

SATANOLGY

Int.

1. Aim: To give information about the Devil or Satan; reality, origin, names, purpose, ways and destiny.
2. 1 Pet. 5:8 adversary the devil
3. There are two opposite errors about the devil:
 - a. Disbelieve and deny his existence - or...
 - b. Have an excessive interest in him - Satanism
4. A study and proper understanding of what the Bible says about Satan will keep us from falling into either of these errors.
5. Some people might question, "Why we should even study about the devil."
 - a. After all, there is enough trouble in life. Let's just leave him alone."
 - b. But to do so is to ignore a considerable portion of God's revelation to us in Scripture.
 - c. Satan is mentioned throughout the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.
 - d. While our need is to dwell on the riches of Christ rather than on Satan and the demons, we do need to know this doctrine of the Bible that we might be alert to who and what he is.
 - e. The study of Satan teaches us about his character, purposes, the nature of temptation, and the Christian's provision against him.
 - f. The Bible's teaching about Satan is part of "the faith," the body of God's revealed truth.
6. To be forewarned is to be forearmed!
7. Satan is a constant threat to all that is good and an enemy of all righteousness. He is every man's enemy.

Discussion

I. WHO OR WHAT IS SATAN?

- A. Some people believe that he is merely an idea. A joke to many!
- B. However, the Bible clearly indicates that Satan is a being with an identity, mind, and will of his own.
1. **Job 1:6-12** Satan talked with God about Job - tried Job
 2. Jesus and the devil confronted and spoke with each other in the wilderness of Judea **Mt.4:1-11**.
 3. That just doesn't sound like an IDEA to me! He is REAL.
 4. To question the personal nature of the devil is nothing more than to doubt the personal nature of the Son of God.
- C. NOTICE also that just as the devil is a personal being, he is also a spiritual rather than a physical being. Eph.6:11-12 **"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."**
- D. Mythical "Satan's" abound, but there is no biblical evidence that the devil ever appeared as a bat-winged, cloven hoofed, horned creature dressed in a red suit and armed with a pitchfork.
- E. We have made a cartoon character out of Satan!!! Pitchfork, red suit, horns - ugly looking character.

F. His personal appearance is never described

1. It is only in the symbolic visions of Revelation that Satan is seen as "a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns" (ch.12)
2. However, in the same visions, Jesus is portrayed as a lamb with seven horns and seven eyes.

II. ORIGIN OF SATAN

A. A Creature

1. Some people have the misconception about the devil that he is somehow coequal and co-eternal with God, fighting an historic battle which either could ultimately win
2. But only the Godhead is purely divine and eternal in existence. the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are members of that Godhood and are described as eternal creators
 - a. The devil is not Creator, but creature
 - b. God made the devil
 - c. But he did not create him with the express purpose of being evil: Gen. 1:1-2, 26, 31

B. He is not self existent

1. That would make him equal with Deity -- Therefore he would be a member of the Godhead.
2. He is not all powerful -
 - a. In Job God limited what he was able to do to Job - Job 1:14 - "**only upon himself put not forth thine hand.**"

b. And then in Job 2:6 God says to Satan "**Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life.**"

3. He was a created being - Jn.1:3 "**All things were made through him [Christ].**"

C. Satan was created by God

1. Gen. 1:31 "**And God saw every thing that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.**"

2. Satan was created by God. But he created all things Good.

3. But did He create him as he now is: evil? No!!!

4. The same question could be asked about men.

a. There is not a righteous man upon the earth - Rom. 3:10 Ps. 14:3

b. Is this how God made us: full of hate, selfishness & rebellion?

c. The book of Genesis tells us that when God had created the universe and man, God said that everything he had made was "very good" It is easy to see that things are not this way now.

d. God created man in His own image, a moral creature with a will, - Free to make choices. And He urged us to choose the good, & holy However, we have chosen instead the evil. Rm. 3:10-12, 23

