

Message Two

God, Man, and Satan

RK *Hymns*: 124

Scripture Reading: Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7;

Matt. 12:26; Heb. 2:14; Rom. 16:20; Rev. 12:5, 7-11

- Job 1:6 Then one day, when the sons of God came to present themselves before Jehovah, Satan also came among them.
- Job 1:7 And Jehovah said to Satan, Where have you come from? And Satan answered Jehovah and said, From roving the earth and going about in it.
- Job 1:8 And Jehovah said to Satan, Have you considered My servant Job? For there is none like him on the earth, a perfect and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil.
- Job 1:9 Then Satan answered Jehovah and said, Does Job fear God without cause?
- Job 1:10 Have You not set a hedge around him and his household and all that he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his possessions are spread throughout the land.
- Job 1:11 But stretch forth Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face.
- Job 1:12 And Jehovah said to Satan, Here is all that he has, in your hand; only do not stretch forth your hand against him. And Satan went forth from Jehovah's presence.
- Job 2:1 Then one day, when the sons of God came to present themselves before Jehovah, Satan also came among them to present himself before Jehovah.
- Job 2:2 And Jehovah said to Satan, Where have you come from? And Satan answered Jehovah and said, From roving the earth and going about in it.
- Job 2:3 And Jehovah said to Satan, Have you considered My servant Job? For there is none like him on the earth, a perfect and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil. And he still holds fast his integrity, though you have moved Me against him to destroy him without cause.
- Job 2:4 Then Satan answered Jehovah and said, Skin for skin! Indeed all that a man has he will give for the sake of his life.
- Job 2:5 But stretch forth Your hand, and touch his bone and his flesh; and he will surely curse You to Your face.
- Job 2:6 And Jehovah said to Satan, Here he is, in your hand; only spare his life.
- Job 2:7 And Satan went forth from Jehovah's presence and struck Job with severe boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.
- Matt 12:26 And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?
- Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,
- Rom 16:20 Now the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.
- Rev 12:5 And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.
- Rev 12:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels went to war with the dragon. And the dragon warred and his angels.
- Rev 12:8 And they did not prevail, neither was their place found any longer in heaven.
- Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was cast down, the ancient serpent, he who is called the Devil and Satan, he who deceives the whole inhabited earth; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast down with him.
- Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.
- Rev 12:11 And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.

I. The entire Bible is a record of the things concerning God, man, and Satan; therefore, in our reading of the Bible, we need to know not only the things concerning God and man but also the things concerning Satan—Gen. 1:1, 26-28; 3:1, 4, 15; Isa. 14:12-14; Ezek. 28:12-19:

Gen 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

- Gen 1:26 And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.
- Gen 1:27 And God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
- Gen 1:28 And God blessed them; and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of heaven and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.
- Gen 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any other animal of the field that Jehovah God had made. And he said to the woman, Did God really say, You shall not eat of any tree of the garden?
- Gen 3:4 And the serpent said to the woman, You shall not surely die!
- Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity / Between you and the woman / And between your seed and her seed; / He will bruise you on the head, / But you will bruise him on the heel.
- Isa 14:12 How you have fallen from heaven, / O Daystar, son of the dawn! / How you have been hewn down to earth, / You who made nations fall prostrate!
- Isa 14:13 But you, you said in your heart: / I will ascend to heaven; / Above the stars of God / I will exalt my throne. / And I will sit upon the mount of assembly / In the uttermost parts of the north.
- Isa 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; / I will make myself like the Most High.
- Ezek 28:12 Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, Thus says the Lord Jehovah, O you who sealed up perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty,
- Ezek 28:13 You were in Eden, the garden of God. Every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, diamond, chrysolite, onyx, jasper, sapphire, carbuncle, and emerald, with gold. The workmanship of your tambourines and your pipes was prepared with you on the day that you were created.
- Ezek 28:14 You were the anointed cherub who covered the Ark; indeed I set you, so that you were upon the holy mountain of God; you walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.
- Ezek 28:15 You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you.
- Ezek 28:16 By the abundance of your trading they filled your midst with violence, and you sinned. So I cast you out as profane from the mountain of God, and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.
- Ezek 28:17 Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness. I cast you to the ground; I presented you before kings that they may look at you.
- Ezek 28:18 By the multitude of your iniquities in the unrighteousness of your trading you have profaned your sanctuaries. Therefore I sent forth fire from your midst; it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all those who look at you.
- Ezek 28:19 All who know you among the peoples are astonished at you. You have become a source of terror, and you will be no more forever.
- A. Satan was an angel and an anointed cherub created by God before God created the earth; he was the highest among the angels—vv. 12-15; Job 38:4-7:
- Ezek 28:12 Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, Thus says the Lord Jehovah, O you who sealed up perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty,
- Ezek 28:13 You were in Eden, the garden of God. Every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, diamond, chrysolite, onyx, jasper, sapphire, carbuncle, and emerald, with gold. The workmanship of your tambourines and your pipes was prepared with you on the day that you were created.
- Ezek 28:14 You were the anointed cherub who covered the Ark; indeed I set you, so that you were upon the holy mountain of God; you walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.
- Ezek 28:15 You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you.
- Job 38:4 Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? / Tell Me, if you have understanding.
- Job 38:5 Who set its measurements—if you know? / Or who stretched the measuring line over it?
- Job 38:6 Onto what were its bases sunk, / Or who laid its cornerstone,
- Job 38:7 When the morning stars sang together / And all the sons of God shouted for joy?

