster** in the little town where I grew up, which had a fat, suspicious looking Japanese army man slinking thru jungle undergrowth, and it had as its caption:

"**KNOW YOUR ENEMY**"

--Doubtless the picture was a **characiture**, but it had a good point if we were to **WIN**

3-Similarly, I believe we need to "**KNOW OUR SPIRITUAL ENEMY**", but with **facts**, not **characiture**

4-**Satan is delighted** with a characiture of himself as a creature with horns, a leer, a tail, a red suit, and a pitchfork in his hand--because no one will ever **find him** actually that way----**NOR** WILL THEY **FEAR HIM!!**

5-**Where** will we **find** the **FACTS**?!?

--In the **Bible**!!!

--Ezek. 28--"Lucifer's Creation & Perfection"

HIS INFERNAL MAJESTY

--Isa. 14--"The Five I'd Monster Rebells"

--Many other passages & verses

--L.S.C.--"The revealed career of Satan is a **long story** reaching back into the dateless past and on into eternity to come, and is full of **important details**." (II, P. 39)

B.-How To Understand About Lucifer:

1-Called by some **40** different **titles** in Scriptures

2-**NOT CREATED** as Satan ("Adversary"), **but** as **Lucifer** ("Brightness" & "Son of the morning")

3-**SIN** brought on this entry of evil & opposition to God, for **GOD IS NOT THE AUTHOR OF EVIL**

--God created Lucifer, who was PERFECT

--Lucifer **REBELLED** and brought sin & evil into existence

--This creature **had** the **power to choose** good or to choose evil, and HE **CHOSE EVIL**

4-Let's look at Lucifer as he was in his UNFALLEN STATE

5-It may take a bit of time to understand where we are and where we are going, but "hang in there" with me, please (2)

6-PROP:--To know our enemy so we can
--To be overcomers of evil, not overcome by the evil one

I.-THE HISTORICAL PRINCE OF TYRE-----(Ezek. 28:1-10):

A.-Character of Pride: (28:1-2)

1-"Prince" is the term for the leader of Tyre
--Historically known to have been King Ithobal III - 591-573 B.C.
--Powerful merchant warrior prince in Ezekiel's day
Josephus calls him Ithobalus II
Williams translates as "GOD Himself"
Heb. NAGID

2-PRIDE--Tyre called itself "THE HOLY SEAT" of God
--Self-deification by its rulers
--Riches & power went to his head
*--Same spirit manifested then as will be manifested in the Tribulation by the MAN OF SIN
Claimed himself as Divine
Self-deification
Really, ONLY A MORTAL

3-Verdict of God--Only a man
--Not God
--Heart of pride has deceived the king - Self-deception

B.-Content Of Pride: (28:3-5)

The PROPHET (14:14,20)

1-King wiser than Daniel - TRUE in the area of accumulation of riches of a physical nature
NOT TRUE of that which is spiritual, where Daniel excelled

2-Material possessions
--Cannot give heart satisfaction
--TRANSITORY at best
--Poor "yardstick" to measure true worth by
"The insanity of prosperity"
- Stuffing of THINGS into a bottomless pit

3-Trade & merchandising expertise have caused his heart to be self-deceived

C.-Conclusion Of Pride: (28:6-10)

1-GOD has a word in this situation-(28:6-7a)
REASON "Because thou hast set thine heart as the heart of God..."
USURPING
2-"I will bring strangers upon thee" - Judgment of God
28:7a
--WHO are these invaders??
--Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar - Jer. 27:1-3; Ezek. 30:11; 31:12
People advised by Daniel, whose wisdom this Prince despised
--They made war against Tyre for 13 years
--Reduced Tyre to abandoning their mainland city & withdrawing to the offshore islands (28:7-8)
27:8a "They shall bring thee down..."

3-In the light of this QUESTION: 28:9a "Wilt thou yet say before Him that slayest thee, I am God?"------IRONY!

4-VERDICT OF GOD--"But thou shalt be a man, and no God in the hand of him that slayeth thee" (28:9b)
28:9b
28:10
"Thou shalt die the deaths of the uncircumcised"==VIOLENT DEATH at the hands of the Babylonians
Died IN SHAME

5-WHY THIS END??--Judgment exactly adapted to Tyre's guilt toward other nations
--Pride of the prince's heart (28:2, 6)
--Judgment of God (28:10)
"For I have spoken it, saith the Lord GOD."

II.-THE HIDDEN KING OF TYRE--- (Ezek. 28:11-17):

A.-His Presentation: (28:11-12a)

"The word of the LORD came unto me..."

1-On the authority of direct **revelation** from God to Ezek

2-"LAMENTATION"=="A **song of sadness**"
==="A heart-rending song about something"
==="A song sung in grief over **one you lov**
==="Intense anguish accompanied by the beating of the breast"
--GOD'S LAMENTATION over the **erring de-fector** among His creatures who was the leader of all creatures until he led many of them astray

Personalization

3-Who is addressed ??
--"The **KING** of Tyrus" (MELEK)
--Who is this as distinguished from **the "PRINCE"** o Tyrus in **28:1-10** ??
--Feinberg: "..as he (Ezekiel) viewed the thoughts and ways of that monarch (of Tyre), he clearly discerned behind him the **motivating force** & personality who was impelling him in his opposition to God. In short, he saw the work and activity of **Satan**, whom the King of Tyre was **emulating** in so many ways. Recall the incident in **Mt. 16:21-23** where Peter was **rebuked** by our Lord Jesus. No sterner words were spoken to anyone in Christ's earthly ministry. But He did not mean that Peter had somehow become Satan himself; He was indicating that the **motivation behind** Peter's opposition to His going to Calvary was none other than the **prince of the demons**. This appears to be a similar situation." (Ezekiel, Pp. 161-162)
--Another **similar case** in Gen. 3:14-15, where **SATAN** is addressed **thru** the **serpent**
--See **a whole new dimension** to world power here, for we're seeing THE POWER BEHIND THE THRONE
--Who, then ??
--LUCIFER, SATAN, THE DEVIL is here presented to us as the object of God's "song of lamentation"

4-L. S. Chafer--"There is notable **significance** in the manner in which these two addresses are related and placed in sequence." (II, P. 40)

B.-His Perfections: (28:12b-13)

1-Description of **qualities** that **go WAY BEYOND** any earthly man, even a Prince of Tyre.

2-LUCIFER'S **SEVEN PERFECTIONS**:
-(a)-"Thou sealest up the sum"=="You are **IT**" (28:12)
-(b)-"Full of wisdom"=="**Wisest, most subtle** of all God's creation (28:12)
-(c)-"Perfect in beauty"; and he was (28:12)
-(d)-"Thou has been **in Eden**"--Primordal presence of God or the Garden of Eden; Satan was **in both**, but no Prince of Tyre had been in either (28:13)
-(e)-"Every precious stone was **thy covering**"; **Beauty, Glory** & **Honor** shown by these. (28:13)

Used only here + Ezek 43:10 of the Millennial Temple

9 of the 12 stones on High Priest's breast plate

(28:13) -(f)- "Tabrets (2-headed drums; tamborines) & pipes (flutes)"--Walking diadem for the constant praise of God; a living PIPE ORGAN

(28:13) -(g)- "In the day that thou was created"== a created being; A CREATURE of God's hand - ANGELIC order, not human

3-Of no Ruler of Tyre were these ever true

4-Description of a superhuman being who was both perfect and also created directly by the hand of God

NOT as a PRIME MINISTER of EVIL, but as top of the angelic realm

Nor is this a description of Adam in the Garden

C.-His Privileges: (28:14, 15a, 16c)

1-"Anointed Cherub that covereth" — 28:14

--"Anointed" is the same word as is used of MESSIAH and it means "THE SOVEREIGN", for he was God's deputy for earth-rule

--"That covereth"=="that RULETH"

--Lucifer was "Second-in-command" to the Godhead, and above all the other angels, including Michael the Archangel (Jude 9)

--"Cherub" indicates that Lucifer was of an angelic order, though above the others who were PROTECTORS & DEFENDERS of the Throne of God — GUARDIAN CHERUB

--Set in such primacy & privilege by God Himself

2-ACCESS — See Job 1:6-12

--"Thou wast upon the holy mountain" — 28:14

--"Mountain of God" in the O.T. means the seat of God's authority

--Continuous & unhindered access to God's glorious presence

3-"Thou hast walked up & down in the midst of the stones of fire" 28:14

--Not easy to discern the meaning of this

--Perhaps the brightness of the presence of God

--CHIEF of the "Protecting Police Force" before the Throne

4-PERFECT 28:15 --No blemishes in Lucifer's nature — BLAMELESS!

