

Spiritual Warfare – Part 1

How The War Got Started!!!

1. How This War Got Started

- There are three scripture passages that describe how Lucifer opposed God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and was expelled from his exalted position as the leader of angelic hosts
- Isaiah 14:12-17, Ezekiel 28:11-17
- In Isaiah's prophecy the message is first to the human King of Babylon which includes the description of Lucifer's fall
- In Ezekiel's prophecy the message is to the King of Tyre and includes the description of Lucifer's fall
- Both prophecies not only show how evil and destructive both the King of Babylon and the King of Tyre were but who was really behind their actions--satan himself.
- An important lesson: As Christians we need to recognize the true enemy behind those who oppose who we are in Christ. (Ephesians 6:12)

Isaiah 14:12-17 (NLT)

- ¹² “How you are fallen from heaven,
O shining star, son of the morning!
You have been thrown down to the earth,
you who destroyed the nations of the world.
- ¹³ For you said to yourself,
‘I will ascend to heaven and set my throne above God’s stars.
I will preside on the mountain of the gods
far away in the north.
¹⁴ I will climb to the highest heavens
and be like the Most High.’
¹⁵ Instead, you will be brought down to the place of the dead,
down to its lowest depths.
- ¹⁶ Everyone there will stare at you and ask,
‘Can this be the one who shook the earth
and made the kingdoms of the world tremble?
¹⁷ Is this the one who destroyed the world
and made it into a wasteland?
Is this the king who demolished the world’s greatest cities
and had no mercy on his prisoners?’

Ezekiel 28: 11-17

- ¹¹ Then this further message came to me from the LORD: ¹² “Son of man, sing this funeral song for the king of Tyre. Give him this message from the Sovereign LORD:
- “You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and exquisite in beauty. ¹³ You were in Eden, the garden of God. Your clothing was adorned with every precious stone: red carnelian, pale-green peridot, white moonstone, blue-green beryl, onyx, green jasper, blue lapis lazuli, turquoise, and emerald all beautifully crafted for you and set in the finest gold. They were given to you on the day you were created.
- ¹⁴ I ordained and anointed you as the mighty angelic guardian. You had access to the holy mountain of God and walked among the stones of fire.
- ¹⁵ “You were blameless in all you did from the day you were created until the day evil was found in you. ¹⁶ Your rich commerce led you to violence, and you sinned. So I banished you in disgrace from the mountain of God. I expelled you, O mighty guardian, from your place among the stones of fire. ¹⁷ Your heart was filled with pride because of all your beauty. Your wisdom was corrupted by your love of splendor. So I threw you to the ground and exposed you to the curious gaze of kings.

Some Observations

1. We are not given any information on when Lucifer began his campaign of rebellion against God but we see that he was caught up with his “God-given” beauty and high position.....he became proud without limit.
2. Un-bridled pride is particularly toxic in that:
 1. It can prevent a person from recognizing he or she is wrong and need to repent.
 2. It prevents a person from accepting counsel or correction.
 3. It will stop at nothing to receive recognition and praise
 4. It forgets God the creator and only source of life and provisions

How did we get involved in the War

- So the beginning of this war started by Lucifer against the God had nothing to do with us.
- It is not clear if Adam and Eve were even created yet when this war began.
- We do know that when Lucifer was cast out of heaven (removed from his position as the leader of the angelic host and prevented from privileged access to God's throne room), the earth was already created, and he was "thrown down to the earth"
- Being God's highest and most loved creation, humans became understandably satan's target to express his hatred toward God.
- But satan faced another problem when he was first cast down to the Earth...he had no authority to exercise control over it.
- God gave authority or "dominion" over the Earth to Adam and Eve. This dominion was centered first in Eden and then as the population increased would cover the earth.
- satan needed to steal this authority given by God to Adam and Eve, but because of the limits to his power, he needed to be patient and subtle in his approach!!!!