1. Satan was the “Daystar, son of the dawn” (Isa. 14:12), one of the first angels created by God at the “dawn” of the universe, appointed by God to be the head of all the angels (Ezek. 28:14; Jude 9).
 - Isa 14:12 How you have fallen from heaven, / O Daystar, son of the dawn! / How you have been hewn down to earth, / You who made nations fall prostrate!
 - Ezek 28:14 You were the anointed cherub who covered the Ark; indeed I set you, so that you were upon the holy mountain of God; you walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.
 - Jude 9 But Michael the archangel, when he contended with the devil and disputed concerning the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a reviling judgment against him but said, The Lord rebuke you.
 2. The anointed cherub was appointed by God to rule over the preadamic universe (Luke 4:6); the anointed cherub was the one closest to God, and having both the kingship and the priesthood, he held the highest position in God’s creation (Ezek. 28:13).
 - Luke 4:6 And the devil said to Him, To You I will give all this authority and their glory, because to me it has been delivered, and to whomever I want I give it.
 - Ezek 28:13 You were in Eden, the garden of God. Every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, diamond, chrysolite, onyx, jasper, sapphire, carbuncle, and emerald, with gold. The workmanship of your tambourines and your pipes was prepared with you on the day that you were created.
- B. Satan’s rebellion against God is revealed in Isaiah 14:13-14 and Ezekiel 28:15-18:
- Isa 14:13 But you, you said in your heart: / I will ascend to heaven; / Above the stars of God / I will exalt my throne. / And I will sit upon the mount of assembly / In the uttermost parts of the north.
 - Isa 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; / I will make myself like the Most High.
 - Ezek 28:15 You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you.
 - Ezek 28:16 By the abundance of your trading they filled your midst with violence, and you sinned. So I cast you out as profane from the mountain of God, and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.
 - Ezek 28:17 Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness. I cast you to the ground; I presented you before kings that they may look at you.
 - Ezek 28:18 By the multitude of your iniquities in the unrighteousness of your trading you have profaned your sanctuaries. Therefore I sent forth fire from your midst; it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all those who look at you.
1. Satan rebelled against God because of the pride in his heart; his heart was lifted up because of his beauty—Isa. 14:13-14; Ezek. 28:17.
 - Isa 14:13 But you, you said in your heart: / I will ascend to heaven; / Above the stars of God / I will exalt my throne. / And I will sit upon the mount of assembly / In the uttermost parts of the north.
 - Isa 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; / I will make myself like the Most High.
 - Ezek 28:17 Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness. I cast you to the ground; I presented you before kings that they may look at you.
 2. Satan’s intention was to overthrow God’s authority and to exalt himself to be equal with God; in his rebellion against God, Satan wanted to be on the same level as God—Isa. 14:13.
 - Isa 14:13 But you, you said in your heart: / I will ascend to heaven; / Above the stars of God / I will exalt my throne. / And I will sit upon the mount of assembly / In the uttermost parts of the north.
- C. Because of his rebellion, Satan became God’s adversary, God’s enemy—Zech. 3:1-2; Rev. 12:9a; 20:2a:
- Zech 3:1 Then He showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of Jehovah and Satan standing at his right hand to be his adversary.

