

Why Did Satan Do it?

Have you ever wondered what caused Satan to rebel and throw away his number one spot in heaven, just below God Himself? Until I asked myself, I had never heard the question asked, nor any theories offered. What follows is not a theory, but a mere conjecture, which was intended to be short, light and simple. But as I got into it, it grew both in length and seriousness. It is still pure conjecture, but to me at least, it has a plausible ring to it. Therefore I must say, although it is based on a true story, any similarity between actual persons, places or things, living or dead, is purely coincidental. Isn't that the way Hollywood says it?

Billions and billions of years ago, well anyway, sometime in eternity past, an event occurred in a place somewhere else called Heaven. There exists, and always did, an omnipotent One whom we call God. He lived alone in a vast expanse. Well actually, He wasn't exactly alone. He was, and is, a Triune God, there being three aspects of Himself. He chose to describe this three-in-one person to us as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Perhaps He only chose to describe Himself this way so that our simple, limited minds could relate to His awesome Self in terms with which we happen to be familiar. They are all really one Triune Godhead, equally all God, each having all power and omnipotence, doing all things both as equal, complete individuals and at the same time collectively as a single entity. I know, this is very confusing and unbelievable to most mortals, and I mention it only because knowing of His triune nature is necessary if we are to understand who He is, how He operates, and the "atmosphere" within which Satan "did it."

Anyway a long, long time ago, He, They, God, were all that there was. They had a wonderful loving relationship and often talked among themselves (Psalms 2) But one day, it appears that they decided to "increase their borders" in a sense, by creating some beings, some living things to love and care for, to govern, and with which to fellowship. That Thought became reality, and low and behold, (that's Scripture lingo for WOW!) what God now called angels, suddenly came into being! We don't know how many He created, perhaps many thousands or even millions. In creating them, God also created an

organizational structure, a sort of angelic hierarchy, consisting of “principalities and powers.” Some angels were stronger than others, some more intelligent, and some even more beautiful than others. Some were eventually assigned specific jobs, such as messengers. One of these, we know as Gabriel, and others were assigned other known roles such as warriors. We know from God’s “Diary” that He named one of these, Michael. There were also seraphim and cherubim angels. These two categories of angels were assigned places of duty close to God Himself. There was also a chief angel, the leader of them all. God made him the most powerful, most intelligent, most talented, and most beautiful of all of these “Sons of God” as He chose to call His new Family.

So now God had a family to love, to teach and to fellowship with. In this “heavenly realm” they were spirits, for as yet, God had created nothing of substance; there was no earth, or stars, only an eternal, timeless, spaceless, hyper dimensional existence beyond our pitifully, limited ability to comprehend. Can anyone imagine how wonderful “life,” as an angel must have been, being one of His creations, living perpetually in His presence, free of the stress and troubles, which inflict us? How long this situation lasted cannot be understood, because we are incapable of even imagining existence without time and three-dimensional space and substance. We are limited to thinking only in terms of some sequential chain of events, measurable in terms of time, that is, minutes, hours, years, etc. We cannot imagine existence, which is timeless, anymore than we can imagine a multi dimensional world beyond our four dimensions. Even our relatively primitive “cutting edge” science is now aware that there are at least ten dimensions, six of which are inferred and not directly knowable by our senses.

Anyway, a point occurred when God chose to introduce into being, a whole new system of existence which scientists call the space-time continuum. This turned out to be a finely tuned array of stars and other substances, one of which was the planet earth. On this planet, He introduced, for the first time, physical life forms along with a life-sustaining environment. It was at this point, when God, speaking to and of themselves, revealed the pinnacle of their plan when He said, “Let us make man in our image.” (Genesis 1:26) Thus came into being the first man, Adam, and shortly after, the first

woman, Eve. God's plan was to have these two procreate and then populate the earth with others of their kind, and all of them in His image. These were all destined to become joint heirs (Romans 8:17), and to rule this newly created universe with Him. The angels were happy with God's new creation. Out of love for Him, they were pleased to realize that God now would have others, more of His kind than they were, beings with whom He could fellowship and share in ways which they could not. They looked forward to this whole new creation, to observe God's incredible work, and saw new opportunities to serve Him as this new world progressed.

