

Writings by A.L. and Joyce Gill

Rebellion in Heaven

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What Happened ... When There Was Rebellion in Heaven?

LUCIFER - A LEADER OF ANGELS

Full of Joy

We have seen that the angels were created by God for His purposes. The joy in heaven among these angels is described in the book of Job.

Job 3&7 while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy ...

One of these angels was also described as a “morning star” in the book of Isaiah.

Isaiah 14:12 How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!

This one called, the morning star or son of the dawn was also known as Lucifer. We have a description of Him in the book of Ezekiel.

Perfect in Beauty

Ezekiel 28:12b,13 This is what the Sovereign Lord says: ‘You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz and emerald, chrysolite, onyx and jasper, sapphire, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared.

Blameless

Lucifer was also described as being blameless.

Ezekiel 28:15 You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you.

Music Personified

In addition to his perfect wisdom and beauty, he also was created for music, apparently as an expression of praise and worship as he ministered unto the Lord.

Ezekiel 28:13b (KJV) “the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.”

Isaiah 14:11a All your pomp has been brought down to the grave, along with the noise of your harps;

There are three different types of musical instruments. These were all represented by the musical instruments described as an integral part of this one called Lucifer.

> Tabrets are percussion instruments.

> Pipes are wind instruments.

> Harps are string instruments.

His voice must have sounded like a great orchestra.

LUCIFER’S FUNCTION IN HEAVEN

Lucifer’s original function in heaven was to cover

God’s throne as an “anointed cherub.”

Ezekiel 28:14 (KJV) Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

Even as the cherubs were on both sides of the mercy seat covering the Ark of the Covenant, Lucifer was entrusted to be next to God in the place of greatest honor.

Exodus 25:18-22 And made two cherubim out of hammered gold at the ends of the cover. Make one cherub on one end and the second cherub on the other; make the cherubim of one piece with the cover, at the two ends. The cherubim are to have their wings spread upward, overshadowing the cover with them. The cherubim are to face each other, looking toward the cover.

Lucifer, the morning star, covered and protected God's throne and reflected God's radiance and glory. He was anointed as a guardian cherub. He was entrusted by God to the place of greatest responsibility.

From the description of his musical voice, it appears that he led all the angels in their praise and worship as he ministered unto the Lord with a covering of praise and worship.

WAR IN HEAVEN

Pride and Rebellion

One day, wickedness came into his heart through the sin of pride.

Ezekiel 28:17 Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings.

As pride entered in, Lucifer began to think about his own beauty and splendor instead of keeping his attention on the beauty and radiant brightness of God.

“I Will”

Lucifer began to exercise his will, contrary to the will of God.

Isaiah 14:12-17 How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! You said in your heart, “I will ascend to

heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.”

But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit. Those who see you stare at you, they ponder your fate: Is this the man who shook the earth and made kingdoms tremble, the man who made the world a desert, who overthrew its cities and would not let his captives go home?”

Each of these five “I wills” of Lucifer were progressive rebellion leading to the point of desiring to replace God upon the throne of heaven.

Lucifer’s Fall

God in his perfect holiness, could not co-exist with the sin of rebellion. In harmony with God’s perfect justice, an order was given to the archangel Michael to cast out Lucifer and the angels who had followed him in his rebellion.

Revelation 12:7-10 And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down – that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: “Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down. v

➤ *Was Disgraced*

Lucifer left heaven in disgrace.

Ezekiel 28:16 Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones.

➤ *Cast Out*

One-third of the angels of heaven, who were under Lucifer's command followed him in his rebellion and were cast out of heaven with him. The other angels, under the command of Michael and Gabriel, remained faithful to God.

Revelation 12:4a His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth.

➤ *Hurled to Earth*

it is interesting to note that out of all of the planets in the universe, that Lucifer and his angels were cast down to the very same planet earth where man was to rule and walk in authority.

Revelation 12:9 The great dragon was hurled down – that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

➤ *Change of Names*

With Lucifer's change of nature came a change of names. He became known as the dragon, the serpent, the devil and Satan.

➤ *Change of Nature*

Following his pride-filled rebellion, his beauty, wisdom and voice of musical praise turned to all that is evil, dark, ugly, corrupt and full of hatred.