- Zech 3:2 And Jehovah said to Satan, Jehovah rebuke you, Satan! Indeed, Jehovah, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?
- Rev 12:9a And the great dragon was cast down, the ancient serpent, he who is called the Devil and Satan, he who deceives the whole inhabited earth; ...
- Rev 20:2a And he laid hold of the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, ...
1. *Satan* means “adversary”; as God’s adversary, Satan opposes God—Job 1:7, 12; 2:1, 6; Rev. 20:2.
 - Job 1:7 And Jehovah said to Satan, Where have you come from? And Satan answered Jehovah and said, From roving the earth and going about in it.
 - Job 1:12 And Jehovah said to Satan, Here is all that he has, in your hand; only do not stretch forth your hand against him. And Satan went forth from Jehovah’s presence.
 - Job 2:1 Then one day, when the sons of God came to present themselves before Jehovah, Satan also came among them to present himself before Jehovah.
 - Job 2:6 And Jehovah said to Satan, Here he is, in your hand; only spare his life.
 - Rev 20:2 And he laid hold of the dragon, the ancient serpent, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years
 2. *Enemy* refers to the foe outside of God’s kingdom, whereas *adversary* refers to the foe from within God’s kingdom.
 3. Satan is not only God’s enemy outside of God’s kingdom but also God’s adversary from within God’s kingdom, rebelling against God.

II. The scene in Job 1 and 2 depicts two councils held in heaven concerning Job—1:6-12; 2:1-7:

- Job 1, 2 be omitted.
 - Job 1:6 Then one day, when the sons of God came to present themselves before Jehovah, Satan also came among them.
 - Job 1:7 And Jehovah said to Satan, Where have you come from? And Satan answered Jehovah and said, From roving the earth and going about in it.
 - Job 1:8 And Jehovah said to Satan, Have you considered My servant Job? For there is none like him on the earth, a perfect and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil.
 - Job 1:9 Then Satan answered Jehovah and said, Does Job fear God without cause?
 - Job 1:10 Have You not set a hedge around him and his household and all that he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his possessions are spread throughout the land.
 - Job 1:11 But stretch forth Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face.
 - Job 1:12 And Jehovah said to Satan, Here is all that he has, in your hand; only do not stretch forth your hand against him. And Satan went forth from Jehovah’s presence.
 - Job 2:1 Then one day, when the sons of God came to present themselves before Jehovah, Satan also came among them to present himself before Jehovah.
 - Job 2:2 And Jehovah said to Satan, Where have you come from? And Satan answered Jehovah and said, From roving the earth and going about in it.
 - Job 2:3 And Jehovah said to Satan, Have you considered My servant Job? For there is none like him on the earth, a perfect and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil. And he still holds fast his integrity, though you have moved Me against him to destroy him without cause.
 - Job 2:4 Then Satan answered Jehovah and said, Skin for skin! Indeed all that a man has he will give for the sake of his life.
 - Job 2:5 But stretch forth Your hand, and touch his bone and his flesh; and he will surely curse You to Your face.
 - Job 2:6 And Jehovah said to Satan, Here he is, in your hand; only spare his life.
 - Job 2:7 And Satan went forth from Jehovah’s presence and struck Job with severe boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.
- A. Because of His loving concern for Job, God held two councils in the heavens to talk about Job—1:6; 2:1.
- Job 1:6 Then one day, when the sons of God came to present themselves before Jehovah, Satan also came among them.
 - Job 2:1 Then one day, when the sons of God came to present themselves before Jehovah, Satan also came among them to present himself before Jehovah.

- B. The “sons of God,” the angels, came to present themselves before Jehovah, and Satan, the adversary, also came among them—1:6; 2:1; 38:7; cf. 1 Kings 22:19-23; Psa. 89:5-8:

Job 1:6 Then one day, when the sons of God came to present themselves before Jehovah, Satan also came among them.

Job 2:1 Then one day, when the sons of God came to present themselves before Jehovah, Satan also came among them to present himself before Jehovah.

Job 38:7 When the morning stars sang together / And all the sons of God shouted for joy?

1 Kings 22:19 And Micaiah said, Hear therefore the word of Jehovah, I saw Jehovah sitting upon His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by Him, on His right hand and on His left.

1 Kings 22:20 And Jehovah said, Who shall entice Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead? And one said after this manner, and another said after that manner.

1 Kings 22:21 And there came forth a certain spirit and stood before Jehovah and said, I will entice him.

1 Kings 22:22 And Jehovah said unto him, How? And he said, I will go forth and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. And He said, You shall entice him and surely prevail. Go forth, and do so.

1 Kings 22:23 So now Jehovah has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets, and Jehovah has spoken evil concerning you.

Psa 89:5 And the heavens will praise Your wonders, O Jehovah, / Indeed Your faithfulness in the congregation of the holy ones.

Psa 89:6 For who in the skies can be compared to Jehovah? / Who among the sons of the mighty is like Jehovah,

Psa 89:7 Like God, greatly feared in the council of the holy ones / And awesome beyond all around Him?

Psa 89:8 O Jehovah God of hosts, who is like You, the mighty Jah? / Your faithfulness also surrounds You.

1. After he rebelled against God, Satan was condemned and even sentenced by God—
Isa. 14:12-15; Ezek. 28:12-19.

Isa 14:12 How you have fallen from heaven, / O Daystar, son of the dawn! / How you have been hewn down to earth, / You who made nations fall prostrate!