Yes, all were happy, except one. He was the chief angel, the number one being of all creation up to that point. For eons, he had been in charge of everything, which had ever existed, until then. Now, out of the blue, God has announced that He brought into existence a whole universe and that this new being, Adam, and his descendants were to jointly govern it with God. Adam was the first in a line of persons, who were to be over everything, even Satan and all his brother angels as well! Where would this leave Satan? He was the super angel. Aside from God Himself, there was none other more powerful intelligent beautiful and talented than he. He was perfect! Even God said so. (Ezekiel 28:15) Now, God had pulled the rug out from under him. He was to be relegated to second class, below this physical walking klutz and his offsprings! How awful he must have felt! Let us see if we can imagine what went through Satan's mind as he observed all these happenings and grew more concerned about his future.

Prior to this, Satan ruled the whole show. He had no peers. God had given him full authority to run things pretty much as he pleased. This wasn't right! How could the "old man" do this to him? He had always done a good job; there were no complaints! Before this he had never had even a single bad thought. Why should he? There was nothing but happiness in his heart, nothing to think badly about. Now, Satan would be subordinate to some upstart who didn't have a fraction of his power, knowledge, beauty, and talent. Suddenly, added to this anguish, he realized that he felt justifiable pride in who he was, knowing that he was better than any other angel, and surely better than Adam. He felt anger because of what God had done, and he felt envy, because this Adam, in spite of his

obvious inferiority, was what Satan could never be, a likeness of God! Is it any wonder Satan felt these things? Just how much put down, how much humiliation could one angel stand? Especially the super angel!

Well, he would show God! He simply wouldn't stand for it. The "old man" couldn't do this to him. He had great powers too; from his perspective, they were almost as great as the Fathers. But what to do? He knew he couldn't attack the Father, nor could he get Him to change the plan. God had already put it into action. But perhaps, he could mess it up by somehow compromising this simpleton, this still wet-behind-the-ears fool who didn't yet know anything. As he looked down, Satan could see Adam there in the garden, this strange looking creature, and his even stranger looking companion, the likes of which of course, he had never seen. Actually, there was something about her he thought that was rather attractive and even captivating, he mused. "But look at that fool Adam" he thought, "all he can do is to go around naming animals (Genesis 2:19,20) and in the meanwhile, all she is doing is prancing around sampling fruit and berries. How could Adam, or a million like him ever be able to do what I can do, let alone judge and rule over me! No way, it won't work and I won't allow it"

The more he thought about it the angrier he became. In his thoughts, he said, "I'm through being Mr. Nice Guy, carrying all of God's burdens of leadership and decision making, doing all the work here in heaven, and them doing nothing but sitting on their thrones figuring out ways to do me in. Their plan isn't going to work; I'll see to that! Sure, I'm upset at being subordinated by some new putz they decided to create. Who wouldn't be? When I get finished with that jerk, God won't even recognize him. Then, when God sees that their "image man" is not what They thought They had created, They will quit this foolishness, reinstate me, and all will be right again."

Well, we know from God's Diary how Satan tricked Adam and Eve to sin and thereby lose their made-in-His-image status. With this Satan, thought he had won because he knew that God could not countenance sin. He believed that God would simply toss Adam out of the garden and end this farce.

How proud he was to have exposed the frailty of this facade. This failure by God to have created an in-depth likeness of Himself. Surely now God would see His mistake, and praise Satan for revealing it to Him.

How delighted Satan was as he watched the two of them, after they had sinned. How poetically just it seemed to him as he saw the cloak of God's light and righteousness that he so envied, and that had clothed them, suddenly disappear. He knew that this "made-in-His-image" aspect of God's new creation was gone, and that he had done it! It was like the end of a great performance, when the spotlight moves away from the stage. How pathetic, weak, and frightened they looked, as they sought to cover themselves. These sniveling, cowardly excuses for life were now no better, he thought, than the lowly beast Adam had been naming the day before. In fact, they were worse. They didn't even have fur, or feathers or scales to cover their very ugly exposed skin!

Then came that great moment he was waiting for, when God saw Adam's nakedness and knew that he had sinned. Why didn't He blast Adam? Why didn't He end this foolishness and let us all get back to the tranquility and peace we had before God got on His made-in-His-own-image kick? Why didn't God turn to him and thank him for showing Him His error? But look at what happened as a result of Adam's sin! Satan could see that the whole universe "groaned," that pain and suffering, sickness and death entered the world and infected all living creatures and caused the whole decaying process of entropy to begin throughout both the heavens and the earth. Wow! This was something he had never expected. He was more than a little disturbed by that part of the scene!

