



The Fall of Lucifer

ISAIAH 14:12; EZEKIEL 28:12; REVELATION 12
THE SPIRIT OF PROPHECY, CHAPTER 1

To the intent that now unto the
principalities and powers in heavenly
places might be known by the church the
manifold wisdom of God, (Ephesians 3:10)

so that the manifold wisdom of God might
now be made known through the church to
the rulers and the authorities in the
heavenly *places*. (NASB)

What we do is observed in heavenly places, and the manifold wisdom of God is thus made known. We are spectacles to the universe; we are "called according to *his* purpose" (Romans 8:28).

For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, like men sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels, and to men. (1 Corinthians 4:9)

Therefore ye *are* my witnesses, saith the Lord, that I *am* God. (Isaiah 43:12)

Knowing this,

... what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? (2 Peter 3:11-12)

Ought ye to be . . .

- ought—it is necessary to be, must be, has to be
- conversation—conduct, behavior
- godliness—piety, devoutness
- hasting—hasten, cause to happen soon

Abraham's unselfish life made him indeed a "spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men" (1 Corinthians 4:9). And the Lord declared He would bless those who blessed Abraham, and that He would punish those who misused or injured him. Through Abraham's experience in his religious life a correct knowledge of Jehovah has been communicated to thousands; and his light will shed its beams all along the path of those who practice the piety, the faith, the devotion, and the obedience of Abraham. (YRP 255.4)

**And I will bless them that bless thee,
and curse him that curseth thee: and
in thee shall all families of the earth
be blessed. (Genesis 12:3)**

The world is a theater. The actors, its inhabitants, are preparing to act their part in the last great drama. God is lost sight of. With the great masses of mankind there is no unity, except as men confederate to accomplish their selfish purposes. God is looking on. His purposes in regard to his rebellious subjects will be fulfilled. The world has not been given into the hands of men, though God is permitting the elements of confusion and disorder to bear sway for a season. (*RH* September 10, 1903, par. 4)

A power from beneath is working to bring about the last great scenes in the drama,—Satan coming as Christ, and working with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in those who are binding themselves together in secret societies. Those who are yielding to the passion for confederation are working out the plans of the enemy. The cause will be followed by the effect. (*RH* September 10, 1903, par. 4)

We are "a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men." 1 Corinthians 4:9. Our mission is the same as that which was announced by Christ, at the beginning of His ministry, to be His mission. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me," He said, "because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Luke 4:18, 19. (8T 134.1)

The universe is watching us, and we have been granted the great privilege of understanding heavenly scenes of old.

God has
given us
information
that takes
us back in
time.



Past the Wright brothers' first flights





Past the time of the first automobiles

Past the Revolutionary War



To before the time of Ephesus



Hadrian's temple at Ephesus



Amphitheater Ephesus

Even before the creation of man

Back through space to heaven itself and Lucifer



- Isaiah 14:12
- Ezekiel 28:12
- Revelation 12

- 2 Corinthians 11:14—transformed
- Mark 13:22—signs and wonders
- 1 Peter 5:8—the adversary
- Revelation 12:10—accuser of brethren
- Revelation 9:11—Apollyon
- Revelation 20:2—Dragon

- John 8:44—liar, father of lies
- Colossians 1:13—power of darkness
- He's also proud, wicked, subtle, fierce, cruel, a ravening wolf, a lion seeking to devour, an enemy
- He sets snares for the unwary, sows tares.
- He did not keep his first estate (Jude 6).

- 2 Peter 2:4—he sinned
- 2 Corinthians 4:4; Luke 4:5, 6—god of this world
- Fell from heaven Luke 10:18; Revelation 12—fell from heaven
- John 8:44—abode not in the truth which means there was a time he was where the truth was.

In heaven, Lucifer was

- a high and exalted angel, next in honor to Jesus himself.
- His countenance was mild and expressive of happiness.
- His forehead was high and broad, showing a powerful intellect.

- His form was perfect, his bearing noble and majestic.
- A special light beamed in his countenance and shone around him brighter and more beautiful than the light around other angels.
- BUT he was envious of Christ and gradually assumed command which was Christ's alone.

Jesus

- Jesus had the pre-eminence of all the angelic host,
- and he was one with the Father before the angels were created.

The Father

- gathered all the angels together and in their presence conferred special honor on Jesus.
- Jesus was seated with the Father on the throne.
- The Father told the angels that he had decided that Christ, his Son, should be equal with him, so that wherever the Son was present, it was as if the Father were present.

- The word of the Son was to be obeyed as readily as the Father's own word.
- The Father had invested his Son with authority to command the heavenly host,
- and his Son would work with him in the creation of earth and of every living thing on the earth.

- His Son would carry out his will and his purposes and would do nothing of himself alone. The Father's will would be fulfilled in him.

Lucifer

- Lucifer was jealous, envious, and full of hatred for Jesus because he was not taken into special counsel with the Father as Jesus was.
- Lucifer did not understand and was not permitted to know the purposes of God.

Lucifer concealed his real purpose and called the angelic host together. He told them their sweet liberty was at an end because they now had a ruler appointed over them

and that he would never again bow down to Christ. Instead, he would take the honor upon himself that should have been conferred upon him and would be the commander of all who would submit to him and obey his voice!

- Lucifer denounced the loyal angels as slaves
- and promised a better government for them that was full of freedom.
- He flattered himself that all the angels would eventually side with him and that he would be equal with God himself.

Amazing! He told the angels that their liberty was at an end because they had a ruler (Jesus) appointed over them, and now he said he should be their commander and they should submit to him and obey *his* voice.

Many of the angels listened to
him and agreed with him.

These angels were not happy that they were not allowed to look into the Father's wisdom and to understand his purposes in exalting Jesus and in endowing him with unlimited power and command. So they rebelled against the authority of Jesus.

And there

was war

in heaven.

God in His great mercy bore long with Lucifer. He was not immediately degraded from his exalted station when he first indulged the spirit of discontent, nor even when he began to present his false claims before the loyal angels. **Long** was he retained in heaven. **Again and again he was offered pardon** on condition of repentance and submission. Such efforts as only infinite love and wisdom could devise were made to convince him of his error. (GC 495.3)

The spirit of discontent had never before been known in heaven. Lucifer himself did not at first see whither he was drifting; he did not understand the real nature of his feelings. But as his dissatisfaction was proved to be without cause, **Lucifer was convinced that he was in the wrong**, that the divine claims were just, and that he ought to acknowledge them as such before all heaven. Had he done this, he might have saved himself and many angels. He had not at this time fully cast off his allegiance to God. (GC 495.3)

Though he had forsaken his position as covering cherub, yet if he had been willing to return to God, acknowledging the Creator's wisdom, and satisfied to fill the place appointed him in God's great plan, he would have been reinstated in his office. But **pride forbade him to submit**. He persistently defended his own course, maintained that he had no need of repentance, and fully committed himself, in the great controversy, against his Maker. (GC 495.3)