Isa 14:13 But you, you said in your heart: / I will ascend to heaven; / Above the stars of God / I will exalt my throne. / And I will sit upon the mount of assembly / In the uttermost parts of the north.

Isa 14:14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; / I will make myself like the Most High.

Isa 14:15 But you will be brought down to Sheol, / To the uttermost parts of the pit.

Ezek 28:12 Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, Thus says the Lord Jehovah, O you who sealed up perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty,

Ezek 28:13 You were in Eden, the garden of God. Every precious stone was your covering, sardius, topaz, diamond, chrysolite, onyx, jasper, sapphire, carbuncle, and emerald, with gold. The workmanship of your tambourines and your pipes was prepared with you on the day that you were created.

Ezek 28:14 You were the anointed cherub who covered the Ark; indeed I set you, so that you were upon the holy mountain of God; you walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

Ezek 28:15 You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you.

Ezek 28:16 By the abundance of your trading they filled your midst with violence, and you sinned. So I cast you out as profane from the mountain of God, and I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.

Ezek 28:17 Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness. I cast you to the ground; I presented you before kings that they may look at you.

Ezek 28:18 By the multitude of your iniquities in the unrighteousness of your trading you have profaned your sanctuaries. Therefore I sent forth fire from your midst; it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all those who look at you.

Ezek 28:19 All who know you among the peoples are astonished at you. You have become a source of terror, and you will be no more forever.

2. Satan's right to enter into the presence of God has not yet been taken away from him—cf. Rev. 12:10.

Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

- C. In His wisdom and sovereignty God did not execute His judgment on Satan but has given Satan a certain limited time to do something to meet some negative need in the fulfillment of His economy:

1. God could not and would not ask any of His many excellent angels to do what was needed to damage Job in order to strip him of everything so that he might be full of God—Job 1:1, 8, 11-12; 2:3-7.

Job 1:1 There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job; and this man was perfect and upright, and he feared God and turned away from evil.

Job 1:8 And Jehovah said to Satan, Have you considered My servant Job? For there is none like him on the earth, a perfect and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil.

Job 1:11 But stretch forth Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face.

Job 1:12 And Jehovah said to Satan, Here is all that he has, in your hand; only do not stretch forth your hand against him. And Satan went forth from Jehovah's presence.

Job 2:3 And Jehovah said to Satan, Have you considered My servant Job? For there is none like him on the earth, a perfect and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil. And he still holds fast his integrity, though you have moved Me against him to destroy him without cause.

Job 2:4 Then Satan answered Jehovah and said, Skin for skin! Indeed all that a man has he will give for the sake of his life.

Job 2:5 But stretch forth Your hand, and touch his bone and his flesh; and he will surely curse You to Your face.

Job 2:6 And Jehovah said to Satan, Here he is, in your hand; only spare his life.

Job 2:7 And Satan went forth from Jehovah's presence and struck Job with severe boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.

2. Satan was the unique one in the universe who could and who would fulfill God's intention of stripping Job of his possessions and ethical attainment—v. 3.

Job 2:3 And Jehovah said to Satan, Have you considered My servant Job? For there is none like him on the earth, a perfect and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil. And he still holds fast his integrity, though you have moved Me against him to destroy him without cause.

3. The scene in chapters 1 and 2 of Job shows us that Satan remains free to be purposely used by God as an ugly tool to execute God's severe dealing with His loving ones—cf. Luke 22:31-32.

Job 1, 2 be omitted.

Luke 22:31 Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has asked to have you all to sift you as wheat.

Luke 22:32 But I have made petition concerning you that your faith would not fail; and you, once you have turned again, establish your brothers.

III. Satan has his kingdom, the authority of darkness—Matt. 12:26; Acts 26:18; Col. 1:13:

Matt 12:26 And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?

Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.

Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

- A. Satan has his authority (Acts 26:18) and his angels (Matt. 25:41), who are his subordinates as rulers, authorities, and world-rulers of the darkness of this world; hence, he has his kingdom, the authority of darkness (Col. 1:13).
- Acts 26:18 To open their eyes, to turn them from darkness to light and from the authority of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.
- Matt 25:41 Then He will say also to those on the left, Go away from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.
- Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,
- B. Satan is the ruler of this world and the ruler of the authority of the air—John 12:31; Eph. 2:2:
- John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out.
- Eph 2:2 In which you once walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit which is now operating in the sons of disobedience;
1. *The spirit* (v. 2), in apposition to *the authority of the air*, refers to the aggregate power, the aggregate of all the evil angelic authorities, over which Satan is the ruler.