But what did God do? Instead of dumping them as rejects, and admitting the project to be a failure, He expressed infinite love for these vile creatures, and great enmity toward Satan! He thought to himself, "What did I do? I just exposed the weakness and imperfections of God's recent handiwork. Now, He has sworn enmity against me and eliminated my rank and position! That's not fair." he thought. "I'm just a messenger, the

revealer of God's mistake! Sure, I tempted them, but look how easy it was! He should realize that sooner or later their lack of character would lead them to sin anyway. I just exposed the inevitable a little sooner. Actually, I did Him a favor, by revealing the weakness of this whole new creation sooner instead of later."

Poor Satan, he never did figure out that nothing was wrong or left out of God's plan. There was no weakness or imperfection that God didn't intend or plan on allowing. What Satan couldn't comprehend was that this "weakness" was in fact, the manifestations of God's most intricate and precious ingredient, which we call choice or free will. Strength, as Satan imagined it, would have been strict, unyielding, unquestioning, never failing, adherence to God's will as in a stringed puppet or a robot. Little did he know, and probably still can not understand that he, Satan, and his actions were all part of God's perfect plan. Satan represents the alternate choice to God, which makes free will a living fact, rather than a sham. Of course, it has brought about much pain and suffering, entirely because of wrong choices, but that is the price which had to be paid for the filtering out of those who would not chose correctly, and therefore would not enter His eternal kingdom.

God's response to his actions sorely angered Satan even more. But fortunately for him, he thought, "God did not take away my powers, only my position, and I am left to roam the earth and even to rule it from behind the scenes." God allotted him the freedom to hassle, tempt, and wreak havoc to a limited degree over the whole earth. But only for a certain amount of time would he be allowed this freedom. For God, in banishing him from heaven, told him that his ultimate destination would first be the bottomless pit, (Revelation 20:1-3) and then after a thousand years of an even more limited freedom, he would be cast into the lake of fire, forever! (Revelation 20:10)

When Satan heard this he was extremely distraught and filled with fear. How could this be? It was unreal; it had to be just a bad dream. Just for a simple little trick whereby he exposed the faultiness of God's creation, he, the greatest of the them all, would be banished and forced to suffer throughout eternity? He begged for an audience with the

Father, and on his knees, (figuratively speaking, because he had no body or knees) he pleaded for mercy and forgiveness. But God would have none of it. For any angel to sin was an unforgivable act. But this was also a sin of the highest order, one, which had literally shaken the whole universe and heaven as well. Because of this one act, God would eventually have to create a whole new heaven and earth. (Revelation 21:1) (Of course He had always intended too.)

Having received no relief by his pleas, Satan went away and sulked for a while. Slowly as all of this sank in, anger and hate and vengeful thoughts against God filled his mind, and his now thoroughly evil heart. He had been top angel from the day he was created. He knew no other “life.” As he calmed down, he took inventory of himself and began thinking of what, if anything, he could do about his situation. He didn’t have the power to know all things in advance of their happening as did God, but he did have a large intelligence network and many friends within the angel community to inform him of what was going on. God had not stripped him of any of his powers, only of his angelic authority. He had the power to observe on a moment-by-moment basis all that was actually happening on earth and even in the minds of men. He had many other latent powers, which he was only now discovering. The most intriguing of them, he mused, was the power to deceive. How easy it had been to manipulate Eve into believing that she could be “as God,” if she would do the only thing which God had forbidden her to do. Deception! That was a new power, a new force that had never before been applied anywhere, ever! These feelings of pride, envy, hate and anger, which he had only recently come by, were also new to the cosmos, and he was the first to express them! He had invented them! These were powerful new tools! With these, he reasoned, he could easily manipulate these simpletons. He could continue to deceive and to tempt them into sin and thereby to rebel against God’s will. This would surely thwart Gods plans, including the one regarding his own ultimate destiny. As his hopes grew, so also did his pride increase to where he began to believe he could not only thwart God’s plans, but also eventually, even usurp His authority and become “as God himself!”