D. Satan was created good but he fell

1. 1 Jn. 3:8 "**He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.**"

a. He sinned from the beginning - from the first sin which resulted in his becoming the devil

- b. Satan had the ability to make free will choices and he elected to do evil.
 - c. He was the first sinner
 - d. He is the source of sin - the fountain from which it springs
 - e. He was the original sinner, and has continued in sin.
 - f. He is the author of all evil - Jn. 8:44
2. II Pet. 2:4 **"For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;"**
- JUDE 6. **"And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day."**
- a. Angels had some laws to obey - but they sinned and sin is the transgression of the law - 1 Jn.3:4
 - b. If Satan was created good, but is now evil, it is obvious that he fell, just as these angels fell. Some angels have rebelled against God.
 - c. It is possible, even probable, that Satan could be a fallen angel. However, this is nowhere explicitly stated in the Scripture.
3. His original fall is never described for us.
- a. The reference to the fall of "Lucifer" in Isa.14:12 is speaking of the king of Babylon (14:4), not the devil.
 - b. Jesus' statement about seeing Satan fall like lightning in Luke 10:18 has reference to the defeat of Satan's agents by the power of the Holy Spirit .
 - c. And Rev.12 speaks of the downfall of Satan brought about by the redemptive blood of God's Son.
 - d. Men have attached the name Lucifer to the devil, but God never did.

4. Still, it is evident that at some point (apparently before creation) Satan fell by rebellious pride into sin.
 - a. 1 Tim. 3:6 "**lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.**"
 - b. Fall like the Devil did - with pride.

III. THE NAMES OF SATAN

A. Proper names

1. Satan - Acts 5:3 Job 1:6
2. Adversary [as in war], enemy - Found in 49 verses in O.T. & N.T. in 16 books of Bible - 1 Pet. 5:8
3. Devil - Rev. 12:9 = slander, an accuser, calumniator found in 57 verses in N.T. only in 14 books of NT

B. Descriptive titles

1. Serpent - Rev. 20:2 == sly
2. Wicked one - Mt. 13:19
3. Evil one - Mt. 13:19 asv
4. Enemy - Mt. 13:39 == adversary
5. Evil Spirit - 1 Sam. 16;14
6. Lying Spirit - 1 kings 22:22
7. Spirit that worketh in children of disobedience - Eph. 2:2
8. Prince of this world - Jn. 14:30
9. Prince of power of air - Eph. 2:2

10. Prince of Devils - Mk. 3:22
 11. Tempter - 1 Thes. 3:5 Mt. 4:3
 12. Hinderer - 1 Thes. 2:18 -- NIV -- "stopped"
 13. Accuser - Rev. 12:10
 14. Deceiver of whole world - Rev. 12:9
 15. Murderer - Jn. 8:44
 16. Father of lies - Jn. 8:44
 17. Angel of Bottomless pit - Rev. 9:11
 18. Angel of Abyss - Rev. 9:11 asv
 19. Angel of Light - 1 Cor. 11:14
 20. Great Red Dragon- Rev. 12;3
 21. Belial - 2 Cor. 6:15 = the worthless one, reckless, lawless
 22. Apollyon and Abaddon - Rev. 9:11 -- destroying angel
 23. Power of Darkness - Col. 1:13
 24. Ruler of darkness - Eph. 6:12
 25. The God of this world - 2 Cor. 4:4
 26. Adversary - 1 Pet. 5:8
 27. Roaring Lion - 1 Pet. 5:8
 28. Beelzebub - [Beelzebul] Mt. 12:24 Mk. 3:22 - he was the "dung-god" -- he was the prince of all moral impurity.
- C. A war-time expression was "Know your enemy"
1. We are at war.
 2. It is to our advantage to not be ignorant.