Eph 2:2 In which you once walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit which is now operating in the sons of disobedience;
 2. When we were dead in offenses and sins (v. 1), we walked according to “the age of this world” (v. 2), the modern appearance, the present course, of the world, the satanic system.

Eph 2:1 And you, though dead in your offenses and sins,

Eph 2:2 In which you once walked according to the age of this world, according to the ruler of the authority of the air, of the spirit which is now operating in the sons of disobedience;
 3. The rulers, the authorities, and the world-rulers of this darkness are the rebellious angels, who followed Satan in his rebellion against God and who now rule in the heavenlies over the nations of the world—Dan. 10:20.

Dan 10:20 Then he said, Do you know why I have come to you? And now I will return to fight with the prince of Persia; so I go forth, and the prince of Javan is now about to come.
 4. This indicates that the devil, Satan, has his kingdom in which he occupies the highest position and in which the rebellious angels are under him.

IV. Through His ministry on earth and His death on the cross, the Lord Jesus was victorious over Satan—1 John 3:8; Matt. 27:51-53; Col. 2:14-15; Heb. 2:14:

- 1 John 3:8 He who practices sin is of the devil, because the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.
- Matt 27:51 And behold, the veil of the temple was split in two from top to bottom, and the earth was shaken and the rocks were split,
- Matt 27:52 And the tombs were opened, and many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised.
- Matt 27:53 And they came out of the tombs after His resurrection and entered into the holy city and appeared to many.
- Col 2:14 Wiping out the handwriting in ordinances, which was against us, which was contrary to us; and He has taken it out of the way, nailing it to the cross.
- Col 2:15 Stripping off the rulers and the authorities, He made a display of them openly, triumphing over them in it.
- Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,
- A. In His earthly ministry the victorious Christ defeated the devil and destroyed his works—Matt. 4:1-11; 1 John 3:8:
- Matt 4:1 Then Jesus was led up into the wilderness by the Spirit to be tempted by the devil.

Matt 4:2 And when He had fasted forty days and forty nights, afterward He became hungry.
 Matt 4:3 And the tempter came and said to Him, If You are the Son of God, speak that these stones may become loaves of bread.
 Matt 4:4 But He answered and said, It is written, "Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out through the mouth of God."
 Matt 4:5 Then the devil took Him into the holy city and set Him on the wing of the temple,
 Matt 4:6 And said to Him, If You are the Son of God, cast Yourself down; for it is written, "To His angels He shall give charge concerning You, and on their hands they shall bear You up, lest You strike Your foot against a stone."
 Matt 4:7 Jesus said to him, Again, it is written, "You shall not test the Lord your God."
 Matt 4:8 Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.
 Matt 4:9 And he said to Him, All these will I give You if You will fall down and worship me.
 Matt 4:10 Then Jesus said to him, Go away, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only shall you serve."
 Matt 4:11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.
 1 John 3:8 He who practices sin is of the devil, because the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.

1. For Him to accomplish His ministry for the kingdom of the heavens, the Lord Jesus had to defeat God's enemy, the devil, Satan—Matt. 4:1, 11:
 - Matt 4:1 Then Jesus was led up into the wilderness by the Spirit to be tempted by the devil.
 - Matt 4:11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.
 - a. This He had to do as a man; hence, He stood as a man to confront the enemy of God—vv. 6-7.
 - Matt 4:6 And said to Him, If You are the Son of God, cast Yourself down; for it is written, "To His angels He shall give charge concerning You, and on their hands they shall bear You up, lest You strike Your foot against a stone."
 - Matt 4:7 Jesus said to him, Again, it is written, "You shall not test the Lord your God."
 - b. The devil's temptation of the first man, Adam, was a success; his temptation of the second man, Christ, was an absolute failure—v. 11.
 - Matt 4:11 Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.
2. In His ministry on earth the Lord Jesus destroyed the works of the devil—1 John 3:8:
 - 1 John 3:8 He who practices sin is of the devil, because the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.
 - a. In 1 John 3:8 the Greek word translated "destroy" may also be translated "undo" or "dissolve."
 - 1 John 3:8 He who practices sin is of the devil, because the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.
 - b. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might undo and destroy the sinful deeds of the devil, that is, condemn, through His death on the cross in the flesh, sin initiated by him, the evil one; destroy the power of sin, the sinful nature of the devil; and take away both sin and sins—Rom. 8:3; Heb. 2:14; John 1:29.
 - Rom 8:3 For that which the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God, sending His own Son in the likeness of the flesh of sin and concerning sin, condemned sin in the flesh,
 - Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,
 - John 1:29 The next day he saw Jesus coming to him and said, Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

- B. In His crucifixion the victorious Christ cast out the ruler of this world, destroyed the devil, caused the rulers and authorities to be stripped off, and nullified death—12:31; Matt. 27:51; Heb. 2:14; Col. 2:15; 2 Tim. 1:10:

John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out.