--No faults in his actions

--Part of that creation that God called "VERY GOOD" (Gen. 1:31)

5-No way that these perfections and privileges can be postulated of an earthly king!!

D.-His Pride: (28:15b, 17a)

"...til iniquity was found in thee."

1-Result is given first

--28:15b

--Lucifer became the ORIGINAL SINNER

--Sin began first in heaven

--Earth was infected with sin from "OUTER SPACE"

--1 Jn. 3:8a,b--"He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning..."

--John 8:44--"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it." ABUSE of the very blessings God had given him.

--INIQUITY was found in Lucifer!! — 28:16 — COVETOUSNESS + VIOLENCE damning sin.

2-BUT WHY ??

3-Reason is clearly stated--28:17a "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty..."

--PRIDE is seen to have been Lucifer's

--Heart was lifted up because of his superlative perfections
** Beauty
** Wisdom
** Brightness

--Satan's sin was a SECRET SIN against God

--Ps. 90:8--"Thou hast set our iniquities before Thee, our secret sins in the light of Thy countenance."

4-Could go into Lucifer's SIN in more detail, but that until we look at Isaiah 14 —

"Men often ask why God created the Devil. The answer is that He did not create the devil. He created a pure spirit being of great wisdom and glory, but this spirit dared to conspire against the throne of God, and so the greatest of the angels became the archenemy of God and man." H. A. Ironside

[illegible] the devil."

E.-His Prostration: (28:17b-19)

1-Satan seems to run "free" today

2-But God speaks clearly that Satan will be brought low:

--JUDGED at the cross

** Jn. 16:11--"Of judgment, because the prince of this world is (has been) judged"

** Col. 2:15--"And having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them."

--EXECUTION of sentence will surely follow

** Ezek. 28:17b-19 READ

** Rev. 20:10--"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tromented day and night for ever and ever."

--Immediate, future & final judgment of God is sure

3-Where will Satan go?

4-Mt. 25:41--"Then shall he say unto them on the left hand, DEPART from Me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels."

5-As surely as the PRINCE of TYRE was judged & cast down to death, so the KING of TYRE (Lucifer) will be brought low and judged.

CONCLUSION:

A.-Summary:

1-F.C.Jennings sums up at the end of his lucid exposition of the Ezekiel passage after this manner:

"(a) By its setting and language it can apply to no child of fallen man--that is impossible.

(b) It must therefore necessarily refer to a spirit or angel.

(c) This angel or spirit, whoever it was, was personally the topstone of that primal creation.

(d) His office was to protect the Throne of God, to forbid the approach of evil, or any unrighteousness.

(e) Iniquity was found in him, and that iniquity was self-exaltation.

(f) Sentence of expulsion from his place is pronounced, although not actually, or at least full, executed."

(Pp. 55-56, SATAN)

6 Points

2-Satan was JUDGED by Jesus Christ at the cross

3-Therefore his doom is sure

4-But his activity is great, for his time is SHORT

B.-Application:

1-Be sure you are saved, so your end is not the Lake of Fire

2-As a Christian:

--KNOW YOUR ENEMY

--Do not allow Satan to **control** or **influence** you

--**REJECT** any **place** for this REBEL who solicits to rebellion, when he seeks a place in your life.

So you are not overcome by the devil but become an OVERCOMER!

Westbrae--3/26/72.
Calvary, Columbus 3/7/76
OKBC - 9/6/87
Bible Center 9/9/09
Hilltop Bapt - 10/18/09

(2) # 177 - "Onward, Christian Soldiers"
(1) # 171 "Faith Is The Victory"
(3) # 28 "There's A Wideness In God's Mercy"
(4) #265 "I Need Jesus"

"HIS INFERNAL MAJESTY" or "THE FIVE I'D MONSTER" Isa. 14:12-17

INTRO:

(1)

A.-"NEW AGE MOVEMENT" In Our Contemporary Scene:

In a stunningly brief period of time, a new & powerful world religion has swept across America & the entire planet. Popularly called the NEW AGE MOVEMENT by its own leaders, this new religion is rapidly & dramatically reshaping man's views of God & the universe.

Claiming to represent a radically new global culture, the NEW AGE WORLD RELIGION denies the existence of a personal God who loves His own, while it exalts human potential & scientific progress. Its leaders point out that they are forerunners of the NEW AGE MESSIAH, a great superhuman world teacher & leader who is soon to come.

Adherents to NEW AGE philosophy claim that this new leader will establish a glorious Kingdom of man on earth in which all men will live in peace, harmony & unity. Possessing unparalleled wisdom & knowledge & wielding marvelous psychic abilities, all the powers of the universe will be at his command.

Only a decade ago, many viewed this NEW AGE MOVEMENT as an assemblage of assorted nuts and wierd, hippie-like personalities. In the years since, the NEW AGE has matured into a monstrously enlarged religion and social movement threatening to swallow up all other religions, philosophies, and social systems./

Today the NEW AGE is a universal open-arms religion that excludes from its ranks only those who believe in Jesus Christ and a personal God. Buddhists, Shintoists, Satanists, Secular Humanists, witches, witch doctors, and shamans--all who reject Christianity are invited to become trusted members of the NEW AGE family

The essence of the NEW AGE religious doctrine is that man is neither sinful nor evil, and that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross was meaningless and futile. Man did not need a Savior to atone for sin, says the NEW AGE, because man for millennia has been inevitably evolving toward perfection and godhood

Predictably, a religious philosophy that deifies man & is totally void of absolute moral restraints is extremely attractive to those who do not know the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. In a world rampant with sin and unethical conduct, a world devoid of the agape love that is in Christ Jesus, the NEW AGE sadly has become a narcissistic religion that readily finds converts.

(Good News Publishers, PIONEER, Sept-Oct, 1987, #151
"Seduction of the New Age Movement," Texe Marrs)

--STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE of Satan--2 Cor.
--Experiencing Satan's SIEVE--Job 1 & 2

PROP

We
8-Need answers today because of the TREMENDOUS INCREASE of Satanic activity in these days, and we'll likely continue to see it so until Jesus comes, only with escalleration.

9-OUR MESSAGE--I.-Lucifer's Rebellion Stated
II.-Ludifer's Root Sin
III.-Lucifer's Ruin Is Sure

I.-LUCIFER'S REBELLION STATED (Isa. 14:13-14):

A.-The "I Will" of POSITION: 14:13

1-"I will ascend into heaven"

2-Lucifer proposed to take up HIS ABODE in the 3rd & highest heaven:

--EARTH is under his dominion since Adam's fall

--1st & 2nd heavens (atmosphere & starry heavens) are under his power

--ACCESS to the presence of God is his (Job 1 & 2)

--But his position was not in God's heaven

--This was NOT his proper sphere.

3-Aspiration to GO BEYOND what God had created him to do & to be

4-Third heaven is God's abode only

--2 Cor. 12:1-4

--Eph. 1:20-21--"Which He wrought in Christ when He raised Him from the dead, & set Him at His own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality & power, & might, & dominion, & every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in that which is to come"

5-Lucifer has NO POSITION THERE--Not as the CREATOR

--Not as the REDEEMER

--Not as one of the REDEEMED

--Clearly this is an example of SELF-WILL growing out of pride

--Rebellion against God's plan for his experience & that of the whole creation

God's Prime Minister aspired to be KING (2)

BUT NOT HIS ABODE

Satan wanted to OCCUPY HEAVEN

B.-The "I Will" of POWER: 14:13

1-"I will exalt my throne above the stars of God"

2-Called "the anointed cherub that covereth" (EZEK.28:14)

--His task was to GUARD the throne of God

--Desire was to USURP the prerogatives so that he might rule independent of God

--Indeed, Lucifer was created TO RULE, for "that covereth"=="that ruleth"

--But his rulership was to be by delegated authority

3-Unholy ambition expressed as he aspired to rule INDEPENDENT OF GOD

4-Rebellion against his creaturehood--Desire for POWER !!

5-"Stars of God"--Physical stars ??

--Not likely, for no power to be gained there

--Also, the 2nd heaven was already in his domain at that time

--ANGELIC BEINGS ??

--So used in Scripture as "Morning stars" (Job 38:7; Jude 1:13; Rev. 12:3-4; 22:16)

3="The SOVEREIGN that RULETH"; Second in Command

6-L. S. CHAFER--"Evidently very much of Satan's unholy ambition to possess a throne has been permitted, for it is revealed that he is now a recognized, though judged KING with throne-authority both in the heavenly realm (Mt. 12:26; Eph. 2:2; Col. 2:13-15) and earthly sphere (Lk. 4:5-6; 2 Cor. 4:4; & Rev. 2:3, where 'seat' is an inadequate translation of

θεοῦ)." (II, 48)

7-[illegible]'s rebellion is essentially one of **seeking POWER** on a basis **INDEPENDENT** of God's will-----**usurping** God's prerogative.

