

UNCONDITIONAL AUTHORITY

Lesson 5 – Outline

I. In almost forty years of being a Christian and actively studying God’s Word, Andrew has come across several different opinions about where Satan came from and how he got his power.

- A. In the midst of these different variations, a dominant doctrine has emerged in popular theology.
- B. This widely-held understanding says God created a powerful, beautiful, godly angel named “Lucifer” (Is. 14:12 and Ezek. 28:13-15).
- C. This Lucifer became prideful, turned into Satan, and rebelled against God.
- D. At this point, popular theology also says Satan convinced one-third of the angels to follow him in rebellion.
- E. This popular theology insinuates that our heavenly Father turned Satan loose in the Garden of Eden to tempt Adam and Eve.

II. God sent Lucifer—His top angel—down to earth to minister to Adam and Eve.

Are they [angels] not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

Hebrews 1:14, brackets mine

- A. Lucifer hadn’t transgressed against God—and become Satan—yet.
- B. He came to the Garden on a divine mission—to serve and to minister to Adam and Eve.

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. 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. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

Ezekiel 28:13-15

- C. Lucifer’s transgression against God came in the Garden of Eden.

D. It's described in Genesis 3, when he entered into the snake and used this serpent to speak to Eve and tempt her.

E. Then he persuaded both Eve and Adam to eat of the forbidden fruit.

III. Lucifer came to the earth as an anointed angel on a divine assignment to minister to Adam and Eve.

A. However, he saw something in them that he didn't have.

B. As an angel, his power and authority was conditional (Andrew's supposition)—but Adam and Eve had been given unconditional power and authority over this earth.

God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion [power and authority] over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Genesis 1:26-28, brackets and emphasis mine

C. When God created man, He spoke and gave them dominion—power and authority—over all the earth (Ps. 89:34; Heb. 1:3, 6:18; and Num. 23:19).

D. Knowing God as he did, Lucifer's antennae went up when he heard the Lord say to Adam and Eve "You have dominion" without any restrictions or qualifications.

E. There was no chance of Lucifer directly rebelling at God, but perhaps he could rebel if somehow he could get a hold of that unconditional power and authority that had been given to man.

IV. Although angels have a free will, there's no reason to believe that their power and authority is unconditional like Adam and Eve's.

A. Therefore, if an angel got out of line, God could cancel and recall the power and authority He had given them, and they'd be absolutely defeated.

B. In light of this, there's no way Satan and one-third of the angels could charge God on His throne, who still retained two-thirds of the angels.

C. However, Lucifer saw an opportunity with the unconditional authority over the earth that God had given to mankind.

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Lesson 5 – Discipleship Questions

1. Who is Isaiah 14:12 talking about?
2. Who did Ezekiel 28:11-15 start out addressing?
3. Revelation 12:3-4 speaks of a great red what?
4. In Genesis 1:1-2, who moved upon the face of the waters?
5. Hebrews 1:14 reveals that angels are sent forth to minister for whom?
6. According to Genesis 1:26-28, God said “Let them have dominion” to whom?
7. Psalm 89:34 shows us that God will not break what?
8. Hebrews 6:18 and Numbers 23:19 say that it’s impossible for God to what?
9. According to Hebrews 1:3, what is held up by the word of His power?
10. Psalm 138:2 tells us that God has magnified _____ above His name.
11. At whose name shall every knee bow, according to Philippians 2:9-11?
12. In Proverbs 18:10, what is the name of the Lord?
13. What does Deuteronomy 29:29 say belongs to the Lord?
14. What belongs to us and to our children forever?
15. Second Peter 2:4 reveals that God spared not whom?

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Lesson 5 – Scriptures

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!

Isaiah 14:12

Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. 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. 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. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

Ezekiel 28:11-15

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. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

Revelation 12:3-4

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

Genesis 1:1-2

Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

Hebrews 1:14

That thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased!

Isaiah 14:4

But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

Matthew 16:23

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Genesis 1:26-28

My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.

Psalm 89:34

That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us.

Hebrews 6:18

God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

Numbers 23:19

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.

Hebrews 1:3

I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy name for thy lovingkindness and for thy truth: for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

Psalm 138:2

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11

The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

Proverbs 18:10

The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

Deuteronomy 29:29

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.

2 Peter 2:4