

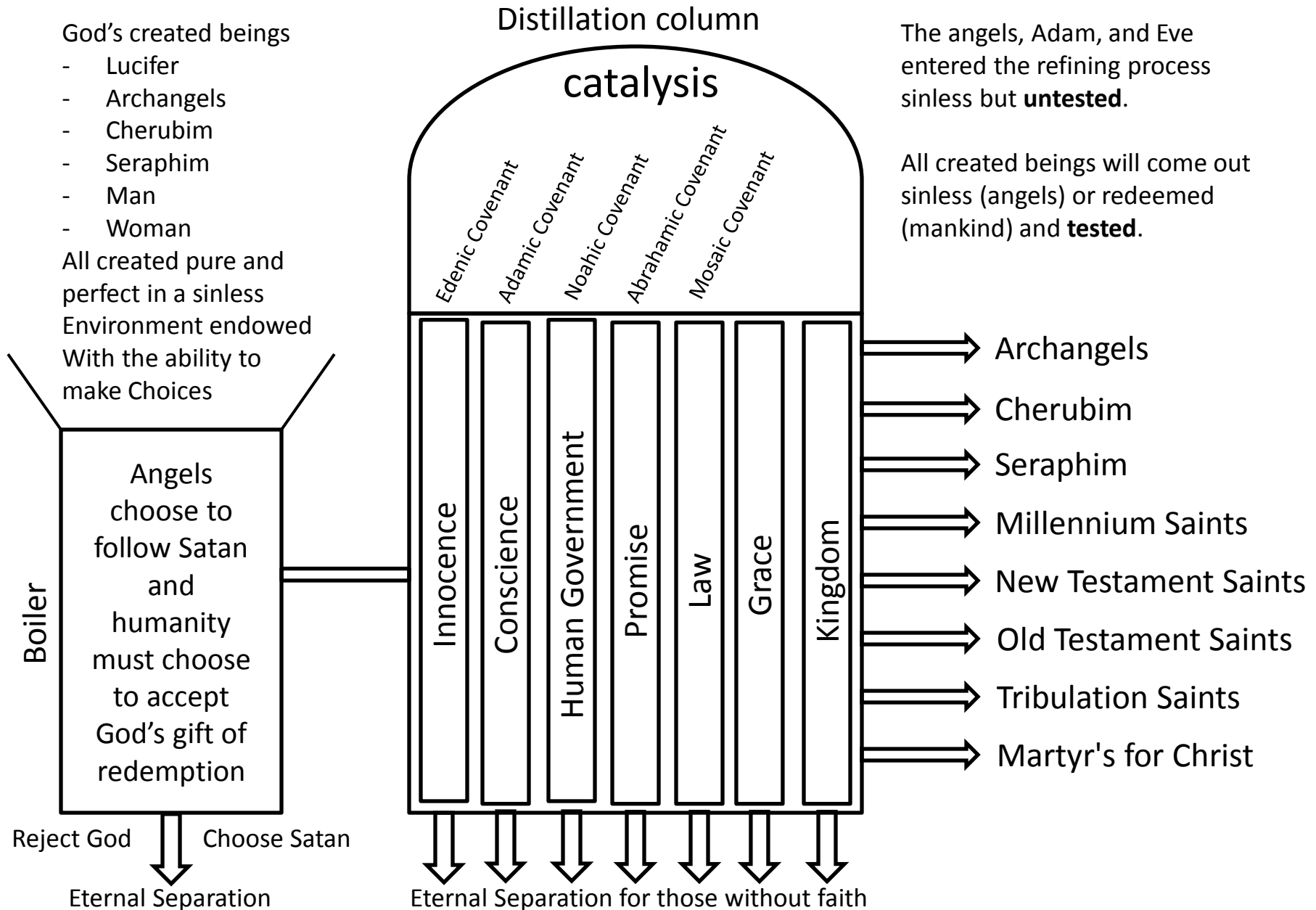
Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Revealed Plan of God from Eternity Past to Eternity Future



www.RefiningaCreation.org

God's Refining Process for His Created Beings



Refining a Creation for Eternity

God's Economies for Mankind

Overview



Edenic



Adamic

Innocence



Noahic

Human Government



Abrahamic

Promise



Mosaic

Law



Postponed

Grace



Fulfillment

Kingdom

Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

God is **OUTSIDE** and **APART**
from the **Universe**

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Review of past lessons

The Universe is HIS Creation

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Review of past lessons

We are GOD'S Creation

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We only know God by His
REVELATION to us