The angels who had followed him in his rebellion were cast out of heaven with him and they also took on his corrupt, dark and evil nature and became known as demons.

➤ *Lost Heavenly Purpose*

All of the angels in heaven including Lucifer and his angels had important functions to fulfill while they were in heaven. We have seen that these functions included covering the throne as His anointed. They were guardians of the throne as they ministered unto the Lord. Above all we saw that this covering was one of ministering unto the Lord in continual praise and worship. Lucifer was entrusted to be right beside the throne of God as he carried out his daily functions in heaven.

TRINITY IN ANGELIC LEADERSHIP

Just as there is a trinity in the Godhead, there appears to have been a trinity in the leadership of the angels in heaven. These angelic leaders were Michael, Gabriel and Lucifer.

➤ *Michael*

Michael was known as the archangel.

Judges 1:9 But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not dare to bring a slanderous accusation against him, but said, The Lord rebuke you!”

Michael appears to be the leader of the warrior angels.

Daniel 10:13 But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia.

Revelation 12:7 And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back.

The angels that were under Michael’s leadership were called “his” angels. Likewise, the angels under Lucifer’s leadership were called “his” angels.

➤ Lucifer

It is obvious that one third of the angels of heaven were under the command of Lucifer.

Revelation 12:4a His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth.

It would seem that a third of the angels were also under the leadership of Michael and a third under the leadership of Gabriel.

➤ Gabriel

Gabriel is the messenger angel. He brought the message of good news to mankind.

Luke 1:19 The angel answered, I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news.

Angelic Functions

Since there was a trinity of leadership in the angelic ranks even as there is a trinity in the Godhead, there is a possibility that each of these three leading angels and the angels under their command were assigned to minister either to God the Father, God the Son or God the Holy Spirit.

Could it be then that Michael the archangel, and the warrior angels under his command, were assigned to minister unto the Father?

If so, possibly, Gabriel, the messenger angel together with his angels were assigned to minister to the Holy Spirit.

If this is so, then could it be that Lucifer and his angels were to minister unto the Son of God as they led all of the angels in praise and worship before the throne of God?

FILLING THE VOID IN HEAVEN

As a result of their rebellion, Lucifer and his angels were cast out of heaven. Suddenly, there was a void in heaven. How was the function of these angels to be fulfilled?

Did God ask Lucifer and Gabriel to give up one third of their angels to fill this void? Or did God have a better plan when he created mankind in His image to be at His side, to reign with Him throughout all of eternity.

Revelation 22:3-5 No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will serve him. They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

The Fullness of Christ

How wonderful it is to know that the void in our life is filled to overflowing through Jesus' presence in our life. How wonderful to know that we, as new creations, are now complete in Him because of His completed work on our behalf.

Colossians 2:10 and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

➤ We Fulfill Him

We are not only complete in Him. He is now complete in us. The void that was left in heaven by the expulsion of Lucifer and his angels, the emptiness that was left by His side where this anointed cherub once stood to cover His throne with praise and worship, is now fulfilled by His Church which is comprised of every believer in Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 1:22,23 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over

everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

➤ *By Praise on Earth*

As His church, we too have been anointed by God to minister to His Son in praise and worship before the throne. We are now His body. We are His fullness. Our lives can only be fulfilled in Him. Jesus can only be fulfilled when we as His body minister to Him with our daily praise and worship.

Ephesians 1:5,6 he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will – to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.

Ephesians 3:21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.

➤ *By Praise in Heaven*

Throughout all of eternity, we will continue to minister to Him in praise and worship.

*Revelation 7:9,10 After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in **their hands**. And they cried out in a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, who **sits** on the throne, and to the Lamb.”*

We are important to God. He has a plan and purpose for our lives, not only on this earth, but throughout all of eternity. How wonderful it is to know that we are “the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.”

MANKIND GIVEN EVERYTHING LUCIFER DESIRED

This one who had wanted to rule the whole universe from God's throne had been cast down to the earth with all of his demons.

He must have watched in shocked disbelief as God created mankind on this earth in his own image. This one who willed to be "like the most high," must have watched in horror as God created man to look just like Himself.

