

Satan

1. If God created everything did He also create evil?

When we go to the market and purchase, say, an apple. It is very good when it's ripe off of the tree. But, when it's left to age, unlike plastic fruit in a fruit bowl, it **becomes** bad and thus loses its first "goodness". Thus it was with Satan. He was created good but became evil of his own accord, which is where his "choice" came in as a 'free agent'. Because of God's love for His creation, we were not created as robots who obey His every command without choice. God showed His love for us by giving us the choice to love Him through our obedience to Him. We return that love by obeying Him. And choices have with them, consequences. Do good and receive good, but do evil and receive evil in the form of condemnation.

Rom 9:14 What shall we say then? Is there injustice on **God's** part? By no means!

Jos 24:15 And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the **LORD**, **choose** this day whom you will serve,...

We are the ones who choose between doing good or doing evil thus where we will spend eternity. God only honors that choice.

Gen 1:31 And **God** saw **everything** that **He** had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

- Everything means everything. Evil is not something that originated with **God**. It would go against **His** righteous nature. For instance, **God** cannot lie (*Titus 1:2*), **He** didn't create the lie so **He's** not responsible for it. It originated, by choice, with **Satan**, the first sinner. Thus **Jesus** refers to him as the "**father**" of the lie. When speaking to the Pharisees who were among the audience of **Jews** who believed in **Him**, **Jesus** told them who their father was when they claimed to be descendants of **Abraham**. They had denied that they wanted to kill **Him**.

Joh 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and **your will is to do your father's desires**. He was a **murderer** from the beginning, and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for **he is a liar and the father of lies**.

- **father** (*Gk.3962- Thayer: "...used of one who shows himself as like another in spirit and purpose as thou he had inherited his nature from him."*)

2. According to Gen 2:17, wasn't Adam supposed to die the day he disobeyed God?

- Yes, and he did. Death is separation, either physical when the body is separated from the spirit, or spiritual, when the spirit is separated from **God**. **Adam** died a spiritual death. He no longer had that one on one direct access with **God** since he lost his purity, as the purity of the created angels.

Eph 2:1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked,..

Eph 2:4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ--by grace you have been saved-- 6 and raised us up with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

3. Where does it state that the serpent was actually Satan?

- This is where we have to go to the opposite end of the Bible for the answer. In Rev 12:9 and 20:2 we find Satan called "that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan".

4. What was the very first sin? Was it when Satan tempted Eve to do the very thing God said not to (Gen 3:1-4)?

Rom 14:13 ... never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother.

- The answer to this question can be found when looking at one of the qualifications of a potential elder...

1Ti 3:6 He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit (Gk.5187- to inflate with self-conceit: -be lifted up with pride) and fall into the condemnation (Gk.2917- a decision [the function or the effect, for or against 'crime']: -damnation, judgment) of the devil.

In verse 6 we see the phrase "condemnation of the devil" which differs from the phrase in verse 7 "snare of the devil". Snare denotes entrapment set by Satan. Condemnation, therefore, in verse 6 is speaking of a "like sin" committed by the evil one and that sin which Paul is warning about here is pride, thus the very first sin.

5. What about Satan's angels?

Jud 6 And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, He has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day—

Rom 4:15 For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

- Thus showing that there was some sort of law in Heaven or God would not have had to deal so harshly with the angels that fell. At the moment of their creation, angels began their 'probationary period' and those who chose to, followed the devil.

Heb 11:1 Now faith (Gk.4102- especially reliance upon Christ for salvation) is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Jas 2:19 You believe that **God** is one; you do well. Even the demons believe (*Gk.4100- to have faith [with respect to, a person or thing]*)--and shudder!

Demons believe in **Christ**, but not to the point of relying on **Him** for their salvation since they knew/know **Him** personally but chose to follow the wrong person during their probationary period.

Heb 2:16 For surely it is **not angels** that **He** helps, but **He** helps the offspring of **Abraham**.