Wanted to independently RULE the angels.

C.-The "I Will" of PLACE: 14:13

1-"I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation in the sides of the north."

2-**WHAT** is the **meaning**??

--"**MOUNT**"==**Seat of government** upon the earth (Isa. 2:1-4)

--"**THE CONGREGATION**"==**Israel**

--This aspiration of Lucifer expresses a desire **to usurp the MESSIANIC RULE** upon the earth---for he is "the anointed cherub", so his goal is to be a SUBSTITUTE MESSIAH

3-Significance of "in the **sides of the north**"

--Ps. 48:1-2--"Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of His holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King."

--**Millennial rule** is to be from Jerusalem, "the city of the great King"

Satan wanted to USURP the reign of MESSIAH

--"On the sides of the North" is **associated with Messiah**

--**CROSS** of Christ was on the **NORTH** side of the city of Jerusalem, where He was crucified

--**THERE** we are told that He "spoiled principalities and powers" (Col. 2:15) "triumphing over them (the principalities & powers) in it (the Cross)."

--There "in the sides of the north" our Savior forever **THWARTED** Satan's unholy designs

4-Satanic intention to **dethrone God** from **HIS PLACE** of Messiahship is involved in this wilful design

USURPATION INTENDED

D.-The "I Will" of PREEMINENCE: 14:14

1-"I will ascend above the heights of the **clouds**"

--**Not** just the physical clouds of the atmosphere

--He's already freely given that dominion

--MUST refer to something **MORE**!!

2-WHAT THEN ??

--Probably best clarified by looking at some Scriptures

Isa. 19:1- "Behold, the LORD is riding on a swift cloud..."

Ex. 16:10--"And it came to pass, as Aaron spake unto the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and, behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the **cloud**."

Ex. 40:34, 38--"Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. ...For the cloud of the LORD was upon the tabernacle by day, and fire was upon it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys."

Lev. 16:2--"And the LORD said unto Moses, Speak unto Aaron thy brother, that he come not at all times into the holy place within the vail before the mercy seat, which is upon the ark; that he die not: for I will appear in the cloud upon the mercy seat."

Num. 9:15--"And on the day that the tabernacle was reared up the cloud covered the tabernacle..."

--Ps. 104:1-3
--Clouds are over **150 times** in Scripture associated with the **DIVINE PRESENCE**

3-Thus this "I will" of Satan's is a desire **to claim the power & glory** & **PREEMINENCE** due alone to God to be for himself, a mere creature

4-What blasphemous self-assertion — Above the clouds!

E.-The "I Will" of POSSESSION: 14:14

1-"I will be like the Most High"

2-**Two** crowning **PHOBIAS** of Lucifer

(a) --Earth possession, for "Most High" (El Elyon) == "Possessor of heaven and earth"

(b) --To be **LIKE God**; Counterfeit of all that God is and does

3-Here we have **THE KEY** to tracing Lucifer's motives & methods

--Almost universal view that men have is that Satan seeks to be **UNLIKE God**

--**The truth** is that he is the **GREAT COUNTERFEITER**!!

--Desires to be **in control** (Gen. 14:19, 20, 22)

--Unwilling to be satisfied with the place of God's appointment for him

--UTTERLY **REBELLIOUS** !!

--Wants **to imitate God** & leads others in the same path

--ILLUS ** Gen. 3:1-5
** **Elohim** == **AS GOD**, not "as gods"

--Ambition **to go beyond** that which was his rightful possession to claim what was not his.

--**Contrast** with Christ, God's perfectly obedient Son (Heb. 10:7) "Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the Book it is written of Me,) to do Thy will."

4-Satan is THE **APE** (**mimic**) OF GOD

--He has a throne
--He has a cosmos
--He desires to be worshipped
--He has a "**messiah**", **THE MAN OF SIN**
** Declares himself to be GOD
** Sits in the temple of God (2 Th. 2:4
** Climax of Satan's rebellion
** Sign of the end of the age (Mt. 25:14

5-So you can see the **REBELLION** of Lucifer clearly in Isaiah 14:13-14--POSITION
--POWER
--PLACE
--PREEMINENCE
--POSSESSION
--But **what caused** this rebellion????...

II.-LUCIFER'S ROOT SIN---(Isa. 14:13, 12, 16-17)

A.-The Evidence Of His Sin:

1-"For thou hast said in thine heart, I will..." (14:13)

2-Satan had "**HEART-TROUBLE**," for he was **rebellious** in that "seat of his desiring"--his heart--for he **sought to exalt** himself above God's plan & God's place for his service.

3-Other confirmations--Ezek. 28:2, 5, 6--**Prince** of Tyre--HISTORICAL
--Ezek. 28:17--**King** of Tyre--POWER behind the Throne

--"As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he" Prov. 23:7

--True of Lucifer also

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B.-The Essence Of His Sin:

1-What was the ROOT SIN which showed in this rebellious heart? Prov 23:7

2-PRIDE is the answer !!!

-Ezek. 28:17--"Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee."

--1 Tim. 3:6--"Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation(crime) of the devil".

*--Self-will because he thought more highly of himself than he ought.

*-Virtual SELF-DEIFICATION as his pride overwhelmed him.

C.-The Expressions Of His Sin:

1-He will be closely & "narrowly looked upon" as the world one day wonders & asks: "IS THIS THE MAN?" (14:16)

(a) 2-14:16--"Made the earth to tremble"

--Considerable number of EARTHQUAKES today

--Widespread distribution (Japan, Peru, Iran, Alaska, Nicaragua; Guatemala, Turkey, USA

--Frequency is increasing

**--Seems to be correlated to Satanic activities

(b) 3-"That did shake kingdoms" (14:16)

--14:12 also--"which didst weaken the nations"

>-Ours is an era of revolutions & political turmoil

--Foundations of the nations are now being shaken

--Indication of SATANIC FORCES in the affairs of human governments

--Believable with Hitler, Stalin, Papa Doc Duvallier, Castro....Mao Tse Tung, Viet Nam, Cambodia, Angola, Nicaragua, Venezuela

--Really true on the national & international scene NOW ALSO

READ *-Dan. 10:10-13 Read ! see also Rev. 20:1-3

(c) 4-14:17--"That made the world as a wilderness"

--When God created the earth, He made it to be "VERY GOOD" Gen 1:31

--No longer that way today

--ECOLOGICAL CRISIS TIME

- OZONE LAYERS
- Ice Age coming
- OCEAN POLUTION
- ACID RAIN

--Scientists are predicting that this earth will be unfit for animal or human habitation

--Complete fulfillment will come during the Great Tribulation

- Water polution
- Toxic wastes

--SATAN is behind this, for though he wants to be "LIKE GOD", he is not a wise ruler of the dominion entrusted to him.

(d) 5-"And destroyed the cities"--(14:17)

"Burn, Baby, Burn"

--Similar to the above, expect there is an emphasis on URBAN DESTRUCTION !

--Great cities are the targets of the super-powers' ICBM's with Nuclear warheads — MIRV multiple target warheads
--Many cities will be obliterated under Satan's mercilless actions in the Great Tribulation

(6)

(e) 6-14:17--"That opened not the house of his prisoners"
--REAL CRIME is spiritual
--Unregenerate mankind are all his prisoners
--Satan does not willingly relinquish his control
--Remember Mt. 12:29--"Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house."
--Jesus Christ has brought this deliverance for those of us who were Satan-bound servants of sin
--Heb. 2:14-15--"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also Himself took part of the same; that through death He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage."

No need for these captives to remain under Satan's control — Freedom has been purchased!

III.-LUCIFER'S RUIN IS SURE:

A.-Physical Ruin:

1-Isa. 14:12--"How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which did weaken the nations!"
2-He is CUT DOWN to the ground — grounded to earth
3-Created for service in heaven, but EXPELLED
4-Jesus spoke of it prophetically--Lk. 10:18--"I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven."
5-NOTICE: --Began as Lucifer; Bright & Shining one
--Cast down as Satan; Adversary

B.-Spiritual Ruin:

1-Isa. 14:15--"Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit."
2-This is both physical & spiritual ruin, but the emphasis is on spiritual separation from God
3- --Rev. 20:1-3 "into the abyss"
--Loosed for a "little season" (20:7-9)
--Rev. 20:10 — "lake of fire and brimstone"
--PERMANENT incarceration!
Real
3-Where will this be?! --"Lake of fire" (Rev. 20:10)
--"Everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels" (Mt. 25:41)
4-Until then, Satan is a JUDGED ENEMY
--Jn. 12:31--"Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out."
--Jn. 16:11--"Of judgment, because the prince of this world has been judged."