This one who wanted to exalt his throne above all of the stars of God, must have shrunk back in seething hatred of mankind as man was given rulership over this earth and everything in it including that old serpent that "moved along the ground."

All that Satan had attempted to take in his rebellion was given to mankind.

Satan said, "I will ascend to heaven."

God said, "We will reign with Him"

Satan said, "I will raise my throne above the stars of God."

God said, "We will judge angels."

Satan said, "I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain."

God said, "He has seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus."

Satan said, "I will ascend above the tops of the clouds."

God said, "We who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with Lord forever."

Satan said, "I will make myself like the most high."

God said, “Let us make man in our image.”

All of the hatred that Satan had toward God was turned toward these God-like creatures called men and women.

SATAN’S ATTACK

Satan’s only hope of defeating mankind was to deceive Adam and Eve into disobeying God’s instructions not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. In order to carry out his deception, he disguised himself by entering into the body of a serpent, a creature that could freely enter the garden unnoticed.

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?”

Satan misquoted God’s words in order to twist them into his carefully planned scheme of deception.

Genesis 3:2,3 The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, ‘You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.’”

Satan’s Lie

Genesis 3:4-6 “You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Man’s Original Sin

Adam was with Eve at the time of the temptation, but failed to use his God-given authority over Satan.

Genesis 3:6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took

some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

At the moment that Adam and Eve sinned, they died spiritually. The life of God that had been breathed into them could not co-exist with sin. This sin and death would pass down to all mankind through the original parents.

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned.

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Adam and Eve had been clothed in the radiant light of the glory of God. This glory left them when they died spiritually and they suddenly realized they were naked.

Fellowship Broken

God, desiring fellowship with Adam and Eve came down in the cool of the day to spend time with them.

Genesis 3:8-11 Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden.

But the Lord God called to the man, "Where are you?"

He answered, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid."

And he said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

Blaming Others

Adam blamed Eve and even implied that it was God's fault, because He had created her.

Eve blamed the serpent.

Genesis 3:12,13 The man said, "The woman you put here with me – she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate it."

Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

Promise of Redeemer

Immediately after Adam and Eve sinned, God announced His great love plan of redemption through the "offspring" of the woman.

Genesis 3:15 "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

The "Offspring" of the woman was a reference to the coming of Jesus as the promised Redeemer who would crush Satan's head.

Curses - Result Of Sin

Curses came as a direct result of mankind's sin.

➤ Curse on Serpent

God placed a curse on the serpent.

Genesis 3:14 So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life."

➤ On Woman

Genesis 3:16-19 To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire

will before your husband and he will rule over you.”

➤ *On Man*

To Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, ‘You must not eat of it,’

➤ *On the Ground*

“Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and this ties for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return.”

As a result of dying spiritually, man would also die physically and would return to dust.

First Blood Sacrifice

Man’s effort of covering himself with fig leaves did not provide an adequate covering for his sin. That covering would require the shedding of the blood of an innocent animal sacrifice.

Genesis 3:21 The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them.

This blood sacrifice, to provide the covering for man’s sin pointed forward to the coming of the Son of God to this earth to shed His blood on the cross.

➤ *Man-Made Religions*

Genesis 3:7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Adam and Eve tried to cover the results of their sins with fig leaves. Ever since that time, mankind has attempted to cover sin with man-made religions.

Religion is mankind's attempts to make themselves acceptable to God through their own self-efforts.

True Christianity is a relationship with the Person of Jesus Christ. This relationship is provided as a free and undeserved gift. This relationship is possible with a righteous and Holy God because He has clothed us in His righteousness when we received forgiveness through faith in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Even as the blood of an innocent animal was shed to provide the covering of skins for Adam and Eve, our covering of righteousness was made possible by the substitutionary work of Jesus. He became the innocent Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Through the shedding of His precious blood, He purchased our redemption from sin.

This teaching gives us the biblical account of the rise and fall of Satan. It tells us how mankind was created to be everything Satan desired to be. Mankind was created to fill the void in heaven caused by Satan's fall.

But this is only the beginning. In the fullness of time, God sent his Son Jesus ...