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Review of past lessons

God has revealed Himself to all
of us through the **SCRIPTURES**

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Review of past lessons

God's Revelation to His
Creation



Man moved by the
Holy Spirit



Inspired
Scriptures
Inerrant

Old Testament
recognized by
Jewish synagogue



New Testament
recognized by
Christian church

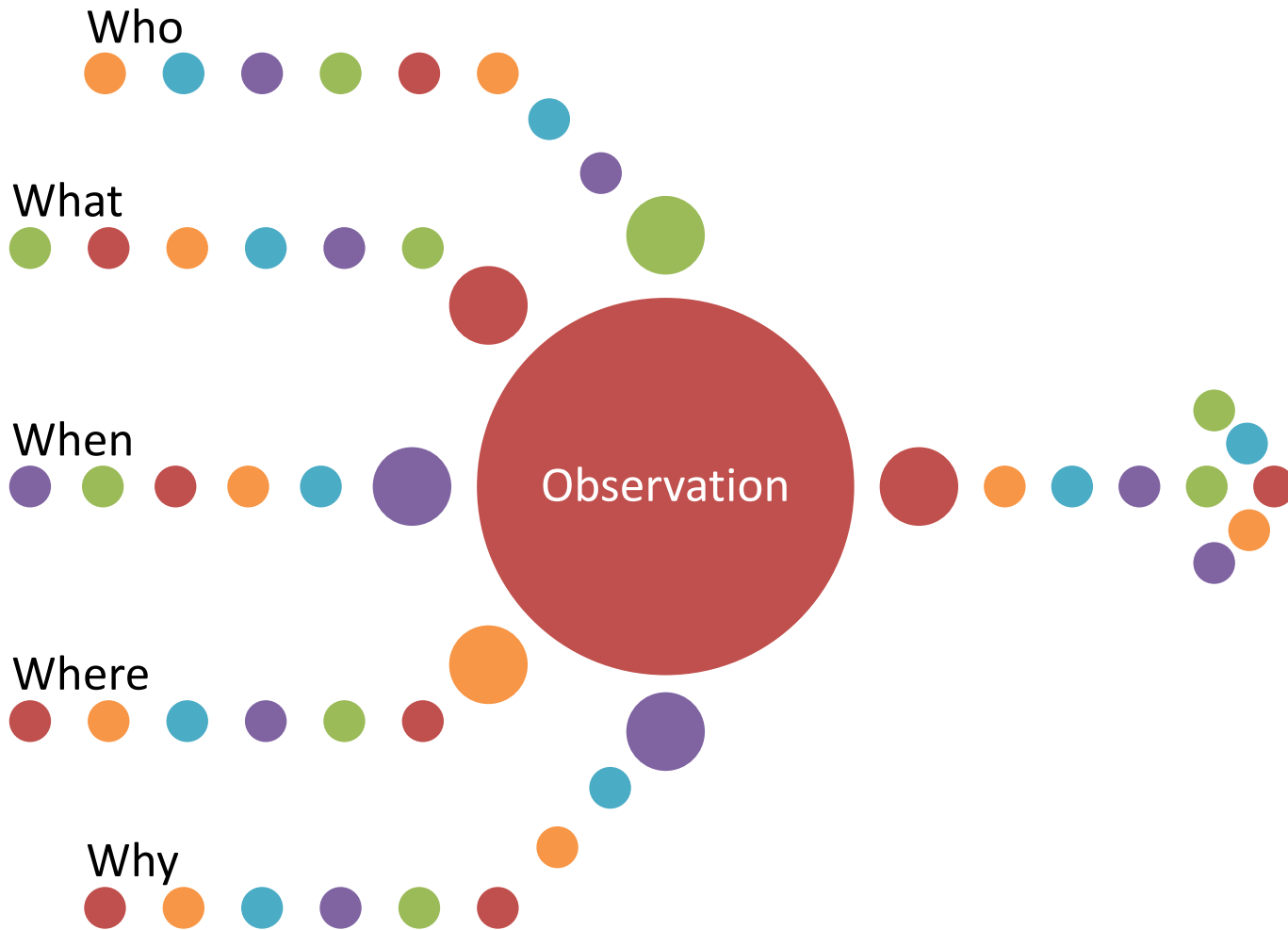


CANNON

We believe that in the composition of the **original manuscripts**, the Holy Spirit guided the authors even in their choice of expressions and this throughout all the pages of the Scriptures still without eroding the personalities of the different men.

Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

1. Scripture interprets
scripture



2. Meaning of words by
usage



3. Context,
context, context



4. Grammatico-historical
interpretation



5. Assume literal or
normal interpretation



Literal
Interpretation

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Review of past lessons

6. Figurative language
convey actual concepts



7. Human drama must
come forth



8. Culture, history,
social, etc. play part



9. Recognize God's
management in economy



10. Recognize progressive
revelation



Literal
Interpretation

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Review of past lessons

Original audience



Modern audience



Application is a bridge between the Biblical meaning and the present-day life situations

Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

1. Observation



2. Interpretation



3. Application



“All the historical, doctrinal, and practical truth of the Bible is for one purpose: to promote the spiritual prosperity of man. The Bible is not an end; it is a means.” Bernard Ramm

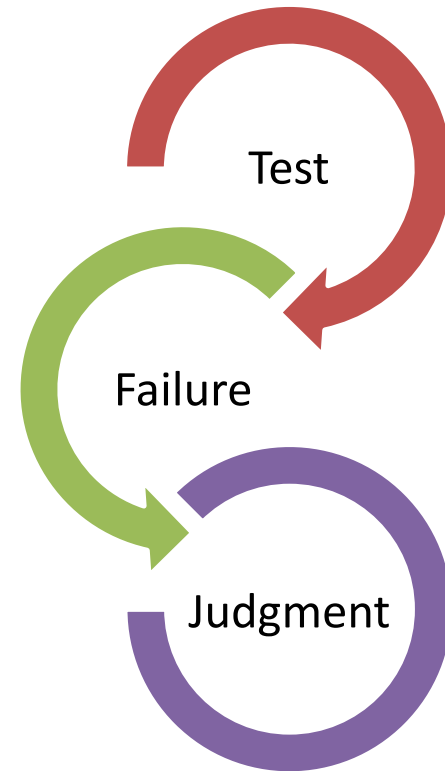
Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Dispensational Theology

“A dispensation is a distinguishable economy in the outworking of God’s purpose.”

The Greek word *oikonomia* comes from the verb that means to manage, regulate, administer, and plan. The word itself is a compound whose parts mean literally “to divide, apportion, administer or manage the affairs of an inhabited house.”



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Review of past lessons

Dispensational Theology Definitions

Covenant

- Bilateral, two-sided, temporary
- Unilateral, one-sided, permanent

Tribulation

- First purpose to bring about conversion of Nation of Israel
- Second to pour out judgment on unbelieving man and nations

Pretibulation Rapture

- The church, dead and alive, will be resurrected and translated prior to tribulation
- Rests on the literal method of interpretation

Premillennial view

- Christ will return to earth, literally and bodily before millennial age begins

Millennial Kingdom

- 1000 literal years of fulfillment of the promises given in the Abrahamic Covenant

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Review of past lessons

Indispensable Positions of a Dispensationalist

Israel & Church Distinct

- The substance of Judaism is God's consistent and **earthly** purpose
- The substance of Christianity is God's consistent and **heavenly** purpose

Distinction born out of literal interpretation

- Literal method of interpretation extends to eschatological studies
- Prophecies concerning Christ's first coming were literal, expectation of prophetic passages of second coming will be literal

Purpose of God is His divine glory

- Scripture is not man-centered as though salvation were the main theme, but it is God-centered because His glory is the center
- Salvation is not an end in itself but is rather a means to the end of glorifying God

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Review of past lessons

Dispensations Recognized by the Apostle Paul

Past ages – Prior to the Church

- Colossians 1:25-26 -Of this church I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God, that is, the mystery which has been hidden from the **past ages** and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints,

The Church – The stewardship of God's grace

- Ephesians 3:1-3 - For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles if indeed you have heard of the **stewardship of God's grace** which was given to me for you; that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief.

