

I. Introduction

1. Last week we looked at Satan:
 1. He is a living being, as described in Ezekiel 1.
 2. He is the anointed cherub as described in Ezekiel 28:14, 16.
 3. He is the enemy of God and the source of all sin and unrighteousness.
 4. He is the leader of the Jews at the time of Jesus' ministry.
 5. He filled the serpent in the garden, Judas, and will fill the beast of Revelation.
 6. He is bent on lust primarily and that lust expresses itself in a myriad of desire, behaviors, and loves.

- B. This week, we need to consider "his angels."
- C. The entire planet was created under the sovereign, glorious, power and dominion of God.
 1. Because of the nature of God, He is to be worshiped.
 2. Because of the nature of man, he is to worship.
 - a) Ecclesiastes 3:11="...eternity in the heart of man."
 - b) Man is created to consider and worship God alone.

- D. The enemy, Satan, desired to be worshiped as God.
 1. Ezekiel 28:17
 - a) And, in the plan of God, Satan does, in fact, have a semblance of god-ness in this world.
 - (1) 1 John 5:19

Matthew 4:8–9

8 Again, the devil *took Him to a very high mountain and *showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory;

9 and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me."

2. Isaiah 14:3-15
 - a) Satan rules over this world under the purpose of God.
 - (1) However, the reflection of this world shows the source of the image-Satan.
 - (2) Where there is:
 - Idolatry
 - Pride
 - Lust
 - Greed

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- Pride
- Immorality
- Hatred
- Pride
- Disdain for the God of the Bible.
- Love of the sensual.
- Love of the darkness.
- Pride.
- There is the kingdom of darkness.

- b) The world just thinks that everything is fine.
- c) However, truth is, the world is raging, swelling, with demonic involvement.

3. John 14:30; 16:11; 2 Cor 4:4; Eph 2:2; 6:12; 1 John 4:4; 5:19.

2. In order to understand this more, we must understand how this works from Scripture.

1. We must understand that the world that we live in is not peaceful, quiet, nor reconciled to God.
2. We need to see, more than ever, that this world is under the sway, power, and leadership of the enemy of God and is hopelessly subject to the demons he leads.
3. We also need to understand that when we minister in the world, we are engaging these demons in war.
 - a) This is not a war of the flesh, i.e. taking up weapons you hold in your hand.
 - b) This is not a war of politics and territories.
 - c) This is not even a war for souls.
 - (1) This is not the Christian Jihad.
 - (2) This is not the Crusades all over again.
4. This is a war for truth and this war rages most vividly where the truth is preached.
 - a) 2 Corinthians 10:5
 - b) Ephesians 6:10-20

Where did they come from?

What do they do?

II. Body

A. Where did the demons come from?

1. Satan, upon having unrighteousness being found in him, was cast out of his heavenly position.
 - a) He was no longer a living being who had access to leading the worship of God.
 - b) He now is a fallen angel who has become the point of rebellion and false worship for all ages.

2. In that judgment of God, he roams the earth looking for victims for him to assault with all his lust.

3. In the OT, you can see him:
 - a) Moving David to trust in his numbers of strength of his army in Israel: 1 Chronicles 21:1
 - b) Being used of God in Job's life: Job 1-2.
4. Accusing Joshua the high priest before God: Zechariah 3:1-2.

B. But in the NT, his work is even more intense:

- a) Daniel 8:9-11 (cf. 19-27)

The case for the 2,300-day view seems conclusive, indicating that the period in view covered six years and almost four months. December 164 (the reconsecration of the sanctuary) is the termination date given in the text, thus the 2,300 days began in the fall of 170 b.c. Something significant must have occurred at that time that marked the beginning of the persecution, and such an event did take place. In 170 b.c. Onias III (a former high priest) was murdered at the urging of the wicked high priest Menelaus, whom Antiochus had appointed to that position for a bribe. From this point trouble between Antiochus's administration and the Jews began to brew (cf. 2 Macc 4:7–50). In 169 b.c. Antiochus looted the temple and murdered some of the Jewish people (cf. 1 Macc 1:20–28). The altar to Zeus was not set up until 167 b.c., but the persecution had been going on long before that event. According to the 2,300-day view, therefore, the whole persecution period (the time that the saints “will be trampled underfoot”) was involved, not just the span from the cessation of the sacrifice and the desecration of the sanctuary until the rededication of the temple.⁴¹ Verse 14 concludes by stating that after this period of persecution, the temple would be “reconsecrated.” Just over three years after the altar to Zeus was set up, Judas Maccabeus cleansed and rededicated the temple on December 14, 164 b.c. (cf. 1 Macc 4:52). Today the Jews celebrate the

Feast of Hanukkah (“dedication”) to commemorate this momentous event (cf. John 10:22).¹

b) As we enter the ministry of the Messiah, what we have is unprecedented demonic activity:

(1) Luke 10:17–20

17 The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.”

18 And He said to them, “I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning.

19 “Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will injure you.

20 “Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.”

(2) Demons:

(a) Possessed men-Matthew 8:28ff.

(b) women-Luke 8:1-3

(c) children-Matthew 15:21-28

(3) Revelation 12:3-4 = Intertestamental period.

(4) Revelation 12:7-17 = Tribulation period.

C. What do they do?

1. Set up idols for worship in the nations: cf. Deuteronomy 32:17; Psalm 106:37

a) What is an idol and what does this have to do with demons?
Consider:

1 Corinthians 10:19–21

19 What do I mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything?

20 No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons.

21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.

¹ Stephen R. Miller, Daniel, vol. 18, The New American Commentary (Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 1994), 229–230.

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1. It would appear that the nations are full of demons!
 - a) *Incredible. If behind every idol is a demon, then the idols listed in this list are from demons who instigated the worship of these things.*
 - b) *In 1 Kings 22:19-23 we see that Micaiah the prophet refers to a vision that he saw in which he saw God assembling the demons in order to seek volunteers who will lead Ahab into battle. Some demons made*

1 Kings 22:19–23

19 Micaiah said, “Therefore, hear the word of the LORD. I saw the LORD sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by Him on His right and on His left.

20 “The LORD said, ‘Who will entice Ahab to go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?’ And one said this while another said that.

21 “Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD and said, ‘I will entice him.’

22 “The LORD said to him, ‘How?’ And he said, ‘I will go out and be a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’ Then He said, ‘You are to entice *him* and also prevail. Go and do so.’

23 “Now therefore, behold, the LORD has put a deceiving spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; and the LORD has proclaimed disaster against you.”

- b) Therefore, a demon instructs the "prophets" of the nations and teaches their doctrines to them.

1 Timothy 4:1–2

1 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons,

2 by means of the hypocrisy of liars seared in their own conscience as with a branding iron,

- c) These demons are responsible for the false doctrines that surround the nations of the world.

2. Deceive, make war, instigate idolatry:
 - a) Revelation 16:13-16 = the three unclean spirits are demons to whom the dragon, beast, and false prophet give authority and usefulness.
 - (1) They go out into the kings of the world and deceive them by signs and wonders (v. 14).
 - (2) Their ultimate goal, and is the goal of those who sent them, is to war against Messiah and His people (v. 14).
 - b) Revelation 18:1-3 = the Babylon is filled with demons.
 - (1) These demons are behind the very activity of the city of Babylon/Jerusalem (Revelation 11:8; 17:18).
 - (2) These demons fill, fill, the city and that hearts of the kings of the earth so that the very physical activity in that city is the

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"puppet-on-a-string" (Marionette) activity of demons led by the three lead by the dragon.

D. What will be their future judgment?

1. Next week!
- 2.

II. Conclusion