Matt 27:51 And behold, the veil of the temple was split in two from top to bottom, and the earth was shaken and the rocks were split,

Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,

Col 2:15 Stripping off the rulers and the authorities, He made a display of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

2 Tim 1:10 But now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who nullified death and brought life and incorruption to light through the gospel,

1. In His work on the cross, Christ cast out the ruler of this world and judged the world—John 12:31:

John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out.

- a. The ruler of this world was cast out when Satan was cast out by Christ's work in His death; simultaneously, the world system related to Satan was judged—1 John 5:19.

1 John 5:19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in the evil one.

- b. The base of Satan's rebellion was shaken, and the strongholds of Satan's earthly kingdom were broken—Matt. 27:51.

Matt 27:51 And behold, the veil of the temple was split in two from top to bottom, and the earth was shaken and the rocks were split,

2. In His crucifixion Christ destroyed the devil—Heb. 2:14:

Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,

- a. In verse 14 the Greek word translated "destroy" can also be rendered as "bring to nought, make of none effect, do away with, abolish, annul, discard."

Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,

- b. In His humanity and through His work on the cross, Christ has destroyed the devil—John 3:14.

John 3:14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up,

3. In His work on the cross, Christ caused the angelic rulers and authorities to be stripped off, to be made a display of openly, and to be triumphed over by God—Col. 2:15.

Col 2:15 Stripping off the rulers and the authorities, He made a display of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

4. In His work on the cross, Christ nullified death, making it of none effect, through His devil-destroying death (Heb. 2:14) and death-swallowing resurrection (1 Cor. 15:52-54)—2 Tim. 1:10.

Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,

1 Cor 15:52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet; for the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we will be changed.

1 Cor 15:53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

1 Cor 15:54 And when this corruptible will put on incorruption and this mortal will put on immortality, then the word which is written will come to pass, "Death has been swallowed up unto victory."

2 Tim 1:10 But now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who nullified death and brought life and incorruption to light through the gospel,

- C. Through the gospel of the kingdom, God brings people under the ruling of the heavenly authority so that they may become His kingdom, those who are ruled by His authority—Matt. 24:14; Rev. 1:5-6.

Matt 24:14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole inhabited earth for a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

Rev 1:5 And from Jesus Christ, the faithful Witness, the Firstborn of the dead, and the Ruler of the kings of the earth. To Him who loves us and has released us from our sins by His blood

Rev 1:6 And made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be the glory and the might forever and ever. Amen.

V. As believers in Christ Jesus and children of God, we need to learn to be victorious in Christ over Satan—Eph. 6:12; 1 Pet. 5:8-9; 1 John 5:18:

Eph 6:12 For our wrestling is not against blood and flesh but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world-rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenlies.

1 Pet 5:8 Be sober; watch. Your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking someone to devour.

1 Pet 5:9 Him withstand, being firm in your faith, knowing that the same sufferings are being accomplished among your brotherhood in the world.

1 John 5:18 We know that everyone who is begotten of God does not sin, but he who has been begotten of God keeps himself, and the evil one does not touch him.

- A. We should not be ignorant of Satan's schemes—2 Cor. 2:11:

2 Cor 2:11 That we may not be taken advantage of by Satan, for we are not ignorant of his schemes.

1. The Greek word translated "schemes" means "plans, plots, designs, wiles, intentions, purposes."
2. The evil one, Satan, is behind the scenes in everything and works in everything, even in the church life.

- B. We need to put on the whole armor of God so that we may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil—Eph. 6:11:

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,

1. The devil has not only evil intentions but also deceptive stratagems to work out his intentions; these stratagems are his evil plots.
2. Putting on the whole armor of God enables us to stand against the stratagems of the devil—v. 11.

Eph 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God that you may be able to stand against the stratagems of the devil,

3. One of Satan's stratagems against the saints of the Most High is to wear them out (Dan. 7:21, 25); when we see that Satan is wearing us out, we will have the power to withstand and oppose his wearing-out tactics.

Dan 7:21 I watched and that horn waged war with the saints and prevailed against them,

Dan 7:25 And he will speak things against the Most High and wear out the saints of the Most High; and his intention will be to change the times and the law; and they will be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time.