The Kingdom – The fullness of the times

- Ephesians 1:9-10 - He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to **the fullness of the times**, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth.

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Review of past lessons

Common throughout all Dispensations

History is from the viewpoint of God.

Clear time when one ends and another begins but allowing for transition.

God is moving everything in His ordained direction.

New revelation designates shift from one dispensation to another.

Some things remain the same but other things differ. Salvation always by faith.

Each has own responsibilities and tests.

Each dispensation moves God's plan closer to completion.

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Review of past lessons

Angels - Nature and Attributes

Spirit beings

- Reveal in the form of human bodies (Gen. 18:3), “spirits” (Heb. 1:14), no marriage (Mark 12:25) no death (Luke 20:36).

Created beings

- The Lord created the angels by His word (Ps. 148:2–5). Angels sang praise (Job 38:6–7). Christ created (Col. 1:16).

Created simultaneously and are innumerable in number

- Singular act (Col 1:16); no reproducing (Matt. 22:30), “myriads” (Heb. 12:22), “countless thousands” (cf. Rev. 5:11).

Higher order than man

- Mankind, is “lower than the angels” (Heb. 2:7). No death (Luke 20:36). greater wisdom (2 Sam. 14:20), yet limited (Matt. 24:36). Greater power (Matt. 28:2; Acts 5:19; 2 Pet. 2:11), yet limited (Dan. 10:13).

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Review of past lessons

Angels - Prominent Individuals

Michael

- Michael (Dan. 10:13; 12:1; Jude 9). The name Michael means “who is like God?” and identifies the only one classified as an archangel in Scripture. Michael is the defender of Israel who will wage war on behalf of Israel against Satan and his hordes in the Tribulation (Rev. 12:7–9). Michael also disputed with Satan about the body of Moses, but Michael refrained from judgment, leaving that to God (Jude 9).

Gabriel

- Gabriel (Dan. 9:21; Luke 1:26). His name means “man of God” or “God is strong.” Gabriel explained the events of the seventy weeks for Israel (Dan. 9:21–27). In Luke 1:26–27 Gabriel told Mary that the One born to her would be great and rule on the throne of David. In Daniel 8:15–16 Gabriel explained to Daniel the succeeding kingdoms of Medo-Persia and Greece. Gabriel also announced the birth of John the Baptist to Zacharias (Luke 1:11–20).

Lucifer

- Lucifer (Isa. 14:12) means “shining one” or “star of the morning.” He may have been the wisest and most beautiful of all God’s created beings who was originally placed in a position of authority over the cherubim surrounding the throne of God.

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Review of past lessons

Angels - Divine Attendants

Cherubim

- Cherubim are “of the highest order or class, created with indescribable powers and beauty. Proclaimers and protectors of God’s glorious presence, His sovereignty, and His holiness. They stood guard at the gate of the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3:24); Golden figures covering the mercy seat (Exod. 25:17–22); Attended the glory of God in Ezekiel’s vision (Ezek. 1). Extraordinary appearance with four faces—that of a man, lion, ox, and eagle. They have four wings and feet like a calf, gleaming like burnished bronze. In Ezekiel 1 they attended the glory of God preparatory for judgment.

Seraphim

- Seraphim, meaning “burning ones,” are pictured surrounding the throne of God in Isaiah 6:2. They are described as each having six wings. In their threefold proclamation, “holy, holy, holy” (Isa. 6:3), it means “to recognize God as extremely, perfectly holy. Therefore, they praise and proclaim the perfect holiness of God. The seraphim also express the holiness of God in that they proclaim that man must be cleansed of sin’s moral defilement before he can stand before God and serve Him.”

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Review of past lessons

Angels – Ministry to Christ

Angels predicted His birth - Luke 1:26–38

Angels protected Him in infancy - Matt. 2:13, 20

Angels ministered to Him after the temptation - Matt. 4:11

Angels strengthened Him at Gethsemane - Luke 22:43

Angels announced His resurrection - Mt. 28:5–7; Mk 16:6–7; Lk 24:4–7; Jn 20:12–13

Angels attended His ascension - Acts 1:10

Angels will attend His Second Coming - Matt. 25:31

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Review of past lessons

Angels - Ministry to Believers

Physical protection – Ps. 34:7, 35:4-5, 91:11-13; Acts 5:19, 12:7-11; Rev. 7:1-14

Physical provision – 1 Kings 19:5-7

Encouragement – Acts 27:23-25

Direction – Acts 8:26, 10:3,22

Assist in answers to prayer – Acts 12:1-11; Dan. 9:20-27, 10:10 – 12:13

Carry believers home – Luke 16:22

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Review of past lessons

Angels - Relationship to Unbelievers

Announced the destruction of Sodom – Gen. 19:12-13

Will announce destruction of world powers – Rev. 14:4-18

Judged the people of Jerusalem for idolatry – Ezek. 9:1-11

Struck Herod Agrippa I dead for his blasphemy – Acts 12:23

Will cast unbelievers into furnace of fire – Matt. 13:39-42

Will sound the trumpets during the Tribulation – Rev. 8:2-12, 9:1, 13, 11:15

Will pour out the bowl judgments upon earth – Rev. 16:2-17

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Review of past lessons

Fallen
Angels

Purpose

Promote Satan's program in opposing God by promoting rebellion, idolatry, false religions, and oppression of mankind.

Relation to
Believers

Wage war, accuse, plant doubt, tempt to sin, persecute, prevent service, disturb the church.

Destiny

Defeated by Christ and will be cast into the abyss during Millennium and cast into lake of fire as final punishment

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Review of past lessons

Faithful
Angels

Purpose

To serve God in worship, in ministry, in being God's messengers, to act in God's government, protecting God's people, and executing God's judgment.

Relation to
Believers

Reveal truth, guide, provide physical needs, protect, deliver, encourage, act in answering prayer, accompany the dead.

Destiny

To be in God's presence and Christ's presence in His kingdom.

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The Angelic Conflict

Satan

The Beginning



Isaiah 14:12-14

“How you have fallen from heaven, O star of the morning, son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the earth, You who have weakened the nations! “But you said in your heart, ‘**I will** ascend to heaven; **I will** raise my throne above the stars of God, And **I will** sit on the mount of assembly In the recesses of the north. ‘**I will** ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I will** make myself like the Most High.’

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Satan

The Beginning



Isaiah 14:15-17

“Nevertheless you will be thrust down to Sheol, To the recesses of the pit. “Those who see you will gaze at you, They will ponder over you, saying, ‘Is this the man who made the earth tremble, Who shook kingdoms, Who made the world like a wilderness And overthrew its cities, Who did not allow his prisoners to go home?’”

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Satan

The Beginning

Ezekiel 28:12–15

“Son of man, take up a lamentation over the king of Tyre and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord GOD, “You had the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. “You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz and the diamond; The beryl, the onyx and the jasper; The lapis lazuli, the turquoise and the emerald; And the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were created They were prepared. “You were the anointed cherub who covers, And I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked in the midst of the stones of fire. “You were blameless in your ways From the day you were created Until unrighteousness was found in you.

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Satan

The Beginning

Ezekiel 28:16–19

“By the abundance of your trade You were internally filled with violence, And you sinned; Therefore I have cast you as profane From the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the stones of fire. “Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, That they may see you. “By the multitude of your iniquities, In the unrighteousness of your trade You profaned your sanctuaries. Therefore I have brought fire from the midst of you; It has consumed you, And I have turned you to ashes on the earth In the eyes of all who see you. “All who know you among the peoples Are appalled at you; You have become terrified And you will cease to be forever.” ’ ”

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The Angelic Conflict

Satan

The Fall

Three Possibilities for timing

- I. End of Seven Days of Creation
- II. Before Gen 1:1
- III. Between Gen 1:1 and 1:2

Luke 10:17-19

The seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name.” And He said to them, “I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. “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.

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The Angelic Conflict

Satan

The Judgment

Satan fell from his original exalted position.

Satan's ultimate defeat was pronounced in Eden.

Satan was rendered powerless through the cross.

Satan will be cast out of heaven during the Tribulation.

Satan will be bound in the pit for 1,000 years.