-
6. If angels can still sin, what's to say those who go to Heaven after the judgment won't sin?
- **Adam** sinned in a sinless environment as a "free agent" (*Gen 2:16-17*). His influence to sin came from **Satan**. The tempter will no longer be in Heaven since he "left [his] proper dwelling" (*Jud 6*), as **Jesus** said in *Lk 10:18* "like lightning from heaven (*Gk.3772- the sky*)", i.e., **Satan's** fall was shortly after the creation. Those who remained after **Satan** was cast out are the intelligent ones who stayed. They are wise enough to understand **Who** is in control and passed their test. With **Satan** gone there will no longer be a tempter in Heaven. And at the resurrection "we shall be like [**Jesus**], because we shall see **Him** as **He** is" (*1 Jn 3:2*), and once in Heaven it will be impossible to sin since **Paul** was inspired to write that "we will always be with the **Lord**" (*1 Th 4:17*). To be like **Him** at that point means to be sinless and unable to give in to temptation, because of **our own** personal choice to obey **Him**, made here during **our** probationary period on earth. **Satan** is still alive and "seeking someone to devour" (*1 Pet 5:8*) and will do so until the end.
-
7. Does Rev 12 refer to what Jesus said about Satan's fall?
- **Rev 12** is not speaking about **Satan's** fall in the beginning. As he did when approaching **God** concerning **Job**, **Satan** had always been about trying to find fault with and thus be able to accuse the faithful before **God's** throne. This 'casting down' happened after **Jesus'** ascension to the right hand of **God** and the establishment of **His** church, thus beginning the persecution against **Christians**, first by the Jews and eventually the Romans. **Jesus**, as our advocate, has been interceding on our behalf since **His** return to Heaven and **Satan** is no longer able to accuse us.

Rev 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in **Heaven**, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for **the accuser** of our brothers has been **thrown down**, who accuses them day and night before our God. 11 And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

-
8. What is the extent of Satan's power since he's still in bondage and will be "for a thousand years" (*Rev 20:2*)?
-

- Satan is only 'handcuffed' as he was when he approached God about Job and was told to do his dirty work, but that he was to "spare [Job's] life" (*Job 2:6*). If Satan could have, he would have killed Job. Once those figurative thousand years of bondage have ended in "the bottomless pit" (*20:1-2*), he "will come out to deceive the nations (*many say he already is*)...but fire [will come] down from heaven and [consume] them" (*Rev 20:9*). Only 'handcuffed', Satan is still active as "the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience" (*Eph 2:2*). Being active is what fuels man's free agency. Once Satan is "thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur" he "will be tormented day and night forever and ever" (*Rev 20:10*) and will be constrained completely from tempting anyone anymore.

9. Is Satan also known as Lucifer? (context/context/context)

- Lucifer is a Latin translation of the Hebrew word "helel" (*From H1984 (in the sense of brightness); the morning star: - lucifer.*) which is not a "proper name, much less the devil's former name." It is "a poor and misleading translation in the English versions." (*KJV-Lucifer, ASV [1901]- day star*) "...Isaiah is mocking the arrogant claims of the King of Babylon that he was a god." (*vs. 13, 14*) (*See also Eze 28 concerning the king of Tyre, verses 1 and 2 and Rev 13 concerning Caesar.*)

Isa 14:4 you will take up this taunt against the **king of Babylon**: "How the oppressor has ceased, the insolent fury ceased!

Isa 14:12 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star (*Heb.1984- lucifer*), son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! **13** You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; **14** I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'

10. How can I avoid being deceived by Satan?

1Jn 4:1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit (*Gk.4151- vital principal*), but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. **2** By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses (*synecdoche*) that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, **3** and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and **now is in the world already**. **4** Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for He Who is in you is **greater** than he who is in the world.

Jas 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. **Resist** the devil, and he will flee from you.