God had allowed him domain over the earth. This was God's big mistake he, reasoned. With this he would surely be able to alter whatever the divine plan might be. But one thing worried him, because he didn't understand it. In condemning him God had said, "I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed, and it shall bruise your head and you shall bruise his heel." (Genesis 3:15) What was that all about? Even his intelligence sources could tell him. The woman? There was only one, Eve. Surely she couldn't do anything? And seed? What's that? Bruise my head? It didn't make any sense, but because of its source, he had to take it seriously and stay alert to everything that was going on with these two wenches God had created.

It wasn't long before Cain and Able some along. Now he could see how these earthlings were able to propagate, that is create to likeness as of themselves from within. This was astounding! God had surely created a new type of being, one with a built-in ability to bring forth more of his own kind. Did this have anything to do with the seed of the woman, he wondered? Well if it did, he would nix that before it got out of hand. Satan had observed God's insistence on animal sacrifice as some form of penitence and worship of Him. Seeing that Cain farmed while Able shepherded he saw an easy way to toss in a "monkey wrench" by simply getting Cain to reason that vegetables were as good as lambs to be sacrificed. He knew that this would not please God. Throwing in a touch of envy into Cain's heart, because God looked more favorably at Abel's offering, and then add a bit of anger, and bingo! Mr. Good is dead, and Mr. Bad would never have God's favor or produce that head bruising seed! Score one for Satan!

But later Seth came along, Cain multiplied, and so did Seth. Adam and Eve also had many more "unreported" offspring. Now the problem was getting complicated for Satan. He realized that by himself, he couldn't possibly handle all the work involved in perverting all of this growing population. It was easy to do, that is to deceive and to tempt these weak-willed, pleasure-loving humans into sinful behavior, but now he needed help! With that ever-expanding population, he needed his own army of angels if he was going to be able to control this rabble. He knew that some of the angels, those that still communicated with him, were a little weaker in their allegiance to God than were the

others. Was it possible that he could convince any of them to join him? Why not! Deception was his name, and control was his game! He knew them better than they knew themselves; after all he had spent billions of years as their boss. These select ones he had in mind already had a soft spot for him. All he had to do was to convince them that he had something better and more exciting to offer them than God did. What would do it? Truth didn't matter; perception was the only thing of value. First, they already knew how great he was, how powerful and how valued he had been in heaven. They saw how easily he had manipulated Eve, and they also had witnessed the Cain strategy. If he could convince them that they had more exciting and rewarding opportunities with him than with God, he would surely be able to develop the means of thwarting God's plans. He could promise each one a powerful place behind each throne on earth whereby they would, under his authority, become the principalities and powers, influence every king, governor, president, emperor, bureaucracy, and governing body on earth. They could even officiate and have control over all false religions, which he planned to create. Most importantly, he would convince them that they would share in his glory as he became "as God." That's when God would finally admit failure of His divine "experiment" and agree to move over and give him his rightful place along side of Them on the heavenly throne.

But too much of this was promises, which he couldn't fulfill immediately, and couldn't as yet convincingly guarantee. He needed something very tempting and immediate in order to seduce them out of heaven. If he could just get them out of there, he knew that they would be his forever, because God would never let them come back. They would be all subject to the same fate God had decreed for him. Of course, he wouldn't tell them that! He'd only speak of the good stuff, the power, the activity, the glory and the excitement that would be theirs. Then he had the answer. He remembered that "feeling" he had when he saw Eve. It was something very strange, nothing he had ever experienced before. He had thought her to be "attractive." But what did that mean. He didn't know, but it was potentially seductive, and seduction was his middle name! Then, in this context he began looking around and saw that many of the women were "fair" and exuded something that seemed tempting to him. "Temptation. That's what I need," he

said to himself. “I need something that will tempt them, something to weaken their spiritual strength. Women, that’s it!” He knew that all of the “sons of God” had the capacity to take on a human forms and bodies as he did, even though most of them hadn’t as yet experienced this strange ability. He himself had taken the form of a serpent in the garden with Eve, so he knew how these transformations worked. This would be demonstrated many times later in history as God sent his faithful angels in human bodies to perform many specific tasks here on earth.

After briefing his angel friends on all the glory and excitement that could be theirs if they joined him, he simply suggested that they ought to take a moment and look down and observe what had been going on, and in particular, to take a long hard look at the women folk. When they did, “the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were fair, and they took them wives of all which they chose” (Genesis 6:2). How Satan strutted and praised himself over his brilliant achievement! Now, he had them! Only God knows how many. Scripture tells us it was a third of all of the angels in heaven! With such a large army, he believed he now had all he needed to eventually become “as God” and not only avoid hell, but also be able to force his way back into heaven! At the very least, he now had the means to effectively rule the earth, and to a large degree control, to their detriment, the workings of all mankind whom he so hated.

