

Who is Satan?

Abaddon

accuser

adversary

ruler of this world

Beelzebub

Belial

Deceiver

Prince of the power of the air

Dragon

enemy

father of lies

god of this world

tempter

liar

murderer

Devil

ruler of the demons

Apollyon

Satan

serpent of old

Difficult and Hard to Understand Passages

Who is Satan?

I Peter 5:8

⁸ Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

Hebrews 2:14

¹⁴ Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

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Who is Satan?

- a. **Satan** means "*an adversary*". By implication, the enemy of God (used 51 times in the bible)
- b. He is also called the **Devil**, which means "*slanderer*" (devil(s) used 109 times in the bible)
- c. Additionally, he is called **Apollyon** which means "*destroyer*" or "*deceiver*". This probably best describes his purpose and work. (Revelation 9:11)

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Who is Satan?

Let's look at some passages which give us some hints about where he came from and how he came to be the enemy of God.

a. He was an angel who was puffed up with pride
I Timothy 3:6

⁶ *and* not a new convert, so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil.

Turn to Ezekiel 28:12-19

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Who is Satan?

b. He was cast out of heaven!

II Peter 2:4

⁴ For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgement;

Jude 6

⁶ And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day,

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Who is Satan?

b. He was cast out of heaven!

Revelation 12:7-9

⁷ And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war,

⁸ and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven.

⁹ And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

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Who is Satan?

C. Our first exposure to the Satan

Genesis 3:1-6

¹ Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden'?"

² The woman said to the serpent, "From the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat;

³ but from the fruit of the tree which is in the middle of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat from it or touch it, or you will die.'"

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Who is Satan?

C. Our first exposure to the Satan

Genesis 3:1-6 (cont.)

⁴ The serpent said to the woman, "You surely will not die!

⁵ For God knows that in the day you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

⁶ When the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was desirable to make *one* wise, she took from its fruit and ate; and she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.

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Who is Satan?

d. Satan remains defiant even to God!

Job 1:6-12

⁶ Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.

⁷ The LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it."

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Who is Satan?

d. Satan is defiant even to God!

Job 1:6-12 (cont.)

⁸ The LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil."

⁹ Then Satan answered the LORD, "Does Job fear God for nothing?"

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Who is Satan?

d. Satan is defiant even to God!

Job 1:6-12 (cont.)

10 Have You not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.

11 But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse You to Your face.” .

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Who is Satan?

d. Satan is defiant even to God!

Job 1:6-12 (cont.)

¹² Then the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him." So Satan departed from the presence of the LORD.

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Who is Satan?

e. Satan even tried to tempt Jesus!

Matthew 4:1-11

¹ Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

² And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry.

³ And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

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Who is Satan?

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Matthew 4:1-11 (cont.)

⁴ But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'"

⁵ Then the devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple,

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Who is Satan?

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Matthew 4:1-11 (cont.)

⁶ and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written,

'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU'; and

'ON *their* HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'"

⁷ Jesus said to him, "On the other hand, it is written, 'YOU SHALL NOT PUT THE LORD YOUR GOD TO THE TEST.'"

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Who is Satan?

e. Satan even tried to tempt Jesus!

Matthew 4:1-11 (cont.)

⁸ Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory;

⁹ and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me."

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Who is Satan?

e. Satan even tried to tempt Jesus!

Matthew 4:1-11 (cont.)

¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND SERVE HIM ONLY.'"

¹¹ Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and *began* to minister to Him.

Difficult and Hard to Understand Passages

Who is Satan?

f. Prior to Jesus' victory over death, the forces of Satan exhibited considerable physical control over men and women. Examples found in the below passages:

Matt 9:33, Matt 17:18, Luke 4:33, Luke 4:41, Luke 8:2, Luke 8:27, Luke 8:33, Luke 9:42, Luke 11:14, etc.

Matthew 9:33

³³ After the demon was cast out, the mute man spoke; and the crowds were amazed, *and were* saying, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel."