- C. We need to be watchful against our adversary, the devil, who "as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking someone to devour"—1 Pet. 5:8:

1 Pet 5:8 Be sober; watch. Your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking someone to devour.

1. To be watchful is to be vigilant as in warfare, as with soldiers on the frontier.

2. The word *watch* in 1 Peter 5:8 implies fighting; we are involved in a warfare, and we need to be vigilant.
 - 1 Pet 5:8 Be sober; watch. Your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walks about, seeking someone to devour.
 3. If we are vigilant, we will withstand our adversary, being firm in our faith—v. 9:
 - 1 Pet 5:9 Him withstand, being firm in your faith, knowing that the same sufferings are being accomplished among your brotherhood in the world.
 - a. To withstand is not to resist nor to struggle against but to stand firmly, like a rock, on the ground of our faith before the roaring devil.
 - b. *Your faith* in 1 Peter 5:9 refers to the believers' subjective faith, their faith in God's protecting power and loving concern.
 - 1 Pet 5:9 Him withstand, being firm in your faith, knowing that the same sufferings are being accomplished among your brotherhood in the world.
- D. The best way for us to be victorious over Satan is to live in the mingled spirit—1 Cor. 6:17; 1 John 5:18:
- 1 Cor 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.
 - 1 John 5:18 We know that everyone who is begotten of God does not sin, but he who has been begotten of God keeps himself, and the evil one does not touch him.
1. There is only one place that Satan cannot invade—our spirit—2 Tim. 4:22.
 - 2 Tim 4:22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you.
 2. Whether or not we are under Satan's authority is not determined by the things we do; rather, it is determined by whether we are in the spirit or in the flesh—Gal. 5:16-17.
 - Gal 5:16 But I say, Walk by the Spirit and you shall by no means fulfill the lust of the flesh.
 - Gal 5:17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these oppose each other that you would not do the things that you desire.
 3. As long as we remain in the mingled spirit, we will be kept, and Satan will have no way with us—1 Cor. 6:17; 1 John 5:4-5, 18-21.
 - 1 Cor 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.
 - 1 John 5:4 For everything that has been begotten of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory which has overcome the world—our faith.
 - 1 John 5:5 And who is he who overcomes the world except he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?
 - 1 John 5:18 We know that everyone who is begotten of God does not sin, but he who has been begotten of God keeps himself, and the evil one does not touch him.
 - 1 John 5:19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in the evil one.
 - 1 John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding that we might know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.
 - 1 John 5:21 Little children, guard yourselves from idols.

VI. “The God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly”—Rom. 16:20:

- A. The crushing of Satan is related to the church life—the strongest means by which God overcomes Satan—vv. 20, 1, 16b.
 - Rom 16:20 Now the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.
 - Rom 16:1 I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a deaconess of the church which is in Cenchrea,
 - Rom 16:16b ... All the churches of Christ greet you.
- B. The Greek word rendered “your” in Romans 16:20 is plural; this points to the Body—12:5:
 - Rom 16:20 Now the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.
 - Rom 12:5 So we who are many are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.
 1. Romans 16 does not refer to the Body in a universal sense but to the local and practical expression of the Body.
 - Rom 16 be omitted.

2. Dealing with Satan is a Body matter, not an individual matter.
 3. Satan can be crushed only under the feet of the practical expression of the Body in the local churches—12:5; 16:1, 4, 16b.
 - Rom 12:5 So we who are many are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.
 - Rom 16:1 I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a deaconess of the church which is in Cenchrea,
 - Rom 16:4 Who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles;
 - Rom 16:16b ... All the churches of Christ greet you.
 4. It is only when we have a proper local church as the practical expression of the Body that Satan is crushed under our feet—v. 20.
 - Rom 16:20 Now the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.
- C. It is significant that the One who crushes Satan under our feet is the God of peace—v. 20:
- Rom 16:20 Now the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.
1. The God of peace is the Sanctifier; His sanctification brings in peace—1 Thes. 5:23.
 - 1 Thes 5:23 And the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly, and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 2. When we are wholly sanctified by Him from within, we have peace with Him and with man in every way—v. 13; Rom. 6:19, 22; Heb. 13:12.
 - 1 Thes 5:13 And to regard them most highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves.
 - Rom 6:19 I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves to uncleanness and lawlessness unto lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness unto sanctification.
 - Rom 6:22 But now, having been freed from sin and enslaved to God, you have your fruit unto sanctification, and the end, eternal life.
 - Heb 13:12 Therefore also Jesus, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate.
 3. The peace of God guards, mounts guard over, our hearts and our thoughts because the God of peace patrols before our hearts and thoughts in Christ, keeping us calm and tranquil—Phil. 4:7.
 - Phil 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses every man's understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

VII. After the man-child is raptured to the throne of God, there is war in heaven, Satan and his angels are cast down to the earth, and the kingdom of God is manifested—Rev. 12:5, 7-11:

- Rev 12:5 And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.
 - Rev 12:7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels went to war with the dragon. And the dragon warred and his angels.
 - Rev 12:8 And they did not prevail, neither was their place found any longer in heaven.
 - Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was cast down, the ancient serpent, he who is called the Devil and Satan, he who deceives the whole inhabited earth; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast down with him.
 - Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.
 - Rev 12:11 And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.
- A. The man-child consists of the overcomers, who stand on behalf of the church, take the

position that the whole church should take, and do the work of the church—2:7b, 11b; 12:5:
Rev 2:7b ... To him who overcomes, to him I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the Paradise of God.