--Col. 2:15--"And having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

(7)

5-ANALOGY:--Saul was on the Throne of Israel, though he had been rejected of God for his disobedience
--David had been anointed King over God's people
--Saul continued to reign----AS A USURPER !
--In God's own time David did take the public dominion which was his due

6-SIMILARLY
--Satan presently rules the earth
--But he is a DEFEATED FOE
--Usurper of a dominion that Jesus has "bought back"
--Soon Satan will dealt with in an execution of judgment

See more of this in next message

CONCLUSION:

The Record—

A.-The Five I'd Monster:
1-The "I Will" of POSITION
2-The "I Will" of POWER
3-The "I Will" of PLACE
4-The "I Will" of PREEMINENCE
5-The "I Will" of POSSESSION

HIS INFERNAL MAJESTY

B.-The Root Sin Of PRIDE:
1-Because of his heart lifted up over his perfections in a rebellion against his creaturehood
2-Causes ruin to him and to all in his domain
3-PRIDE is a destructive power !

The
C.-Retribution:
1-For the Devil himself
2-For his fallen angels
3-For his prisoners
4-HELL was prepared for them but not for you or me !
5-Flee to the Lord Jesus Christ as your REFUGE !!
6-Avoid:--Rebellion
--Heart lifted up
--Pride

At any age or any stage of life.

"Tragically, a high percentage of the individuals who attend our churches are woefully devoid of a Knowledge of Scripture.."

(David Breese, P. 14
Satan's Ten Most Believable Lies)

Westbrae – 4/23/72
Calvary, Columbus – 3/14/76
1st Bapt, Warrensville, PA – 4/4/76
OKBC. – 9/13/87
Bible Center Ch – 9/21/09
Hilltop Bapt. Ch. – 10/25/09

(1) "A Mighty Fortress" — #166
(2) "Victory Through Grace" – #185
(3) "Loyalty to Christ – #174
(4) "It Is Well With My Soul" – #271 Very Good Close Hymn

"THE SAINT ~~AND~~ IN SATAN'S SIEVE" Job 1:1-12 (1)

INTRO: **A.-The Classic Verses:**

1-**Luke 22:31-32**--"And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: but I have prayed for you, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren."

2-Addressed to **Peter**--Disciple
--Believer
--Apostle
--Intimate of Christ
--**One** of the **BIG THREE** (Peter, James and John)
--**Singled out** because he was in special danger!

3-"Satan hath desired to have you that he may sift you as wheat"

* ="Satan has **obtained you by asking**"
--**PLURAL**; addressed to all disciples (NB)
--PERSONAL; Peter is the center of the attack
--"sift" ** Satan would sift us to get **rid of the wheat**
** Jesus allows the winnowing to get **rid of the chaff**
** Process that really SHAKES ONE UP!
--**Malicious attack** against the believer from Satan's hand

4-**REMEMBER:** --Under God's authority
Satan is --**Cannot** sift **without God's permission**
--**Enemy** of God & of all believers
--"Satan has obtained you by asking"
--**BUT** he can **only** go as far as God permits him and no further

5-Precious thought: "But I have prayed for thee (singular) that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted (turned back), strengthen thy brethren."

** --Satan prays as our **ADVERSARY**--To destroy
--Jesus prays as our **ADVOCATE**--To salvage

6-**Peter's response** --**Lk. 22:33**--"Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death."
--**Peter really meant it!**
--Real dedication to the Savior
* --**BUT** without a realistic view of himself

7-Jesus' **further words**--22:34--"And He said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest Me."

NB * --This did **not negate** our Savior's earlier promise to pray for Peter
--**Jesus knows us** as we do not know ourselves
--But **failure does not end it all!**
** --HALLELUJAH for that !!!

--Jesus prays for His own and brings about their being sustained and restored in spite of Satan's Sieve

READ

B.-The Classic Case:

1-Principle seen in Luke 22:31-34

2-Seen many other times in the Scriptures:

--SAUL troubled by an evil spirit (1 Sam. 16:13-15)

--DAVID and the sin of numbering the people (1 Chron. 21:1-2)

--JOSHUA the High Priest of God (Zech. 3:1-2)

3-Classic Case is Job:

THIS MESSAGE

I.-Job's PERSON:

II.-Job's PROBLEMS:

III.-Job's PROFIT:

4-Messages on Satan's Sieve--Examined in Job's life & experience

--Much to learn from his exposure

--Several messages to deal with all there is to be gained

5-PROP:--Summed up in I Cor. 10:11--"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition upon whom the ends of the age are come."

NB--THREE WAYS TO LEARN ** Biblical precept
** Experiential example in others
** Personal involvement

--Learning is needed without trying out every sin and problem in your own life ** Adultery
** Thievery
** Drugs
** Lying

--Learning by LOOKING at Job as he experiences Satan's Sieve

I.-JOB'S PERSON:

Real Job 1:1-12

Former President of FULLER Theol. Sem.

A.-A Real Man:

1-I remember Lou hearing Dr. David Hubbard suggest that the Book of Job was a DIVINE DRAMA, and that it was not essential to its effectiveness to believe that Job was an actual historical personage who really lived

*2-That is blatant UNBELIEF and DENIAL of the truth

3-Bible asserts Job's historicity:

--By the multitudinous details of his life, which we'll see in this message and the next

NB--By Ezekiel 14:14, 20 citing Job along with Noah & Daniel as historically confirmed actual personages

--By many allusions to Job in the Psalms

--By James 5:10-11 using Job as a well-known example of PATIENCE

4-To deny Job's historicity as A REAL MAN is to deny the Bible !!

B.-A [illegible] = REMARKABLE MAN!

1-Substance is described (Job 1:3)--Riches

7000 sheep (wool & meat)

--3000 camels (transportation)
--500 yoke of oxen (cultivation)
--500 female asses (riding)
--Retinue of servants; "a very great household"
--"GREATEST of all the men of the east", so THE outstanding man of his day (1:3)
--Wealth described not in lands, but in flocks, for cultivation was not as important as nomadic grazing

Relatives
2-Large family (Job 1:2)--3 daughters
--7 sons
--All grown & in their own homes; Established

Residence
3-Fixed dwellings in cities
--Sons had their own homes (1:4)
--Job had his own home (29:7) Died 140 years after this

4-Picture of his wealth, his family, his age (42:16-17), his residence indicate he lived as a contemporary of the PATRIARCHS Abraham, Isaac or Jacob and before the Mosaic Law was enacted

C.-A Respected Man:

1-Widespread reputation as "the greatest of all the men of the east" (Job 1:3)
2-Young & old alike showed him deference (Job 29:8-11)
3-Known as a helper of all in need (Job 29:12-16)
4-Reputation for justice (29:17)
5-Sought out for counsel (29:21-23)
6-"Dwelt as a king in the army" (29:25)
7-Not only respected in his own day, but a BYWORD OF PATIENC ever since (James 5:10-11)

D.-A Righteous Man:

1-Fourfold description of Job (1:1) The only evaluation which really counts
--Repeated as GOD'S EVALUATION in 1:8 & 2:3

① --"PERFECT"
** Used in 1 Kings 8:61--"Let your heart therefore be perfect with the LORD our God, to walk in His statutes, & to keep His commandments, as at this day."
** Marginal note: "The word implies whole-heartedness for God, single-mindedness, sincerity--not sinless perfection"
** Term for the man who is WHOLE & COMPLETE in God's sight

② --"UPRIGHT"=="Proper, Right, Correct"; Used of a straight path

③ --"FEARED GOD" ** Not that he wished to run & hide
** But as REVERENTIAL TRUST KEY ISSUE
** Not dread, but respect
** Prov. 1:7, 29 "Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, + find the Knowledge of God."
** Prov. 2:5
"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction."
"For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD."

④ --"ESCHEWED EVIL" ** Literally=="turned aside from evil"
** Nothing to do with whatever is WRONG — Won't touch it!
Rom. 12:9--"Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good

Mentality

2-Hard to find four more powerful terms of description, but there is MORE !!
--1:8--"There is none like him in the earth"
--Repeated in 2:3 also
--God calls Job "my servant Job" in 1:8 & 2:3
--A CONSISTENT BELIEVER before God
--All this in the midst of a world of idolatry
--Job stood when all around him there were those who bowed down to Satan — Tenacious in his integrity

3-Job's self-knowledge
-Acknowledged himself a sinner
-Job. 42:3-4
--Need of a MEDIATOR
-Job 9:32-33; 16:21
--Faith in the coming REDEEMER
-Job 19:23-27a

Not thinking of himself more highly than he ought to think!