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Matthew 17:18

¹⁸ And Jesus rebuked him, and the demon came out of him, and the boy was cured at once.

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Luke 4:33

³³ In the synagogue there was a man possessed by the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice,

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Luke 4:41

⁴¹ Demons also were coming out of many, shouting, "You are the Son of God!" But rebuking them, He would not allow them to speak, because they knew Him to be the Christ.

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Luke 8:2

² and *also* some women who had been healed of evil spirits and sicknesses: Mary who was called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out,

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Luke 8:27

²⁷ And when He came out onto the land, He was met by a man from the city who was possessed with demons; and who had not put on any clothing for a long time, and was not living in a house, but in the tombs.

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Luke 8:33

³³ And the demons came out of the man and entered the swine; and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

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Luke 9:42

⁴² While he was still approaching, the demon slammed him *to the ground* and threw him into a convulsion. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the boy and gave him back to his father.

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Who is Satan?

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Matt 9:33, Matt 17:18, Luke 4:33, Luke 4:41, Luke 8:2, Luke 8:27, Luke 8:33, Luke 9:42, Luke 11:14, etc.

Luke 11:14

¹⁴ And He was casting out a demon, and it was mute; when the demon had gone out, the mute man spoke; and the crowds were amazed.

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Who is Satan?

g. Satan has servants in our midst who disguise themselves as followers of Christ:

II Corinthians 11:13-15

13 For such men are false apostles, deceitful workers, disguising themselves as apostles of Christ.

14 No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

15 Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds.

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Who is Satan?

h. Jesus shared that in some real sense, Satan has been “bound”. And he is still “bound!” Consider these passages:

Matthew 12:29

²⁹ Or how can anyone enter the strong man’s house and carry off his property, unless he first binds the strong *man*? And then he will plunder his house.

Hebrews 2:14

¹⁴ Therefore, since the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

Difficult and Hard to Understand Passages

Who is Satan?

h. Jesus shared that in some real sense, Satan was “bound”. Satan is still “bound”. Consider these passages (cont.):

I Corinthians 10:13

¹³ No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

James 4:7

⁷ Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

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Who is Satan?

h. Jesus shared that in some real sense, Satan was “bound”. Satan is still “bound”. Consider these passages (cont.):

Revelation 20:1-3

¹ Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand.

² And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

³ and he threw him into the abyss, and shut *it* and sealed *it* over him, so that he would not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time.

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Who is Satan?

i. The final verdict is God's complete eternal victory over Satan!

Revelation 20:10

¹⁰ And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

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Who is Satan?

Our Conclusions:

1. Satan (the devil, Apollyon, and called many other names in the NT) is both God's adversary and ours! (I Peter 5:8)
2. As a result of his pride (sin) and defiance of God, Satan and his angels were cast out of heaven after a great battle with Michael and his angels! (Revelation 12:7-9)

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Who is Satan?

Our Conclusions (cont.):

3. He still remains defiant to God and even tried (unsuccessfully) to tempt Jesus in the wilderness! (Matthew 4:1-11)
4. Our Lord met Satan in his own domain (death) and triumphed over him! (Hebrews 2:14)
5. Satan has servants in our midst who disguise themselves as servants of Christ (II Corinthians 11:13-15)

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Who is Satan?

Our Conclusions (cont.):

6. Satan is presently “bound”, but still possesses the ability to tempt and deceive mankind! However, this can be resisted by the help of God!

(I Corinthians 10:13).

7. As a result, there are now limitations placed on Satan’s ability to harm the righteous. (Matt 12:29)
The gospel is the “chain” that now binds Satan (Rev 20:1) and God has promised that He is faithful and will provide a way for us to both escape and endure temptation! (I Corinthians 10:13).

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Who is Satan?

Our Conclusions (cont.):

8. If we resist the devil, he will flee from us!
(James 4:7)

9. Satan's final and eternal defeat is assured and he will be "thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone (Hell) forever and ever!" Along with anyone whose name is not found in the book of life!!
(Revelation 20:10, 15)

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