Rev 2:11b ... He who overcomes shall by no means be hurt of the second death.

Rev 12:5 And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.

1. The man-child is always engaged in fighting against God's enemy, Satan, continually on earth.
2. Heaven is waiting for the man-child, the overcomers, to arrive so that a war may be waged to cast Satan out of heaven:
 - a. The war waged by the overcoming believers against Satan is actually the executing of the Lord's judgment upon him—John 12:31.
John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out.
 - b. Eventually, through their fighting, Satan is cast out of heaven—Rev. 12:8-9.
Rev 12:8 And they did not prevail, neither was their place found any longer in heaven.
Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was cast down, the ancient serpent, he who is called the Devil and Satan, he who deceives the whole inhabited earth; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast down with him.

B. The devil, the accuser, is now accusing the believers before God day and night, but the overcoming believers who constitute the man-child and who have been opposed and slandered by God's enemy, Satan, overcome him—vv. 10-11:

Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

Rev 12:11 And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.

1. They overcome him "because of the blood of the Lamb"—v. 11a:
Rev 12:11a And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb, ...
 - a. The blood of the Lamb, which is for our redemption, answers before God all the accusations of the devil against us and gives us the victory over him.
 - b. We need to apply this blood whenever we sense the accusation of the devil—Rom. 3:25; 1 John 1:7.
Rom 3:25 Whom God set forth as a propitiation place through faith in His blood, for the demonstrating of His righteousness, in that in His forbearance God passed over the sins that had previously occurred,
1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from every sin.
2. They overcome him "because of the word of their testimony"—Rev. 12:11b:
Rev 12:11b And they overcame him ... because of the word of their testimony, ...
 - a. The word of their testimony is their word that testifies that the devil has been judged by the Lord—John 12:31; Heb. 2:14.
John 12:31 Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out.
Heb 2:14 Since therefore the children have shared in blood and flesh, He also Himself in like manner partook of the same, that through death He might destroy him who has the might of death, that is, the devil,
 - b. Whenever we sense the devil's accusation, we should declare with the uttered word the Lord's victory over him.
3. The overcomers do not love their soul-life—Rev. 12:11c:
Rev 12:11 And they overcame him because of ..., and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.
 - a. Not loving our soul-life is the basis for overcoming Satan, for our victory over Satan.

- b. Not loving our soul-life means that we are willing to give up our own soul-life and that we do not care for our own soul-life—Mark 8:34-35.
 - Mark 8:34 And He called the crowd to Him with His disciples and said to them, If anyone wants to follow after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.
 - Mark 8:35 For whoever wants to save his soul-life shall lose it; but whoever will lose his soul-life for My sake and the gospel's shall save it.
 - c. Satan is afraid of only one kind of people—those who do not love their own soul-life—Rev. 12:11c.
 - Rev 12:11 And they overcame him because of ..., and they loved not their soul-life even unto death.
- C. The man-child is related to God's most important dispensational move—Matt. 6:9-10; Rev. 11:15; 12:10:
- Matt 6:9 You then pray in this way: Our Father who is in the heavens, Your name be sanctified;
 - Matt 6:10 Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, so also on earth.
 - Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.
 - Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.
1. God wants to end this age and bring in the age of the kingdom, and for this He must have the man-child as His dispensational instrument—v. 5.
 - Rev 12:5 And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.
 2. The rapture of the man-child brings an end to the church age and introduces the age of the kingdom—vv. 5, 10.
 - Rev 12:5 And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.
 - Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.
 3. The rapture of the man-child to the throne of God, the casting of Satan to the earth, and the declaration in heaven signify that the man-child will bring the kingdom to the earth; this is God's greatest dispensational move—vv. 5, 9-10; 11:15.
 - Rev 12:5 And she brought forth a son, a man-child, who is to shepherd all the nations with an iron rod; and her child was caught up to God and to His throne.
 - Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was cast down, the ancient serpent, he who is called the Devil and Satan, he who deceives the whole inhabited earth; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast down with him.
 - Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, Now has come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brothers has been cast down, who accuses them before our God day and night.
 - Rev 11:15 And the seventh angel trumpeted; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever.