SATAN

(Expanded)

After the ending of Creation, God said it was very good, there was no disease, no pain, no death, all was perfect. There was also a perfect relationship between God and Man, a fellowship, a friendship, Eden was a perfect place to be.

However, today we have the exact opposite, pain, disease and death. The world is full of different disagreements, and sometimes war, the big man picking on the little man, in Government and family relationships. The world is a very poor place to live, so what happened.

The Garden of Eden

When God was creating the angellic beings, He gave them all a free will and set them up in different positions of power and abilities. Lucifer, was the most powerful spirit or angelic being which God created, he belonged to the angelic order of cherubim and was chosen by God to have special resposibilities that took him into the presence of God.

Ezekiel 28:13-

"13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.

14 Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. 15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee."

We do not know when the next event occoured, the Bible tells us that Lucifer became very proud, his beuaty and his power took over his life, remember God gave him a free will, so he was able to do this. Though there is no evidence that he controlled any of the other angelic beings Isaiah 14:12-15.

"12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

15 Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit."

Lucifer has the meaning of "Morning Star". In the above passage, he said "I Will" five times as he started to arrange a celestial action.

I will ascend into heaven.

I will exalt my throne above the stars (Angels) of God:

I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation,

I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;

I will be like the most High.(God himself)

Lucifer wanted to take over heaven and be equel to God himself, he would then be in charge of the perfect creation and all the angelic beings.

However, there was a problem, an all knowing God could read Lucifers mind and knew what was happening in the mind of Lucifer. God hates "pride", this is a sin which puts a person to be the center of all things, their own self sin.

Proverbs 6:16-20

"16 These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:

17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,

19 A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

20 My son, keep thy father's commandment, and forsake not the law of thy mother:"

So who is Satan?

We must remember that God created all angels with free wills, they were not robots, they served God by their own willing submission to God. But unfortunately, not Lucifer, he became very dissatisfied with being an angelic being. As a result and the fact that God is perfect and cannot tolerate any sin therefore. God just cannot have anything to do with sin in His presence.

Ezekiel 28:14-18.

"14 Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. 15 Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. 16 By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. 17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee. 18 Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee."

God gave him a new name, Satan, an adversary or enemy. He was still a created being, just like Mankind, but he was given great power as part of his creation. God also cast him out of heaven, apparently down to earth, Satan was also followed by one third of the other angelic beings, they became demonic or evil spirits here on the earth.

In the modern world today the existence of Satan is often doubted, even treated as a joke, being played down by the world of men and women. However, his existence and power is definitely declared by the Bible and revealed by the evil behaviour and actions of Mankind.

We first meet Satan in Genesis 3:1ff,

"Now the serpent was more subtle than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die:

For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."

Satan appears to have taken on the form or shape of a serpent(snake). After the event God actually cursed the serpent, <u>Genesis 3:14,15</u>

"And the LORD God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life:

And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

Satan approached Eve and began by questioning the actual Words of God. "Has God said?" then he puts doubt in what was said, "You shall not surely die: " Why your God's perfect creation, He will not kill you. Satan puts doubt in the goodness of God. As Eve thinks about this, Satan points out that if she takes the fruit she will become like God, he is misquoting the Word's of God, and immediately appealing to the sin of Eve's pride. The same sin that caused the fall of Satan and disobedience of God and the entry of evil into the kingdom of God. The woman was deceived by Satan but Adam also sinned, he knew what he was doing when he took the fruit from Eve. They thought that they knew better thab God. Was God telling the truth? 1 Timothy 2:13-15.

"For Adam was first formed, then Eve.

And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety."

It is interesting to note that God said that you will die if you eat the tree in the middle of the garden, well they did eventually die, but not for many years, but they did die towards God, they had disobeid Him and so sin had entered the world, God cannot have anything associated with sin, they were dead to God.

"3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die."

Adam and Eve, eat the fruit, against the instructions of God, they had a free will and could have rejected the temptations to disobey God.

So it is possible that the serpent which approached Eve could have been very different to the snake of today and could have been a beautiful animal following from God's perfect creation.

The Lake of Fire

God created the angellic beings that they would not die, so it has to be an eternal punishment. This action by God was only the first step of the action against the rebellious angels, God also prepared a final place of punishment, The Lake of fire. This has still to happen, eternal punishment. Matthew 25:41.

"Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:"

Revelation 20:10.

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

Satan the Liar.

John 8:44,45

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

45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not."

Satan is shown as a red person with horns but infact he is the complete opposite, he can mimick God in all his splendour, a shining angel, and every word he speaks is an imitation of the truth, he is a counterfeit.

The Names of Satan:

The title "Satan" is used 24 times in the Old Testament, though often used in the form of *adversary*. In the New Testament we find over thirty uses of the title. The initial use of the word Satan was therefore a description, but later became the proper name. So "Satan" and "Devil" are the two proper names used in the Bible. All the other names of Satan are used to describe Satan's behaviour.

Names used for Satan

Satan the Tempter. The Devil.

Matthew 4:5; Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,

<u>1 Thessalonians 3:5</u> For this cause, when I could no longer forbear, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter have tempted you, and our labour be in vain.

Beelzebub.

Matthew 12:24; But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils.

Enemy.

<u>Matthew 13:39</u>; The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels.

Evil One.

Matthew 13:19, 38; When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.

The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one;

<u>1 John 2:13,14</u>; *I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father.*

<u>1 John 5:18</u>; We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

Belial.

<u>2 Cor 6:15</u>; And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

Adversary.

<u>1 Peter 5:8</u> Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Deceiver.

Rev 12:9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceive the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Dragon (Great).

<u>Revelations 12:3</u>; And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.

The old serpent.

<u>Revelations 20:2</u> And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years,

The god of this world.

<u>2 Corinthians 4:4</u> In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Prince of this world.

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

<u>John 14:30</u> Hereafter I will not talk much with you: for the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me.

Prince of the power of the air.

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Father of Lies - Murderer.

<u>John 8:44</u>; Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

Sinner.

<u>1 John 3:8</u>; 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.

References to the acts or events associated with Satan

He was disguised as the serpent in Eden. Genesis 3:1-14

His action made man and snakes against each other. Genesis 3:15

His name was Lucifer, which means 'son of the morning' before his fall. Isaiah 14:12

He was once the perfect anointed cherub that covers. Ezekiel 28:14-15

Satan attacked Israel, and caused David to count the number of people in Israel. 1 Chronicles 21:1

He was permitted to accuse and attack Job. Job 1:7-2:10

He opposed unbelieving Israel. Zechariah 3:1-9

He is Satan, the enemy. Zechariah 3:1

He is the tempter. Matthew 4:3-10

He mis-used the Word of God. Matthew 4:4;

Luke 4:10-11

Satan attempts to mislead Peter. Matthew 16:23.

He tempted our Lord in the wilderness Matthew 4:1-11

Beelzebub, he is the prince of the demons. Matthew 12:24; Acts 10:38

He is associated in demonic control. Matthew 12:22-29

He sows tares Matthew 13:38-39

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Takes away the Word of God Matthew 13:19
He is "the enemy."
                      Matthew 13:39
Called "The evil one" Matthew 13:38
He is a fallen angel. Matthew 25:41
Is able to live in and control people Mark 5:15
His final fate is the everlasting fires Matthew 25:41;
                                                           Rev 20:10
He is the devil, who lies, makes and spreads false information. Luke 4:13
He blinds people physically and spiritually <u>Luke 13:16</u>
He fell from a sinless position.
                                Luke 10:18
Satan looks at Simon Peter as a target. Luke 22:31
Satan entered into Judas surnamed Iscariot. Luke 22:3
His children are the unsaved people. John 3:6-10
A disciple under Satan control. John 6:70
He was named as "a liar" and "the father of lies" by Jesus.
He is a murderer.
People who are against God are his "sons." John 8:44
He is the prince of this world.
                                John 12:31;
                                               John 14:30
He made Judas Iscariot to betray Christ. John 13:2,27
Caused Ananias to lie.
                         Acts 5:3
The God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly.
                                                              Romans 16:20
He blinds people spiritually. 2 Corinthians 4:4
"A roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour." He seeks to harm believers. 1 Peter 5:8
He lives in the unsaved.
"The spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." Ephesians 2:2
He heads a heavenly order of evil.
                                    Ephesians 6:11-12
He is damaged by Spirit-controlled prayer. Ephesians 6:10-20
He is overcome by faith, "your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking who he can
devour." 1 Peter 5:8-9
He creates false teaching. 1 Timothy 4:1-6
He prevents God's will in believers. 1 Thessalonians 2:18
Men can be taken captive by him.
                                    2 Timothy. 2:26
He works evil miracles. 2 Thessalonians 2:9
Christians are warned against his ways of attack. 2 Corinthians 2:11
Christians called on to "resist" him. James 4:7
Satan has the power of death. Hebrews 2:14
He that commits sin is of the devil. 1 John 3:8
Jude refers to him. "Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body
of Moses." Jude 9
He has a 'church' or group of legalists who deny God's grace in Christ.
                                                                         Revelations 2:9
He is the deceiver.
                     Revelations 12:9
He is the dragon, that old serpent Revelations 12:9;
                                                     Revelations 20:2
He will be imprisoned during the millennium. Revelations 20:1-3
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Slavery to Satan.

Because Mankind turned away from God, there is now a barrier between Man and God, Mankind has become the slave of Satan, see <u>John 8:43,44</u>. Jesus told the religious leaders that they could not accept His words because they were "of your father the devil."

How did Satan obtain this power over the earth?

God created and put Man on earth with the power to control all the things and animals on earth, <u>Genesis 1:28</u>. There was one restriction, they were not to touch or eat of the "Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil." Unfortunately, Lucifer, later to be called Satan, was out to take over the position of God. Adam and Eve disobeyed God and so handed the authority and their freedom to Satan, <u>1 John 5:19</u>; <u>Luke 4:6,7</u>.

Satan has the "power of death," not as lord, but simply as the executioner.

That power was destroyed by the death of Jesus, the God-Man, on the cross, by taking the punishment in the place of Mankind.

God must enforce His rules, though He is a very loving God, God is love, there is no way that He can behave or act which is totally different to His perfect nature. We have to ask,"how can God continue to behave towards his attributes of perfect and holy and yet maintain justice and still be loving.

Sin can never be ignored.

God cannot ignore our sin and pretend that it does not exist, that would be against His actual nature, his holy character. We all must die, without exception 2 Samuel 14:14.

"14 For we must needs die, and are as water spilt on the ground, which cannot be gathered up again; neither doth God respect any person: yet doth he devise means, that his banished be not expelled from him."

This verse show that though God allows us to die, he has lovingly also provided an escape for our spirits.

Atonement

After they had eaten the fruit, Adam and EVe, realized that they were naked and made clothes out of fig leaves. When they met God he immeadiately looked upon their hearts and not their bodies, The bible tells us that the feeble attempts to cover themselves was not good enough, God took an animal and created clothes for them. God showed that blood had to be shed to cover their sinful nature now. Their sin had brought death. They had probably not seen an animal die before, God made the terrible result of their sinful life. The next action by God was todrive them out of the Garden so that they would not eat of the tree of life and live for ever. By this action God made sure that sinful nature of Adam and Eve would have some proof, each person will suffer physical death. God was looking beyond the grave but to the planned Second death, the "Lake of Fire"