



The Bible Speaks

THE ORIGIN OF EVIL

In a recent demonstration of remote control by the United States Air Force, a pilot less jet aircraft wheeled onto the runway of an airport, taxied to a predetermined spot, turned into the wind, and took off. The plane went through a number of manoeuvres, circled the field several times, and made an almost perfect landing.

Those invited to view this demonstration looked on with admiration at this unique exhibition. Not one spectator thought that the plane was flying by itself. They knew that there was a master intelligence behind the manoeuvres of that craft.

As one views the sinister events that are proclaimed by television, radio, and newspaper, with their daily record of death, terror and violence, everyone should be convinced that a master intelligence is operating in this world who is at war, not only with God, but also with all that is just and good.

While man talks about peace, he prepares for war! While he plans for a world without crime, lawlessness skyrockets each year! While he searches for the means of stamping out death, new diseases and problems arise! As one thinking man recently said, "There is something devilish at work in the world today."

In many circles today the Devil has been voted out of existence. Many believe that this power only consists of the bad thoughts of mankind or the superstitious carry-over of a medieval fable. The Bible, however, speaks in a very real way of this power that is at work in the world today. Christ and the prophets believed in the existence of an evil being called variously: the Devil, Satan, Lucifer, the Prince of this world, the Deceiver, the Serpent, et cetera.

Where did the Devil originate? Why hasn't God destroyed him? These and many other questions arise when he is mentioned. Let us turn to the Bible to learn the truth about his power.

THE BIBLE SPEAKS

1. With whom did sin originate? **1 John 3:8**

The Bible Answer: _____

2. Where did this diabolical thing live before he came to this earth? **Luke 10:18**

The Bible Answer: _____

3. What did God do when Satan's rebellion led to war in heaven?
Revelation 12:7-9

The Bible Answer: _____

4. What kind of an angel was Satan before his rebellion? **Ezekiel 28:12**

The Bible Answer: _____

5. What exalted position did he occupy in the courts of heaven? **Ezekiel 28:14**

The Bible Answer: _____

Note: As a covering cherub he stood next to God. **Psalm 80:1**

6. What higher position did this exalted being covet? **Isaiah 14:12-14**

The Bible Answer: _____

Note: Another motive behind this rebellion was pride of his beauty.
Ezekiel 28:17

7. When he was cast out of heaven, upon whom did Satan turn to deceive?
Genesis 3:1-6

The Bible Answer: _____

Note: Satan used the serpent as a medium through which he could gain the attention of the woman.

8. Of what does Satan claim that he has complete control? **Luke 4:5,6**

The Bible Answer: _____

Note: See also **Job 1:6-8**

9. Who brings suffering and temptation upon mankind? **Job 2:7**

The Bible Answer: _____

10. How did Christ earn the right to destroy the Devil and all evil?
Hebrews 2:14

The Bible Answer: _____

11. How will this evil one finally be destroyed by God? **Ezekiel 28:16-19**

The Bible Answer: "I will bring thee to _____ earth . . .
and never shalt thou _____."

12. Why does the Devil work so viciously now? **Revelation 12:10,12**

The Bible Answer: _____

13. How does Satan seek to disguise himself and his deceptions?
2 Corinthians 11:13-15

The Bible Answer: _____

14. What is man's only defence against the Devil's deceptions?
Ephesians 6:11,12

The Bible Answer: _____

15. How can we gain the victory over this arch enemy? **Revelation 12:11**

The Bible Answer: _____

Peter warns us that, "Your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour." 1 Peter 5:8 (NT 205). Never have his deceptions been so effective in misleading and destroying God's children as they are today.

No longer able to return to the courts of heaven to taunt and accuse, Satan now seeks to attack God by misleading and destroying God's children for whom Christ was sacrificed.

The Devil sought to overcome the Saviour before he could accomplish His mission of redemption. Christ was victorious in every battle that he fought with the Deceiver. He did no sin, the Bible tells us. By His death on the Cross of Calvary He earned the right to deliver those held in bondage by Satan if they will only accept His death in their stead. By instigating Christ's death the Devil signed his own death decree.

Satan will be destroyed one of these days soon with all of those who have chosen him as their leader and king. Holy Writ assures us that his end will be complete. But, now for a while he will deceive all if possible. The same Redeemer who gained the complete victory over this serpent is able to give you the victory if you will place your life in His hands - hands that were pierced for your sins. Trust Him this day, and He will give you forgiveness for past sins and victory over future temptations.

(If you wish to respond to these questions, place a cross in the boxes.)

I choose to accept Christ as my Leader and Redeemer.

Pray that I will have the wisdom and strength to overcome our enemy.

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____