

Biblical Theology

U2L18: Satan and Demons Part 1

Definition of Satan and Demons

- Definition: Demons are evil angels who sinned against God and who now continually work evil in the world.

Origin of Demons

1. Demons are evil angels who sinned against God.

- 2 Peter 2:4 - God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell
- Jude 6 - And the angels...left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains...

2. Angelic fall occurred between Genesis 1:31 and Genesis 3:1.

- Genesis 1:31 - And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.
- Genesis 3:1 - Now the serpent was more crafty...

Origin of Satan

1. Satan is an actual being, not an idea.

- Direct Dialogue
 - Temptation of Jesus (Matthew 4:1-11)
 - Job 1:6-7 - Then Satan answered, "From roaming about on the earth..."
- Names
 - Adversary, The Devil (Diabolos – Slanderer), Beelzebul (Matt 10:25; 12:24; 27; Luke 11:15), The Enemy (Matthew 13:39), Deceiver (Rev 12:9), Murder (John 8:44), The Ruler of this world (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11), The prince of the power of the air (Eph 2:2), The Evil one (Matthew 13:19; 1 John 2:13), etc.
- Serpent
 - Who is this serpent in the garden?
 - Revelation 12:9 - that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan...
 - Revelation 20:1-2 - that ancient serpent, who is the devil, or Satan...
 - Was he a literal serpent?
 - Literal basis:
 - Demons talking (Matthew 8:31)
 - Animal possession (Matthew 8:32)
 - Figurative basis:
 - Called serpent and dragon (Revelation 12:9; 20:1-2)
 - Called lion (1 Peter 5:8)
 - Called "god of this world" (2 Corinthians 4:4)

2. Satan is the originator of sin.

- What was he doing on earth?
 - Popular but inconclusive proof texts regarding origin of Satan. CAUTION!
 - Isaiah 14:12-15 - Speaking to King of Babylon.
 - Lucifer is a Latin derivative of "morning star" and is not part of original language of passage. Only found in KJV translation.
 - Ezekiel 28:13-17 - Speaking about King of Tyre
 - Reliable proof texts regarding origin of Satan and demonic sin.
 - Revelation 12:1-5 - Dragon seeking to devour.
 - 2 Peter 2:4 & Jude 6 - Sinned against God and was cast out of heaven.
- Originator of sin.
 - John 8:44 - He was a murderer from the beginning
 - 1 John 3:8 - the devil has been sinning from the beginning

3. Satan is the chief of the demons.

- *Revelation 12:9 - He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.*
- *Revelation 20:1-2 - He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil*
- *Ephesians 6:10-12 - ... stand against the schemes of the devil...spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.*
- *2 Corinthians 4:4 - the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers,*
 - Satan is the one who specifically comes before God along with angels in Job 1.
 - Satan is the one who specifically afflicts Job
 - Satan is the one who specifically tempts Jesus

Discussion Questions

1. What is the origin of the name “Lucifer” used in certain translations of Isaiah 14:12? Why must we be cautious about this passage of scripture?
2. What do you believe is more dangerous: a fixation on the mysteries of the origin of Satan and demons or an indifference? Explain.
3. How would you respond to someone who claimed that Satan isn’t a real being but just a representation of evil?
4. Why is Ephesians 6:10-12 so important for believers to remember?

Reading Assignment

Systematic Theology by Wayne Grudem – Chapter 20: Satan and Demons