4-Faithful in prayer and sacrifices
--Job 1:5
--Took his place as the Believer-Priest for his family, which was his to take as the FATHER of the family
--Outside of the Abrahamic lineage of Israel
--Still, an acknowledged believer, as was also Melchizidec
--Truly "APPROVED OF GOD"

5-Reminds me of Mark 10:23-25 --Job was RICH
--Job was also RIGHTEOUS
--Proof that one can be BOTH!

NB → Read it

B-A Representative Man: = REFINED MAN:

1-Set before us as a "SAMPLE", so we can learn from him
2-Object of Satanic attack
--Satan TEMPTED Job to sin
--God TRIED Job to prove him
--Essential to distinguish these two !
--James 1:12-14 PRINCIPLE
-Job 23:1-12 PARTICULAR CASE
--God draws attention to Job's consistent life as a believer
--Job's exemplary life provokes Satanic opposition
--Satan doesn't pick on the "SCRUFFY ONES" very much
--Rather, he zeroes in on ** Believers with a good testimony
** Believers he forsees that God could and would use

3-Things to learn ABOUT SATAN from Job's experiences:
--Satan's access to heaven as an ACCUSER (1:6)
--Satan is not omnipresent
--Satan is accountable (1:6-7)
--Satan restlessly is going to & fro —1:7
-1 Pet. 5:8--"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour"

4-Things to learn ABOUT GOD from Job's experiences:
--God delights to draw attention to faithful saints (1:8)
--God testifies of believers faithfulness (1:8)
-God does have a HEDGE OF PROTECTION around us (1:10)
--God does allow TRIALS into our lives as Satan TEMPTS us (1:12a)

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

--God does put LIMITATIONS on how far Satan can go (1:12b)

--God sustains the believer thru his trial

Later Messages 5-As we go on we'll probably learn some things about OURSELVES ALSO from Job

--How we can be TEMPTED by Satan

--How we can be TRIED by God

--How we should react to such temptations

--How to be victorious in the face of trials

6-So, we see that in Job, THE REPRESENTATIVE MAN, there is much to learn that can help in our own daily lives as we also are refined

CONCLUSION:

A.-Review Of Message:

1-Classic Verses--Luke 22:31-34

2-Classic Case of Job--A Real Man

--A Rich Man (Remarkable)

--A Respected Man

--A Righteous Man

--A Representative Man (Refined)

3-Such a believer can expect to experience Satan's sieve .....

.....and so can you!!!

B.-Reason For Message:

1-1 Cor. 10:11--"Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition upon whom the ends of the age are come."

2-Learn from Job

--Satan's tactics

--God's care and protection of His saints

--Discern Satanic origin of some afflictions

--Pattern of victory when subjected to Satanic attack

3-ILLUS--The godly minister of a previous generation, Clarence Macartney stood one day in thoughtful memories by the grave of his godly mother. Suddenly he was conscious of the presence of another. Turning about he saw a stranger standing near. As he seemed to be waiting for Macartney to speak, he said to him:

"Friend, who are you? Why have you come to intrude upon my time of memory and reflection?"

At that the stranger answered with a tone of impatience in his voice, "Do you not know me? I am the KING OF TERRORS!"

Macartney replied: "The king of terrors? I see nothing terrible or terrifying about you."

Nonetheless, Macartney was startled by the answer he received:

"No, you see nothing terrible about me; for where men and women live and die as this woman lived and died, there I have no terrors at my command. My authority has vanished. But where men have lived in selfishness, or impurity, or strife and hatred, where they have lived WITHOUT GOD and WITHOUT HOPE, there it is that I rear my throne and dress it with such terrors as are at my command. But here I have no power and no terrors."

And then Macartney heard the most strange words of all:

"Mortal, blessed and happy in thy memories of the sainted dead, I leave thee in peace."

4-INDEED:

--If we are to have any "peace" it will have to be because of our relationship to the Lord which grants us peace

--Satan is a defeated foe, and we must treat him so.

5-James 4:7--"Submit yourselves therefore to God, Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

#428 "God Will Take Care Of You" (1)

#432 "Jesus Took My Burden" (2)

WESTBRAE--5/7/72--# 431 — Just When I Need Him Most (3)

422 — "I Must Tell Jesus" (4)

©KBC - 10/4/87

Bible Center Ch - 9/20/09

Hilltop Bapt. Ch - 11/1/09 - Men

Harper Heights Bapt. Ch - 2/28/10

INTRO:

A.-Previous Message—"The Saint In Satan's Sieve:"

1-Classic verses--**Luke 22:31-32** — Read these

2-**Classic Case**----JOB

JOB'S PERSON

--A REAL man
--A ~~RICH~~ man — REMARKABLE
--A RESPECTED man
--A RIGHTEOUS man
--A REPRESENTATIVE man — REFINED

3-From this we **learn much**--About Satan
--About God
--About ourselves

B.-Present Message--"St. Job In Satan's Sieve":

1-**Particularization** of SATAN'S ATTACK — Area by area

2-Learn about **JOB'S PROBLEMS:**

At least 6 of them

A.-Satanic Attack Thru Accusations:
B.-Satanic Attack Thru Job's Circumstances:
C.-Satanic Attack Thru Job's Body:
D.-Satanic Attack Thru Job's Wife:
E.-Satanic Attack Thru Job's Friends:
F. Satanic Attack Thru DISCOURAGEMENT

3-**PROP:**--**Profit** by this in the light of Lk. 22:31-32
--APPLY the lessons from it to OUR OWN LIVES
--**Evaluate** the problems **we face** daily
--Remember 1 Cor. 10:13

4-Later Message--"JOB'S PROFIT FROM BEING TESTED"

II.-JOB'S PROBLEMS:

A.-Satanic Attack Thru Accusations:

1-**Job 1:6-12**

2-**Setting**--In heaven in God's presence
--"Sons of God" (angels) came **to report**
--**Satan** (=ADVERSARY) came also among them
*--Angels come as **SERVANTS**
*--Satan comes as an ACCUSER

Notice!
- **Access to heaven**
- Not omnipresent
- **Accountable** to God !

3-Heavenly conversation:
--"Whence comest thou?"
--"From going **to** & **fro** in the earth, & from walking up and down in it"
--**RESTLESS OPPOSITION** to God & to His people !
--**1 Pet. 5:8**--"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour."
--God **draws attention**: "Hast thou considered my servant Job?" 1:8
--God's **evaluation**: 1:8 "...that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, & escheweth evil."

4-Satanic accusations:
--PROSECUTOR who accuses the saint before God
(1) --"Doth Job fear God for nought?" 1:9
--Says God pays Job for his reverence
(2) --"Hast Thou not made a hedge about him?" 1:10
--Says God protects Job for his service
(3) --"Thou hast blessed the work of his hands & his substance is increased in the land" 1:10
--Says God rewards Job's testimony
TRUE TO HIS NAME ** "Satan"=ADVERSARY
** "Accuser"=SLANDERER
** Let us make sure that we leave Satan to do his own DIRTY WORK, & that we do not join in with it.
Rev. 12:10 – "...the accuser of our brethren..."
Attack of Satan on Job is in the area of HIS MOTIVES behind the worship & service he brings

5-Satan's challenge--1:11
--Shows Satan's rebellious attitude
--Shows Satan is not omniscient
God knew Job--even better than Job knew himself

6-Divine Permission:
--1:12
* --BUT notice its limitations
** Possessions could be attacked
** But Job's BODY was "off limits"; exempted
--Satan was not totally free
* --God was still IN CONTROL

7-Satan immediately went forth to do his dirty work
8-MORE of Satan's accusations will be seen in 2:1-6

B. Satanic Attack Through Job's Circumstances:

1-Accuser of the brethren becomes the PERSECUTOR of the saints
--"And there was a day..." (1:13)
--Doubtless it was VERY SOON !
--Satan doesn't wait long to attack; Seeks an opportune moment
* --BUT, remember that Satan is able to bring these calamities only by God's PERMISSIVE WILL
--AND be assured that Rom. 8:28 is still true !!!
--Example: --Gen. 50:20--"But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto Good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive."

2-CALAMITY # 1--Job 1:13-15
--Oxen & asses stolen (cultivation & transportation)
--Servants slain
--Sabeans were desert raiders
--"I only am escaped alone to tell you"
--The devil always sees to it that one survives to TELL THE BAD NEWS !!

3-CALAMITY # 2
--Job 1:16
--While the first report is in process, MORE BAD NEWS
--"Fire of God" ** Doubtless this was lightning
** Terminology might indicate the servant thot of it as being DIVINE JUDGMENT

** That's a case of JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS !!

(3)

--
--Sheep burned up (meat & wool)
--Servants consumed also
--"I only am escaped to tell thee"
--MORE BAD NEWS---------- but that's not all !!

4 CALAMITY # 3 --Job 1:17
--Third "reporter" tells his tale of woe also
--Chaldeans == Babylonian invaders
--3 regiments of them
--Camels stolen (Caravan burden-bearers)
--Servants slain
--"And I only am escaped alone to tell thee"
--Same song, THIRD VERSE
--WEALTH was wiped out
--MANY SERVANTS were killed
--But that's not all....

5 CALAMITY # 4
--Job 1:18-19
--Another bearer of evil tidings comes
--"Thy sons and thy daughters"------ALL TEN OF THEM
--"GREAT WIND from the wilderness"
** Sirrocco off the desert
** Like the hot SANTA ANAS in Southern Californi
--House fell; ALL DEAD
--Job's greatest treasure was doubtless his family
--"And I only am escaped alone to tell thee"

* 6 Satan's strategy --Use nature, which is under his control
--ILLUS---Mark 4:35-38 Wind on Galilee
--Use people, who are under his control
--ILLUS---Luke 13:16
--SATAN is behind all these catastrophes, though he is not mentioned as their specific cause
--However, in the light of 1:12, there is no other valid explanation
--Brings calamities from EVERY DIRECTION in order to overwhelm Job and cause his faith to fail

"And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath."

7 Job's reactions
--Job 1:20-22
--Quite a MAN OF GOD !!
--Reaction of worship & of blessing of God
--FAITH to see that it is GOD WHO RULES in all his circumstances
--Able to believe that Satan's opposition is not running unchecked, but it is UNDER CONTROL of God
--This is the kind of faith that is grown bit by bit over MANY YEARS
--NO SIN by reason of Job's lips
** Job 1:22
** Ps. 17:1-3
** Ps. 141:1-3
** OH, that we might learn this lesson well for ourselves !!
--Satan is foiled; God is vindicated in Job's faith

C. Satanic Attack Through Job's Body:

1-Job 2:1-3 — Round Two between God & Satan
--God says of Job: "STILL he holdeth fast his integrity though thou movest Me against him to destroy him without a cause." 2:3

2-Satan OBJECTS --Job 2:4-5
--In effect he says: A man will suffer any loss as long as it doesn't touch his own body---
BUT---if you'll allow the attack on his person he'll "curse Thee to Thy face."
--Really after this RIGHTEOUS MAN to "break him"
--Accusation brought against a believer to the effect that he really has no integrity; only A HIRELING of God's

3-Additional permission is requested
--Job 2:6
--More "rope" of freedom given to Satan
--BODY now given over for trial
--But Satan is not given the right to take Job's life
--Reminds of 2 Cor. 4:7-9
--GOD DOES RETAIN CONTROL !
--Though Satan is allowed leeway to bring testings

4-Job's body afflicted — Job 2:7; 7:5
--Disease is supposed by some to have been ELEPHANTITUS, an extreme form of leprosy where the skin becomes hard and with deep cracks & sores underneath that is VERY PAINFUL
--Affliction is total; "soles of feet to crown of head"
--Clearly the handiwork of Satan
--No doubt of the source now

5-JOB'S RESPONSE — Job 2:8 — What he DID: Nothing SAID — SILENCE
--No words of praise & worship
--But neither are there words of recrimination against God
--Probably he did not understand "WHY THE RIGHTEOUS SUFFER"
--But at least he held his peace & made no foolish statements
--THAT'S THE BEST when we do not know the answers.
--One other acceptable action:
** Take the problem to God in prayer and then wait for His answer
** Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-2

2:8

Why do BAD things happen to GOOD people?

D. Satanic Attack Through Job's Wife:

1-Does it surprise you that Satan can USE PEOPLE ?!
--It shouldn't
--He can use the UNSAVED
--TELLUS--Lk. 22:1-4 — "then Satan entered into Judas..."
--He can use the SAVED also
--TELLUS ** Mt. 16:21-23 — PETER — "Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offense unto Me..."
** Acts 5:1-11 — Ananias & Sapphira

2-DISTINCTION --Demon influence on believers
--Demon possession
--Believers can be influenced & buffeted
--Unbelievers can be possessed
--Some teach that believers also can be possessed
** I O B J E C T !!!!!!
--I John 4:4--"Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world."
--2 Cor. 2:14--"Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of His knowledge by us in every place."
--John 16:33--"These things have I spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world."

3-Job 2:9--Now Satan one closest to Job - Mrs. JOB
--HIS W I F E !! (2:9; 19:17; 31:10) Mrs. JOB
** Only 3 references to her
** Only 10 words spoken by her
--Wife is "GOD'S GIFT" to a man as his helpmeet (Gen.2:18)
--WORST TRIAL of all is when one close to us fails to strengthen our hands, but instead becomes one to pull down our spirits
--Micah 7:6--"For the son dishonoreth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the daughter in law against her mother in law; a man's enemies are the men of his own house."
--Also repeated in Matt. 10:36
"And a man's foes shall be they of his own household"
--Job might have echoed Adam: "The WOMAN thou gavest me."
--THEN....Mrs. Job's courage sagged in the face of adversity
--Lacking in faith, she stumbles & SINS WITH HER MOUTH !!
--Before you are too hard on Mrs. Job:
** Stop and consider the effedt 10 coffins lined up in your living room would have upon you
** I Pet. 3:7--"Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them (your wives) according to knowledge, giving honor to the wife,as unto the weaker vessel."
** ALSO, remember, her man was under intense pressure. She knew him to be a man of integrity, and found it hard to handle that he was suffering.

4-Job's continued integrity--Job 2:10
--GENTLE rebuke of his wife
--L E S S O N he is learning & that she must also learn out of this
--Yet, there is not a "FLIPPING" by Job, even with this "last straw" added.

Defends God

CONCLUSION:

A.-Problems Of Job:

1-Seen in this message--Satan's accusations
--Family & financial circumstances
--His own body attacked
--His wife's breakdown

2-Yet to be seen in the next message:
I.-FAILURE OF FRIENDS to comfort & help
II.-DISCOURAGEMENT

B.-Problems Of Moderns:

1-Very similar!
2-Their "FACE" seems to bear "a modern cosmetic", but their root is the same as in Job's day
3-Eccles. 1:9--"The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun."

C.-Precious Promises:

1-1 Cor. 10:13--"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, Who will not suffer you to be tempted above that wh that which ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way of escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

2-Closing illustration from Matt. 14:1-12
** Read it
** Draw attention to 14:12

they buried John the Baptizer's body "and went and TOLD JESUS"

5/28/72--Westbrae
10/11/87--O.K.B.C.

1-"No, Not One" #435
2-"Jesus Never Fails" #496
3-"Yield Not To Temptation" #457
4-"I Must Tell Jesus" #422

(1) "A Shelter In The Time Of Storm" #413
(2) "Go To The Deeps God's Promise" #330
(3) "Builded On The Rock" #319
(4) "Blessed Quietness"

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3/7/10 - Harper Heights Bapt. Ch

LUCIFER'S CREATION & PERFECTION

Ezekiel 28:1-19

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INTRODUCTION:

A. How To View Evil:
   1. Secular view – Plutarch
   2. Christian view – John Newton
   3. "KNOW YOUR ENEMY!"

B. How To Understand About Lucifer:
   1. Not created as Satan, but as Lucifer
   2. God is not the author of evil
   3. Lucifer rebelled – HE CHOSE EVIL
   4. Proposition: We need to know our enemy so we can be overcomers of evil, not overcome by the evil one.

I. THE HISTORICAL PRINCE OF TYRE (Ezek. 28:1-10):

A. Character Of Pride:
   1. "Prince" of Tyre
   2. Pride of Tyre
   3. The WORD of God – "thine heart is lifted up... I am a God" (28:2)

B. Content Of Pride:
   1. "Wiser than Daniel" (28:3)
   2. Riches and Treasures (28:4)
   3. Trade and possessions cause his heart to be deceived

C. Conclusion Of Pride:
   1. God has the last word – JUDGMENT (28:6-7)
   2. Strangers to be brought on Tyre – Babylonians
   3. Ironic question (28:9a)
   4. Verdict of God – "a man, and no God" (28:9b)
      – "thou shalt die" (28:10)

II. THE HIDDEN KING OF TYRE (Ezek. 28:11-17):

A. The Presentation (28:11-12a):
   1. Authoritative word of direct revelation (28:11)
   2. Lamentation = a song of sadness
   3. Personalization – WHO is addressed?
      - The King of Tyre as distinguished from the Prince
      - Explanation from Charles Feinberg
      - A similar case in Gen. 3:14-15
      - Lewis Sperry Chafer – "There is notable significance in the manner in which these two addresses are related and placed in sequence." (Systematic Theology, II, 40)