Satan will finally be cast into the lake of fire.

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The Angelic Conflict

Satan

The Penalty

Matthew 25:41

“Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire **which has been prepared** for the devil and his angels;

Revelation 20:10

And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

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The Angelic Conflict

Satan

Satan's challenge of God's Integrity and Attempt to Destroy

Satan – Enmity Toward God.

Satan – Egoism that Distorts Reality.

Satan – Elimination of Divinely Ordained Roles.

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The Angelic Conflict

Satan

Postponement of Penalty to Demonstrate Righteousness and Grace thru Christ

Christ – Emphasis on Love for God.

Christ – Exhibited Perfect Humility.

Christ – Established Role as Sacrificial Servant.

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The Angelic Conflict

Satan

Current Activities

Satan binds the lost (Matt 13:19; Mark 4:15; Luke 8:12; 2 Cor 4:4)

Through counterfeit religions that mimic true faith

By false doctrines (1 Tim 4:1)

By false ministers (Matt 7:15, 21-23; 2 Cor 11:13-15)

By false Christ's (Matt 24:23-24; 1 John 2:18, 22; 4:3)

By false followers (Matt 13:25, 36-39)

By a false, complicated, and perverted gospel (2 Cor 11:3-4; Gal 1:8)

By false religions (Matt 12:27; Rev 2:9)

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The Angelic Conflict

Satan

Current Activities (cont.)

Satan binds the lost (Matt 13:19; Mark 4:15; Luke 8:12; 2 Cor 4:4)

Through religions and philosophies that are openly anti-Christian

By materialism, the lust of the eyes (John 13:2, 27)

By hedonism, the lust of the flesh (Eph 2:1-3; John 3:19-20)

By spiritism

Direct devil worship (Lev 19:31; 20:6, 27; Deut 18:9-12)

Idolatry (Deut 32:16-17; Ps 106:36-37)

Self worship, humanism (1 Sam 15:23)

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The Angelic Conflict

Satan

Current Activities (cont.)

Satan opposes God's people (Matt 16:23; 2 Cor 2:11; Eph 6:11-12)

Satan opposes believers through temptation (Matt 4:1; 1 Thes 3:5)

Temptation to materialism (Matt 6:24; 1 John 2:15-17)

Temptation to immorality (1 Cor 7:5)

Temptation to pride and self-sufficiency (1 Chr 21:1; 1 Tim 3:6)

Temptation to lie (John 8:44; Acts 5:3)

Temptation to doubt (Gen 3:1-5)

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The Angelic Conflict

Satan

Current Activities (cont.)

Satan opposes God's people (Matt 16:23; 2 Cor 2:11; Eph 6:11-12)

Satan opposes believers through divisions (Eph 4:26-27; James 3:14-16)

Satan opposes believers by accusing them (Luke 22:31-32; 1 Pet 5:7-9)

Satan opposes by trying to destroy Christian leaders (1 Chr 21:1; 1 Tim 3:7)

Satan opposes by mixing unbelievers in church (Matt 7:15; Acts 20:29)

Satan can oppose believers by causing physical problems (Job 2:7; 2 Cor 12:7)

Satan can oppose thru civil govt. and persecution (Dan 10:10ff; Rev 2:10)

Satan .. by lies (Jn 8:44), false miracles (2 Thes 2:9), and hindrances (1 Thes 2:18)

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The Angelic Conflict

Mankind in Relation to Angelic Conflict

Ephesians 6:12

For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere. (*Amplified Bible*)

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Mankind in Relation to Angelic Conflict

1. Satan attacked man's volition, which is focal point of man's character and the angelic conflict.
2. The failure of human volition mirrors the failure of the angelic volition prior to the rebellion.
3. Satan scored a tactical victory in the garden.
4. God knew Adam would fall and provided a grace plan.

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Mankind in Relation to Angelic Conflict (cont.)

5. Satan's tactical victory sealed his defeat.
6. In man's fall, Adam violated:
 - a. Personal love for God
 - b. Reversed the male/female roles that God had ordained
 - c. Rejected position as servant of God
7. As a result of fall, God is able to demonstrate His righteousness and justice and that it is compatible with His love that He demonstrated thru His grace.