IV. MISSION OF SATAN

- A. Destroy all men --- chief goal
 - 1. Rev. 9:11 - Apollyon = destroyer
 - a. He tried to destroy humanity by tempting Jesus* Mt.4:1-11
 - b. But he failed

 - 2. 1 Pet. 5:8
 - a. Adversary = opponent
 - b. Roaring Lion = strength and ferocity to destroy
 - c. Walking about = searches out, prowls about
 - d. Seeking = he is persistent
 - e. Devour

- B. Method of Satan's work
 - 1. Not by direct possession
 - a. Evil spirits and demons possessed people in the 1st century.
 - b. But that does not take place today

 - 2. Today he works through temptation
 - a. 1 Cor. 7:5; 10:13; Jas. 1:12-15
 - b. There are three channels of temptation - 1Jn.2:15-17
 - (1) Lust of the Flesh
 - (2) Lust of the eyes
 - (3) Pride of life

C. The Devices of Satan - 2 Cor. 2:11

1. Keep man in ignorance of God's word

- a. Lk. 8:11-12 **"Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12. Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved."**
- b. He knows man will turn if he realizes his condition and what he must do to have salvation
- c. He works hard to blind the eyes of man to the truth
- d. He will pervert the truth

2. Beguiles man

- a. 2 Cor. 11:3 **"But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ."**
- b. Beguile = to charm, lure, to fascinate, please greatly
- c. Hypnotism - charms, hold an object before eyes to attract attention
- d. The Devil beguiles men by getting them to believe that this life with all its pleasures and sins is the purpose for life. You only go around once, so you better take advantage of it right now.
- e. Disregards the fact that this life is only the beginning of an unending life.

3. Attempts to discourage those who try to do God's Will

- a. The devil wants us to be discouraged
- b. Often the reason for discouragement is because we say that others refuse to treat us as they should.

- c. When our mind dwells on all the things that are going wrong, we will be discouraged.
- d. It requires a diligent effort to withstand. We have a responsibility to others. One can take a defeatist attitude, or can determine to encourage self and others to continue to do that which is right.
- e. Gal. 6:9

4. ATTEMPTS TO CAUSE US TO PROCRASTINATE

- a. He wants us to keep on saying "tomorrow"
- b. In reality, when some says "tomorrow" he is saying "NO",. Tomorrow is uncertain.
- c. Today is the only day we have 2 Cor. 6:2 "**Now is the day of salvation...**"
- d. Tomorrow has sent more men to hell than all other causes combined. Where one man has died and gone to hell because he was an infidel, an agnostic, or an atheist, TEN THOUSAND HAVE GONE BECAUSE THEY HAVE COUNTED ON "TOMORROW"
- e. Tomorrow is Satan's best scheme in keeping lost men lost. Satan knows he will never destroy your faith in the Bible, or your belief in the love of God.
 - (1) He does not care that you realize that your are lost and that you need to be a Christian.
 - (2) He knows all of these things are of no avail to you if he can keep you waiting until "Tomorrow".

V. HOW DO WE RESIST THE DEVIL ?

A. Know that He can be resisted

1. Jas. 4:7,8
2. Man is a free moral agent and we can choose what we do.
3. If we resist he will flee

B. We must hide the word of God in our heart

1. Ps. 119:11,12
2. This enables us to respond with: "it is written"

C. Realize there is an escape

1. 1 Cor. 10:13
2. Escape = exit, a way out
3. We must never under-estimate the power of Satan, but it is equally true that we must not over-estimate him. We can overcome the devil and his temptations.

Conclusion

1. Satan is real and is dangerous
2. We do not know for sure about his origin, but we do know for sure where he is going.
 - a. His destiny, not his origin should concern us more.
 - b. Mt. 25:31-46 - hell is prepared for the Devil & his angels
 - c. Rev. 20:10 The devil is doomed to eternal destruction.

3. Satan is not the one who confines people to hell. He is not the keeper of hell.
 - a. It is God who sends men to the lake of fire to join Satan
 - b. Those who lose their soul in hell do so because they have rejected Jesus Christ.
4. Our eternal destiny will be either with God or Satan!
 - a. We have a choice
 - b. Sin unto death or Obedience unto righteousness - Rm. 6:16

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