As an aside, it should be noted that in God’s recording of this event, as quoted, He used the Hebrew word “ishahah,” which the English translators called “wives.” The word actually means “women” although wives is an acceptable translation in certain contexts. However, here it clearly means “women.” Therefore, the verse really says, “they took them women all which they chose.” It seems evident that they didn’t go through any such formalities as marriage; they just took!

This coup that he scored by tempting angels away from God, turned out to be “a hat trick,” that is a triple whammy, a victory even bigger than had he imagined, or so he thought. Not only did he now have his army of angels, but with this affair between the angels and women, there was now a race of super evil beings, which would so pollute the

human race that God, later, was forced to destroy the whole world with a flood, in order to erase the corruption that it caused. And additionally, as these “Nephelin,” died their spirits, not being of human origin, were unacceptable anywhere in the after life of souls, and thus became the so-called: “evil spirits” remaining here on earth as another formidable asset to Satan’s arsenal of weapons to be used against humanity, and therefore also against God.

With the advent of the Nephelin polluting much of the human race, and man’s natural sinful nature inherited from Adam, the early world became an abomination to God, “...and it repented the Lord that He had made man, and it grieved Him at His heart, and the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth...” (Genesis 6:7). We might conclude from this statement, that He regretted creating man, as the word “repent” would seem to indicate. The Hebrew word, however, which is “ahahh,” means, “expressing pain exclamatorily.” Of course, God felt pain!! He loves His creation and it grieved Him whenever we dishonored Him by sinning, but surely He does not regret! To regret would be to have insufficient foreknowledge of the consequences of ones act. God is and always has been in charge and knows all things past, present and future. That He has and does allow Satan to continue to exist and to do his evil is consistent with His plan and must be accepted as such, even though we cannot fully comprehend its divine purpose. In this paper we are conjecting and describing what might have been the situation from Satan’s perspective. But one should remember, God knows and controls everything. He expresses His will as it pleases Him to do so, but He also allows others to express theirs. Because He allows things, which are contrary to His will, to that which He does not prefer, only proves the genuineness of His gift to us of free choice. He pays the price of this gift to us many times over, as evidenced by Genesis 6:6, and in many other verses throughout Scripture, all culminating in the sacrifice of His own Son, so that the accumulation of all the bad choices of those who truly believe in Him according to the Gospel, will be forgiven and their souls saved. That is, of course, the essence of God’s plan and the purpose of all that has or ever will transpire.

As Satan realized the great tragedy he had inflicted on the human race, he could sense victory approaching as he saw God preparing to wipe out all which He had created by flooding the entire earth. Now, surely he would be vindicated by having proven God wrong in His assessment of this frail and faulty generation which was now so evidently far, far from being “in His image.” But then to his astonishment, and what he perceived to be God’s desperate attempt to salvage His hopeless plan, he saw the one small family of eight rescued by God for the purpose of repopulating the restored earth. Satan could see that he had let one slip through his cordon of temptation, which had perverted the entire population, for God said to Noah “...for I have seen righteousness before me in this generation” (Genesis 7:1) Certainly Noah was a sinner as we all are, having the seeds of sin in our genes as transmitted to us from the first one so infected in the garden. But here perhaps is the first documented, demonstrated act of real faith and saving grace through faith, if one excludes Abel and then Enoch, who “walked with God” and was taken directly to heaven. (Genesis 5:23,24). Our Lord told Noah to build the ark, a task, which he struggled with faithfully for 200years, and completed just as God had commanded. Can you comprehend how difficult this was, to build out of wood, a ship as long as a football field and as large as a modern tanker? Can you imagine 200 years of such painful persevering struggle amid the jeers and ridicule of all who witnessed his efforts to build a ship far from water in a world where it had never rained? And when asked, he would say that it was to save his family and animal life from the coming flood. Who among us here today, would not have been one of those jeering him to scorn? Here alone was faith, very long enduring faith, as great as any to be found anywhere in Scripture, or in life.

