

The Cherub Who Bit the Dust

Number 2 in a series of messages on the unseen world
August 1 & 2, 2009

1. The original original sin: Satan's rebellion against God's position.

Satan was created as Lucifer, Star of the Morning, but was condemned as the leader of a spiritual mutiny against God's authority.

Ez. 28:11-19

Is. 14:12-14

2. Our original sin: humanity's refusal to trust in God's provision.

Satan uses an effective strategy to erode our confidence in who God is and what he offers.

Gen 3:1-6

He comes in _____. 3:1a

He comes with _____. 3:1b-3

He comes to _____. 3:4,5

He comes with _____. 3:6

(note parallels in 1 Jn. 2:15-17 and Luke 4)

•Satan continues to motivate us to _____ our _____ in illicit ways.

•Satan still seeks to lead us astray by luring us to _____ our _____.

•Satan fans into flame our burning _____ so we dethrone God.

NOW WHAT? *All the above shows how easy it is to bite the dust, but how can we avoid going down in flames?*

Consider writing alternative "I wills."

•I will _____.

•I will _____.

Questions for Personal Reflection And Group Discussion

1. What are the most compelling reasons to believe in the existence of the devil?
2. The Bible records the event known as the fall of mankind in Gen 3. What evidence do you see around you (or in you) that demonstrates humanity is not on Plan A anymore?
3. How could you answer those who say that suffering and evil are only products of our environment and education?
4. What is the bottom line? What drove Lucifer to defy God? What motives led the first couple to rebel? And why do you do your own thing and neglect God's Word and will?
5. Why did God take the risk he did in creating beings that would exercise their freedom and rebel against him?
6. When at war, an understanding of the enemy's tactics is crucial. In 2 Cor 2:11 we are warned not to be ignorant of devil's schemes so he won't be able to take advantage of us. We must learn his probable line of attack. What did you learn in Gen. 3 about our spiritual adversary's probable line of attack? What facets of the devil's overall strategy are still proving to be effective in your struggle against sin?
7. Despite the severe consequences of our failures, God has made promises that give us hope. See Lamentations 3:19-24 for a lift out of the sorrow of our fallen condition.
8. For a great dose of hope, see Heb. 2:14 and Col. 1:13.
9. What are you going to do to stand firm against Satan's attacks? (See Eph. 6:10-17; James 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8,9.) If you wrote out new "I will" statements in the service, share them with someone else.

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2. Our original sin: *humanity's refusal to trust in God's provision.*

Satan uses an effective strategy to erode our confidence in who God is and what he offers.

Gen 3:1-6

He comes in disguise. 3:1a

He comes with doubts. 3:1b-3

He comes to deceive. 3:4,5

He comes with delights. 3:6

(note parallels in 1 Jn. 2:15-17 and Luke 4)

•Satan continues to motivate us to satisfy our sensuality in illicit ways.

•Satan still seeks to lead us astray by luring us to gratify our greeds.

•Satan fans into flame our burning arrogant ambition so we dethrone God.

NOW WHAT? *All the above shows how easy it is to bite the dust, but how can we avoid going down in flames?*

Consider writing alternative "I wills."

•I will re-enthrone God as the Lord in my life.

•I will trust God as my loving Father who knows and wants what is best.