B. His Perfections (28:12b-13):
   1. Beyond any earthly man
   2. Seven perfections:
      a. "Thou sealest up the sum"
      b. "Full of wisdom"
      c. "Perfect in beauty"
      d. "Thou hast been in Eden"
      e. "Every precious stone was they covering"
      f. "Thy tabrets (2-headed drums) and thy pipes (flutes)"
      g. "In the day that thou wast created"

3. Description of a superhuman being!

C. His Privileges (28:14, 15a, 16c):
   1. "The anointed cherub that covereth" = SECOND IN COMMAND
   2. "Thou wast upon the holy mountain" = ACCESS
   3. "Thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire" = PROTECTOR/GUARDIAN
   4. "Thou was perfect" = NO BLEMISHES; BLAMELESS
   5. Impossible to use these terms to describe a mere human

D. His Pride:
   1. Result is given first (28:15b)
      - "Til iniquity was found in thee"
      - Lucifer became the *initial sinner*
      - Sin began in heaven
      - Earth was infected from outer space
      - I John 3:8a,b
      - John 8:44
   2. Iniquity was found in Lucifer
   3. WHY? – Reason is clearly stated (28:17a)
      – PRIDE was Lucifer's damning sin!
   4. His "heart was lifted up"
      - Beauty
      - Wisdom
      - Brightness

      } Superlative Perfections
   5. His heart of SECRET SIN OF PRIDE is unmasked
   6. Psalm 90:1 and I Timothy 3:6
   7. H.A. Ironside – "Men often ask why God created the Devil. The answer is that He did not create the devil. He created a pure spirit being of great wisdom and glory, but this spirit dared to conspire against the throne of God, and so the greatest of the angels became the archenemy of God and man."

E. His Prostration:
   1. Satan appears to "run free" today
   2. But God has spoken clearly
      - JUDGED at the cross – John 16:11 and Col. 2:15
      - EXECUTION of his sentence will surely follow
        **Ezekiel 28:17b-19
        **Revelation 20:10
        **Matthew 25:41
   3. As surely as the PRINCE OF TYRE was judged and cast down to death, so the KING OF TYRE (Lucifer) will be brought low and judged.

CONCLUSION:

A. Summary:
   1. F.C. Jennings sums up his lucid exposition of this portion of Ezekiel's words
   2. Satan was judged by Jesus Christ at the cross
   3. Therefore Satan's doom is sure

B. Application:
   1. Be sure of your salvation if you are to escape the Lake of Fire
   2. As a Christian - KNOW YOUR ENEMY
      - LEARN HOW TO EXPERIENCE VICTORY
      - Be an "overcomer"

THE FIVE I'D MONSTER; HIS INFERNAL MAJESTY
Isaiah 14:12-17

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INTRODUCTION:

A. The New Age Movement
B. Our Attitudes – What Are They?
   1. Ignore it? Deny it?
   2. Impossible to pass this off.
   3. Psychological answers will not hold up.
   4. C.S. Lewis - Two equal and opposite errors
      - Disbelief of existence of demons
      - Excessive and unhealthy interest in demons
   5. Where can we get answers?
      - From God's Word
      - Revelation of TRUTH
      - What will we learn?
   6. Proposition: We need answers today because of tremendous increase of Satanic activity in our days.

I. LUCIFER'S REBELLION STATED (Isa. 14:13-14):

A. The "I Will" of POSITION (Isa. 14:13a):
   1. Lucifer proposed to take up his abode in heaven.
      - Earth has been his dominion
      - First and second heavens are under his power
      - ACCESS to God's presence (Job 1,2), but not his proper sphere
   2. Aspiration to GO BEYOND.
   3. Third heaven is God's abode. – 2 Cor. 12:1-4, Eph. 1:20-21
   4. Lucifer has no position there.
B. The "I Will" of POWER (Isa. 14:13b):
   1. Called "the anointed cherub that covereth" (Ezek. 28:14)
      - Task was to GUARD God's throne
      - Desire is to USURP God's prerogatives
      - Created to RULE, but with delegated authority
   2. Unholy ambition expressed in desire to be INDEPENDENT of God; Rebellion against creaturehood.
   3. "The stars of God" – Physical stars
      – More likely angelic beings (Job 38:7; Jude 1:13; Rev. 12:3-4; 22:16)
   4. Lucifer's rebellion is essentially one of seeking POWER on a basis INDEPENDENT of God's will.
C. The "I Will" of PLACE (Isa. 14:13c):
   1. Meanings – "Mount" = Seat of government on earth (Isa. 2:1-4)
      – "The Congregation" = Israel
      – Usurping Messianic authority and rule
   2. "Sides of the north" – Psalm 48:1-2
      – Millennial rule in Jerusalem
      – Calvary's Cross was on NORTH of Jerusalem
      – Colossians 2:15
   3. Satanic intention to dethrone God from HIS PLACE; usurpation intended.

D. The "I Will" of PREEMINENCE (Isa. 14:14a):
   1. Not just physical clouds over earth, for he already has dominion over these.
   2. What then? Search the Scriptures.
      - Exodus 16:10
      - Exodus 40:34, 38
      - Leviticus 16:2
      - Numbers 9:15
      - Psalm 104:1-3
   3. Clouds are more than 150 times associated in Scripture with the DIVINE PRESENCE.
   4. Reveals Satan's desire to claim the power and glory and PREEMINENCE due to God alone.
   5. "Above the clouds," a blasphemous self-assertion.

E. The "I Will" of POSSESSION (Isa. 14:14b):
   1. Two crowning PHOBIAS of Lucifer:
      - Earth possession, for "Most High" (El Elyon) = "Possessor of heaven and earth"
      - To be LIKE God; a counterfeit of all that God is and does
   2. Key to tracing Lucifer's motives and methods
      - He is the Great COUNTERFEITER, for he is unwilling to be satisfied with God's appointment for him
      - Utterly rebellious
      - Wants to imitate God **Gen. 3:1-5 **Elohim = AS GOD, not as gods
      - An ambition to go beyond that which was not his rightful possession to claim
   3. Contrast with Jesus Christ – Heb. 10:7
   4. Satan seeks to mimic God
   5. Rebellion of Lucifer is clear in Isaiah 14:13-14
      - POSITION
      - POWER
      - PLACE
      - PREEMINENCE
      - POSSESSION
   6. BUT..... WHAT cause this rebellion?

II. LUCIFER'S ROOT SIN (Isa. 14:12-13, 16-17):

A. The Evidence of His Sin (Isa. 14:13):
   1. Lucifer had HEART TROUBLE!
   2. Sought to exalt himself and usurp God
   3. Confirmation of what we learned in Ezekiel 28:1-17
   4. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." – Prov. 23:7
   5. ALSO true of Lucifer

B. The Essence of His Sin:
   1. Question – What is the root sin which showed in this rebellious heart?
   2. Answer – PRIDE is the essence
      – Ezek. 28:17 and I Tim. 3:6
   3. Self-will because he thought more highly of himself than he ought – Virtual SELF-DEIFICATION

C. The Expression of His Sin (Isa. 14:16-17):
   1. Isa. 14:16 – "They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying 'Is this the man...'"
      a. "Made the earth to tremble"
      b. "That did shake kingdoms"
      c. "That made the world as a wilderness"

d. "And destroyed the cities"
e. "That opened not the house of his prisoners" - Matt. 12:29; Heb. 2:14-15

III. LUCIFER'S RUIN IS SURE:

A. Physical Ruin:
1. Isaiah 14:12
2. He is CUT DOWN, grounded to earth
3. Created to serve God in heaven, but EXPELLED
4. Luke 10:18
5. Began as Lucifer and ends as Satan = Adversary

B. Spiritual Ruin:
1. Isaiah 14:15
2. Spiritual separation from God
   - Rev. 20:1-3 – "into the abyss"
   - Rev. 20:7-9 – "loosed for a little season"
   - Rev. 20:10 – "lake of fire and brimstone"
3. WHERE? – The lake of fire
4. Until then – Satan is a JUDGED ENEMY
   – John 12:31; 16:11; Col. 2:15
5. An analogy in Saul and David

CONCLUSION:

A. The Five I'd Monster:
1. The "I Will" of POSITION
2. The "I Will" of POWER
3. The "I Will" of PLACE
4. The "I Will" of PREEMINENCE
5. The "I Will" of POSSESSION

} His Infernal Majesty

B. The Root Sin of PRIDE:
1. Because of his heart lifted up
2. Ruin to him and all his domain
3. PRIDE is a destructive power

C. Retribution:
1. For the Devil
2. For his fallen angels
3. For his prisoners
4. Hell was prepared for them – NOT FOR YOU!
5. Flee to Jesus in faith today!
6. Avoid rebellion, heart lifted up, and pride

David Breese – "Tragically, a high percentage of the individuals who attend our churches are wholly devoid of a knowledge of Scripture." (Satan's Ten Most Believable Lies, page 14)