To Satan’s disappointment, as would happen over and over again into the end times, here God had snatched victory from the jaws of what seemed to him would be God’s certain defeat. But Satan was far from daunted. He saw this as a pathetic act of desperation by God to try to salvage His “experiment.” He now had over 1650 years of experience, learning the fine arts of deception, temptation, and perseverance. He surely could destroy the souls of a measly eight who had slipped through his net!

By now this saga of “why did he do it?” has gone on long enough to bring boredom to even the hardest of those who might be willing to read it. But the story of the “war” has continued on throughout the ages, and has become personalized to those of us now living, as we see the prophesied end times at hand, with the final battle and the evil ones defeat not too far in the future. The history of this war would fill large volumes, but then God has already written it. Scripture identifies literally hundreds of events directly attributed to Satan’s efforts as he has learned of, and responded to Gods redemptive plan for man and for the universe.

Even though this paper has become longer than I had intended, I feel compelled to note the following few additional evidences of Satan’s involvement in world history as he has tried to control, condemn and eliminate as much of the human race as he possibly could.

Nimrod: The first would-be world dictator and hater of God. One major strategy Satan employed repeatedly was to try to unify mankind under one government and one religion, which he would then control. Nimrod was his first recorded attempt. When God destroyed the tower of Babel, He also segregated and caused the scattering of man by instilling in them a wide variety of languages where communication between various linguistic people groups became very difficult. This caused them to separate rather than to continue to grow in a single cluster, and it was thus the beginning of the different cultures and nationalities as they spread across the earth to establish their individual “countries.” God did this in order to make it more difficult to create another stable, controllable “one-world government” which Satan could fully control. However, as we look around today, we see a one-world government and a single world religion being formed before our eyes! This is no surprise because God has told us that this would be the condition in the end times.

Abraham: The “Father of God’s chosen people.” It was from here in the Scripture that Gods plan for the redemption of mankind was “formerly” revealed. Oh, it had been alluded to in a number of ways, but so subtlety that it is doubtful that Satan even caught it. His “bruising by the seed of the woman” was one, and even that prophetic sentence

that is formed by the definition of the names of the first ten men from Adam to Noah tells of His plan. (see *Is God really the author of the Bible?*) But through Abraham, God would form a nation, a chosen people, through whom the Redeemer would come. Satan has hated all mankind from the very first two in the garden for reasons already given. But now he had a particular people on which to focus his hate and destructive powers. Satan could see that these were the particular people on whom God was relying, and through whom He intended to redeem a remnant, a people who would retrieve that “made-in His-image” quality, and thereby qualify to become joint-heirs in the rule of the universe. If he could but destroy them, he would have demolished God’s purpose! Thus began the narrowing of Satan’s focus and his campaign of “anti-Semitism” which has continued to this day. This war against God has been not unlike a chess game in many ways, literally, involving kings, queens, knights, bishops, and pawns, and “popes” with moves and counter moves. What Satan cannot admit is that God is the ultimate player and that He in the end, will produce the checkmate.

Pharaoh: It’s likely that Satan controlled the hearts of most Pharaohs, for one of them put the Hebrews into bondage and later another one established a program of annihilation by having all Hebrew male babies killed. We see God’s intervention in this plan as the mothers improvised to save their sons. Then we see God miraculously intervene as He parted the waters of the Red Sea so as to provide for the Hebrew nation to escape and for the destruction of Satan’s agents.

Judges: After the inspired leadership of Joshua, it didn’t take long for Satan to seduce the Hebrew tribes into idol worship as he had all other people groups. During the period of about 300 years until the time of Samuel, the Hebrew tribes were loosely governed by what Scripture calls “Judges,” which were simply strong tribal leaders. In these times of the Judges we see the seesaw struggle among good and bad leaders between a few trusting in God, but mostly those whom Satan managed. It was a time much like today when “every man did what was right in his own eyes” (Judges 17:6, 21:25) rather than obey God.

Saul: Here we have the “double minded” man initially good and endowed with the Holy Spirit, only to be repeatedly attacked and influenced by Satan, whose primary focus was to remove David. This is because by now it had become evident that the “seed of the woman” would come through the line of David. Here we see again the seesaw struggle this time within Saul. First he was endowed with good and then with evil, this being repeated over and over again. We must remember that today, beginning with the Pentecost the Comforter, which Jesus sent (John 14:16) enters permanently in the hearts of the redeemed. Prior to Pentecost however, the Holy Spirit could both enter and leave one’s heart depending on the condition of the heart. Here Scripture tells us that this was the on-again, off-again condition of Saul’s heart. It also informs us that the Holy Spirit entered and never left David’s heart, as He does today with every redeemed Christian.

