

### THE REALITY AND PERSONALITY OF SATAN

In this lesson we want to dive into the reality and personality of Satan. There is a lot of Scriptural evidence on the existence of Satan as a person. He is not a symbol of evil or a figure of speech. He is real and we need to understand who he is and what his purposes are in order for us to live the Christian life in a right perspective.

#### I. THE EXISTENCE OF SATAN

Satan is an angelic being of wide and powerful influence. He is a major character in God's universe. He is an enemy of God and of man and of believers, one whom we should understand and resist in the faith and in the power of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us now examine his existence from the pages of Scriptures.

Look up the following passages and make notes pertaining Satan and his existence.

Old Testament:

- Genesis 3:1-24—
- Job chapters 1 and 2—
- 1 Chronicles 21:1—

New Testament:

Stan's existence is recognized by every writer of the New Testament, though not necessarily by every book. In fact, 19 of the 27 books mention Satan by one of his names. Look up a few of these to get a description of Satan.

- Matthew 13:19,25—
- 1 Thessalonians 3:5—
- John 12:31—

Also it is important to note that in the gospels there are 29 references to Satan. In 25 of these, it is Christ who speaks of Satan as actually existing as a person.

## II. THE PERSON AND NATURE OF SATAN

### SATAN'S PERSON

Some people believe that Satan is just a figment of our imagination or is a symbol that personifies evil. But the Scriptures points to Satan as being real based 3 lines of evidence.

1. **Satan's Traits of Personality**-- An accepted proof of personality consists of demonstrating that one possesses intellect, emotion, and will. Satan has these. Look up the following Scriptures to pull this out.
  - 2 Corinthians 11:3—
  - Luke 4:1-12—
  - Isaiah 14:12-17—

- Revelation 20-7-9—
- 
2. **Personal Pronouns used with Satan**—The Scripture use of personal pronouns with him shows that he is a person.
    - Ezekiel 28:14, 16—
  
    - 2 Corinthians 11:14-15—
  
    - James 4:7—
  
  3. **Satan's Moral Responsibility**—Neither impersonal animals nor forces are held morally accountable, but only persons who reflect the moral image of their Creator. Judgment has come and will further come Satan and his minions.
    - Matthew 25:41—
  
    - John 16:11—

### **SATAN'S NATURE**

There are certain facts concerning Satan that the Bible helps us understand pertaining to his nature.

1. **Satan is a Creature:** Satan was created by God, not in his present corrupt form, but wonderfully made to be holy. God describes him in Ezekiel 28:15 as, "You were blameless in your ways from the day you were

created until unrighteousness was found in you.” Also in Colossian 1:16 points to Christ’s supremacy over all of creation when it says, “For by Him (Christ) all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him.” Satan is thus created by God and infinitely less than God.

2. **Satan is a Spirit Being**—As other angels, with whom he is constantly associated, Satan is in essence a spirit, finite and limited. This means he is spiritual and invisible though at times he may manifest his presence in temporary, visible form.
  
3. **Satan is from the Cherubim Class**. Satan is called by God, “the anointed cherub” and “O covering cherub” (Ezekiel 28:14, 16). This seems to be the highest classification of angelic being. “Cherubim” speaks of God’s presence, glory, holiness, and sovereignty. They were created for this specific ministry. This makes the defection of Satan all the more heinous and reprehensible.

So I hope you can take away from our study, that Satan is real. He is a spirit being under the Supremacy of God. In our next study we are going to pick up on the character of Satan through his many names that the Bible gives him.