A SAINT IN SATAN'S SIEVE
Job 1:1-12

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INTRODUCTION:

A. The Classic Verses (Luke 22:31-32):
   1. Addressed to Peter
   2. "Satan hath desired to have you that he may sift you"
      - PLURAL – Addressed to all the disciples
      - PERSONAL – Peter is the center of attack
      - Malicious attack against a believer
   3. Remember! – We are under God's authority
      – Precious thought
   4. Satan prays as our ADVERSARY to destroy; Jesus prays as our ADVOCATE to salvage.
   5. Peter's response – Luke 22:33
   6. Jesus' further words – Luke 22:34

B. The Classic Cases:
   1. The principle to know – Luke 22:31-34
   2. Many biblical examples - SAUL (I Sam. 16:13-15)
      - DAVID (I Chron. 21:1-2)
      - JOSHUA (Zech. 3:1-2)
      - JOB – A CLASSIC CASE
   3. Learn of SATAN'S SIEVE
   4. Summed up in I Cor. 10:11
   5. Let us learn by looking at Job's experience – Job 1:1-12

I. JOB'S PERSON:

A. A Real Man:
   1. The Bible asserts Job's historicity (Ezek. 14:14, 20; Psalms; James 5:10-11)
   2. To deny Job's genuineness is to deny the Bible

B. A Remarkable Man:
   1. Riches are described (Job 1:3)
   2. Relatives are described (Job 1:2)
   3. Residences are described (Job 1:4)
   4. Picture of the life of a contemporary of Abraham

C. A Respected Man:
   1. Reputation (Job 1:3)
   2. Deference (Job 29:8-11)
   3. Helper of the needy (Job 29:12-16)
   4. Known for justice (Job 29:17)
   5. Sought out for counsel (Job 29:21-23)
   6. Dwelt as a king (Job 29:25)
   7. A byword of patience (James 5:10-11)

D. A Righteous Man:
   1. "Perfect" (Job 1:1; I Kings 8:61)
   2. "Upright" (Job 1:1)
   3. "Feared God" (Job 1:1; Prov. 1:7, 29; 2:5)
   4. "Eschewed evil" (Job 1:1; Rom. 12:9)

5. POWERFUL TESTIMONY
   - "None like him in the earth" (Job 1:8)
   - God calls him "my servant Job" (Job 1:8, 2:3)
   - Tenacious in his integrity
6. Job's self-knowledge
   - A sinner (Job 42:3-4)
   - Need of a mediator (Job 9:32-33; 16:21)
   - The coming Redeemer (Job 19:23-27)
7. Faithful in prayer and sacrifices (Job 1:5)
   - Truly APPROVED OF GOD!
8. Reminds me of Mark 10:23-25

E. A Representative Man Refined:
1. Set before us in Scripture as a SAMPLE so we can learn
2. Object of Satanic attack
   - Satan tempted him to sin
   - God tried him to prove him
   - Essential to distinguish these
   - James 1:12-14 – PRINCIPLE
   - Job 23:1-12 – PARTICULAR CASE
3. Things to learn about Satan
   - Access to heaven as an ACCUSER (Job 1:6)
   - Not omnipresent
   - Accountable to God (Job 1:6-7)
   - Restlessly going to and fro (Job 1:7)
   - I Peter 5:8
4. Things to learn about God
   - God delights to draw attention to faithful saints (Job 1:8)
   - God testifies of believers' faithfulness (Job 1:8)
   - God has a hedge of protection around us (Job 1:10)
   - God allows TRIALS into our lives as Satan TEMPTS us (Job 1:12a)
   - God does place limits on how far Satan can go (Job 1:12b)

CONCLUSION:

A. Review of Message:
1. Classic verses – Luke 22:31-34
2. Classic case of Job
   - A Real Man
   - A Remarkable Man
   - A Respected Man
   - A Righteous Man
   - A Representative Man Refined
3. Such a believer can expect to experience Satan's sieve
4. So can YOU and I!

B. Reason for Message:
1. Key verse – I Cor. 10:11
2. Learn from Job
3. Clarence McCartney's graveside experience
4. Indeed, if we are to have any PEACE, it will have to be because of our relationship to the Lord.
5. James 4:7 – "Submit yourselves therefore to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you."

SAINT JOB IN SATAN'S SIEVE
Job 1 + 2

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INTRODUCTION:

A. The Previous Message:
   1. Classic verses – Luke 22:31-32
   2. Classic case – JOB -A REAL MAN
      -A REMARKABLE MAN
      -A RESPECTED MAN
      -A RIGHTEOUS MAN
      -A REPRESENTATIVE MAN REFINED
   3. From this we LEARN MUCH
      - About Satan
      - About God
      - About ourselves

B. The Present Message:
   1. Area by area particulation
   2. Learn about Satan's problems:
      SIX AREAS OF PROBLEMS
      - Satanic attack thru accusations
      - Satanic attack thru Job's circumstances
      - Satanic attack thru Job's body
      - Satanic attack thru Job's wife
      - Satanic attack thru Job's friends
      - Satanic attack thru discouragement
   3. Proposition: Believers need to apply to the lessons seen in the life of Job to the problems we face daily.

I. JOB'S PROBLEMS:

A. Satanic Attack Through Accusations (Job 1:6-12):
   1. Setting is in heaven
      - In God's presence
      - Sons of God (angels) report – servants
      - Satan = "ADVERSARY" – accuser
   2. Heavenly conversation
   3. I Peter 5:8
   4. God draws attention – "Hast thou considered my servant Job?"
   5. Satanic accusations
      - "Doth Job fear God?"
      - "Hast thou not made a hedge?"
      - "Thou hast blessed..."
   6. True to his names
      - "Satan" = Adversary
      - "Accuser" = slanderer
      - Attacks against Job's motives
   7. Satan's challenge before God
   8. Divine permission has limits

B. Satanic Attack Through Job's Circumstances:
   1. Satan does not delay his attack
   2. Calamity #1 = Sabeans stole oxen & asses; only 1 survived to report (1:13-15)
   3. Calamity #2 = Fire from God kills sheep & servants; only 1 survived (1:16)

4. Calamity #3 = Chaldeans stole camels & servants; only 1 survived (1:17)
5. Calamity #4 = Great wind demolished the eldest son's house & kills Job's sons and daughters; only 1 survived to report it (1:18-19)
6. Satan's strategy was to <u>use nature</u> which is under his control (Mark 4:35-38; Luke 13:16)
7. Job's reactions (Job 1:20-22)
   - Quite a man OF GOD!
   - FAITH to see that God <u>rules over ALL!</u>
   - Believed all is under God's control
   - Growth bit-by-bit over many years
   - <u>NO SIN</u> in Job's lips (Job. 1:22; Ps. 17:1-3; 141:1-3)
   - God is <u>VINDICATED</u> in Job's faithfulness

C. <u>Satanic Attack Through Job's Body:</u>
1. Round two between God and Satan (Job 2:1-3)
2. Satan objects to God's protection of Job (2:4-5)
3. Additional permission is requested (Job 2:6)
4. <u>BUT</u> God retained control of Job's life (2 Cor. 4:7-9)
5. Job's body afflicted (Job 2:7, 7:5)
6. Clearly the handiwork of Satan
7. Job's response (Job 2:8)
   - No words of praise or worship
   - Neither any words of recrimination
   - Probably did not understand "<u>WHY</u>"
   - He held his peace (Hab. 1:14, 2:1-2)

D. <u>Satanic Attack Through Job's Wife:</u>
1. Does it surprise you that <u>Satan can use people?</u>
2. The unsaved (Luke 22:1-4)
3. The saved also – PETER (Matt. 16:21-23); ANANIAS & SAPPHIRA (Acts 5:1-11)
4. Distinction
   - Demon influence on believers
   - Demon possession of unbelievers
   - 1 John 4:4; 2 Cor. 2:14; John 16:33
5. Now comes through Mrs. Job
   - 3 references to her
   - Only 10 words spoken
   - God's gift to Job as HIS HELPMEET
   - Worst trial (Micah 7:6; Matt. 10:36)
   - Lacking faith, she stumbled
   - Don't be <u>TOO HARD</u> on Mrs. Job (1 Pet. 3:7)
6. Job's integrity (Job 2:10)
   - Gentle rebuke of her words
   - <u>LESSON</u> *He is learning
     *She must also learn
   - Job did not "<u>FLIP</u>"!

CONCLUSION:

A. <u>Problems of Job:</u>
B. <u>Problems of Moderns (Eccles. 1:9):</u>
C. <u>Precious Promises:</u>
1. 1 Cor. 10:13
2. Closing Illustration – Matt. 14:1-12