The Kings: Starting with David, the first of God’s chosen bloodline of Kings we see clearly the titanic struggle between God and Satan. Throughout the life of David we see Satan trying to kill him, first through Saul and then through others, even David’s own son Absalom. Satan was also creating circumstances whereby David would be tempted by Bethsheba and thereby commit adultery and murder. Then with Solomon, we see his initially strong virtuous nature eroded by the temptation and opportunity resulting from wealth and fame, and, of course, the influence of Satan-controlled “principalities and powers.” Solomon’s reign is followed, at Satan’s instigation, by a division of the tribes into two kingdoms, Judah and Israel, each of which went from bad to worse, with a few good kings scattered along the lines of succession. Finally God’s patience came to an end in Jeroboam’s reign over Judah when He cursed Jeroboam and “cut off” his royal line. With this seemingly rash act of God, Satan believed that God had “shot Himself in the foot.” This is because God had said that the redeemer, “the seed which would bruise the head” would come from the bloodline of David, which God had now severed. It took Satan a while to realize what we know from the genealogy of Jesus, as recorded in Luke 3:31, that the bloodline from David to Jesus came not through his son Solomon, but through Nathan another son and down to Mary, which, even though being a woman, she

was a qualified heir by virtue of God's ancient decree regarding the daughters of Zelophehad. (Numbers 27) Thus Satan was "checked" again, but not "checkmate" yet!

Hamen: As found in the Book of Ester, Haman was the equivalent of a Prime Minister, under the Persian King Ahasuerus, son of Darius, also known in secular history as, Xerxes, or Artaxerxes. This was around 535 BC as the Hebrew exiles had returned from Babylon to rebuild the temple. By fiendishly clever manipulation, orchestrated by Satan, Haman was given the absolute authority to kill every Jew on earth, and he formulated a foolproof plan to do so. It was only by the grace of God, as it was imparted to Ester and her uncle Mordecci, that this was prevented. This episode also presents a wonderful example of God's omniscience, power and divine presence in the affairs and workings of this world. Haman was a descendant of Agag, King of the Amalikites, an agent of evil whom God had told Saul to slay. But Saul disobeyed and spared him, thus permitting this line of Israel's enemies to continue and to produce Hamen and his plan. Also however, King David, who was, according to God, "a man after His own heart," spared the life of one of his enemies, named Shimei, from whose line came Ester and Mordecci! So Satan was foiled again, by our wonderful Father and Master Strategist!

Herod: Here we have the second recorded case of infanticide as Herod tried to kill Baby Jesus as he "...sent forth and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem and the coasts thereof from two years old and under..." (Matthew 2:16) Here again by divine foreknowledge God had already sent Mary and Joseph with Jesus to Egypt until after Herod had died.

The Crucifixion: This to Satan was his finest hour! Over the centuries he had tried, whenever opportunities occurred, to eliminate the entire Jewish race, or at least the line, which would lead to Jesus. Somehow, God had always out-foxed him. Now, through his devious ways, he had arranged for the execution of this One who would "bruise his head," this Son of God, this incarnation of God Himself! God had failed and he had won! Now the world would really be his, and heaven would be within his reach! It would seem that Satan still didn't understand the full extent of God's plan. But when our

Savior had risen from the dead, had defeated death, and had thereby obtained victory over him, Satan was taken aback and realized that he had won nothing! Previously his pride and arrogance had caused him to pay little attention to God's whole Word as it is written and where God's divine plan for redemption is so clearly laid out. He had preferred to use his own power of reasoning, to use terrorist hit-and-run tactics, and to respond to whatever he could learn from on-going events, as the means of thwarting God's will. Now he had to study God's revealed plan if he was to ever checkmate Him. Also, with Jesus risen, another whole dimension to the battle had been created. There was now in permanent full-time residence here on earth, another extremely powerful force whom Jesus had called the Comforter and the Restrainer. He was an indwelling spirit of salvation who would enter the heart of anyone who faithfully believed and trusted in Jesus as his or her Lord and Savior.

Previously Satan had used his army of evil spirits to contaminate souls and thus recruit for his own purpose nearly any human he chose. Now, with those who had become "Christians" and thus received the Holy Spirit, he could no longer recruit them. He could not displace the Holy Spirit with his evil ones. He could cause them mental, physical and emotional pain and suffering of every kind, but he could not penetrate their souls, for they forever belonged to Jesus. He also learned from the "New Scripture" that this Comforter, this Holy Spirit would continue to immunize souls until some point in time when "...the fullness of the gentiles be come in," (Romans 11:25) after which Israel would be saved by Jesus as He returned to the earth. After that, God would deal with him personally. "Ah, Ha," he thought, "So that was God's plan. When He has enough, a certain number of these "born-again Christians" in heaven to rule over the angels and the universe, that will be the moment when he plans to capture me and end my rule here on earth. Then, having saved the Jews, he plans to assume David's throne from which He, Jesus, will rule the world with the Jews. How foolish it is of God to advertise His moves," he thought as he digested all of this, and then he said to himself, "Now I know how to play out the game and checkmate Him! First I'll extend that time that it will take for Him to collect His own, and somehow during that time, I will eliminate all the Jews so that there won't be any here for him to save and rule over. No Jews, no throne, no

return of Jesus and to rule by Jesus, translates to, no threat to me! Checkmate! The game is over, and I won! Sorry God, now you'll see that I am like the most high. It will be time for you to move over."

So now we see here in our own lifetimes, the final moves of this end times game being played out. We see the rise and rapid proliferation of many false religions and even many false gospels within the so-called "Christian denominations" These are all ways to thwart actual salvation and to deceive the vast majority into believing they are saved when they are not. This is part of Satan's strategy to at least slow the rate of salvation and to delay the day when that secret number of saved souls is reached, and the father says to His Son, "go get them." This will be the rapture. We see throughout history, millions of real Christians being persecuted, tortured, and killed for their faith from the time of Caesar to now and beyond. These are also all parts of the same delaying tactics to prolong the time until "the fullness of gentiles."

Satan and his hosts never sleep, and never cease to wage their corruption to subvert, pervert and convert souls into false beliefs. Not only have they been successful in growing the popularity of pagan religions, but they have also subverted the many "Christian" denominations through the tempting logic of ecumenism and the casting of doubts and confusion regarding Genesis and the Gospels. Combining these with the promotion of "easy," "quick" or "manipulative" prayerism within even the evangelical's churches, they have converted legions to a false Christianity and even more dangerously to a false belief that they are saved. Having learned what I have regarding this travesty, I no longer consider myself to be an Evangelical Christian, but instead a Fundamentalist Christian. Even in this last bastion of real Christianity there is much evidence of Satan having made significant inroads in this respect, I am but a messenger. Before, you "hang" the messenger, "check these things to see if they be true." (Acts 17:11)

As for the Jews, and Satan's plan for their elimination, he has always sought this, but now it had become imperative. History shows us evidence of his activity throughout to the present "AD" era starting with the slaughter in 70 AD, the Roman persecutions in the

first, second and third centuries AD, “Crusades” ordered by the Popes, and other atrocities and slaughters directed by papal authority over the centuries “in the name of Christianity.” Perhaps the most notable of all efforts was through those agents of Satan namely Hitler and Stalin. And now after a brief respite, we see anti-Semitism returning in Europe, and of course continuing in the Middle East where it has always been. It is less evident, but is surely rising here in the United States and elsewhere in the world and will continue to do so until all nations of the world will rise against Israel in the final days, as prophesied

Those of us, who have read the Book and believe, know who checkmates whom, and how He does it. Praise the Lord! As prefaced, this paper is pure conjecture as to what Satan thought and why he did what he did. But it is laced securely, I believe, with defensible Scripture, and historical evidence in order to give it a plausible base. Surely, Satan had to have had a reason for his actions. He had, for God knows how long, being a good and faithful servant who suddenly expressed what must have been his prerogative all along, to go against God’s will, and exercise his own free will. That others joined him, suggests that God had given all angels free will as He did to those He made in-His-own-image.

If you, hate, scoff, ridicule, or like what I have written, it doesn’t matter. The only thing that matters is that it moves you to think about God, about His eternal plan, about sin, salvation, and repentance, and then, that it causes you to search the Scripture, and come closer to knowing God-Jesus. If it does this, praise the Lord, and may He bless you exceedingly through His incredible Word!