

THE ESCATOLOGY OF SATAN FROM GENESIS TO REVELATION

PART 2

PRESENTED BY
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WHERE DID SATAN GO NEXT....

Genesis 6:1-7 When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. Then YHWH said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years." The Nephilim were on the earth in those days—and also afterward—when the sons of God went to the daughters of men and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown.

WHO ARE THE NEPHILIM?

- The **Nephilim** (Hebrew: נפילים, *Nefilīm*) were a race that came to dominate the antediluvian (pre-flood) world, and are referred to in the Bible as *the heroes of old, men of renown*. They were reportedly the children born to the "Sons of God" by the "*daughters of men*", and are described as giants.
- It is also most important to note that they are mentioned almost simultaneous to Yah's statement that He would destroy the earth by flood, and it seems from this association that their effect upon mankind was one of the primary justifications that brought the destruction.



In The Genesis Record, Henry

Morris states:

“The only obvious and natural meaning without such clarification is that these beings were sons of G-D, rather than of men, because they had been created, not born. Such a description, of course, would apply only to Adam (Luke 3:38) and to the angels, whom YHWH had directly created (Psalm 148:2, 5; Psalm 104:4; Colossians 1:16). The actual phrase bene elohim is used three other times, all in the very ancient book of Job (1:6; 2:1; 38:7). There is no doubt at all that, in these passages, the meaning applies exclusively to the angels. A very similar form (bar elohim) is used in Daniel 3:25, and also refers either to an angel or to a theophany. The term “sons of the mighty” (bene elim) is used in Psalm 29:1 and also Psalm 89:6, and again refers to angels. Thus, there seems no reasonable doubt that, in so far as the language itself is concerned, the intent of the writer was to convey the thought of angels - fallen angels, no doubt, since they were acting in opposition to YHWH’s will.

DEMONIC ANGELS ABANDONED THEIR PROPER ABODE

Furthermore, anytime angels are seen by humans they are seen as male (Gen 18:1-19:22, Mark 16:5-7, Luke 24:4-7, Acts 1:10-11) and in the Genesis 18:1-19:22 passage we even see that the ungodly men of Sodom 'desired' the angels for themselves! The thought behind this is that the men of Sodom thought that sexual union was possible.

2 Pet 2:4-5 and Jude 6-7 also throw some light onto this passage.

Jude tells us that the angels abandoned their proper abode and then contrasts their actions with that of Sodom and Gomorrah, who 'in the same manner' went after strange flesh. The term 'strange flesh' means to go after an unnatural sexual union. For the men of Sodom it was homosexuality, but for these fallen angels it was inter-marrying with human women.

STRANGE PARENTAGE

The off-spring of this union between the "sons/angels of G-d" and the "daughters of men" were so extraordinary that it indicates an unusual parentage. In no way could the progenitors of such beings be ordinary humans. Their mothers possibly could be human, or their fathers, but certainly not both. Either the father or the mother had to be superhuman. Only in such a way can one account for the extraordinary character and prowess of the off-spring.

YHWH's law of reproduction, according to the biblical account of creation, is "everything after his kind." HIS law makes it impossible for giants to be produced by normal parentage. To produce such monstrosities as the Nephilim presupposes supernatural parentage.

Clearly, the Biblical record demonstrates that wicked, fallen angels cohabited with women before the Flood -- which was a major cause why YHWH had to destroy that wicked world! But not only women, there is evidence that angels also had sexual relations with animals -- cattle and quadrupeds -- further perverting and contaminating the heredity and seed of "all flesh."

The sin was so rampant that YHWH declared, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them" (Gen.6:7).

Why was YHWH upset even with the creation of the animal world? Because it, too, had become contaminated! We read, "And YHWH looked upon the earth, and, behold, IT was CORRUPT; for ALL FLESH had corrupted his way upon the earth" (Gen.6:12).

SATAN'S PLAN TO DESTROY THE SEED-LINE **THAT WOULD BRING FORTH MESSIAH**

Satan probably put this plan to interrupt Abraham's "seed into motion, as soon as it was made known that the Seed of the Woman (Yahshua) was to come through ABRAHAM.

- If this could be accomplished, YHWH's Word would have failed, and Satan's own doom would be averted.
- **Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. also see Isaiah 7:14**

Only Noah and his family had preserved their pedigree pure from Adam (Genesis 6:9). All the rest had become "corrupt" (shachath).

ALL FLESH HAD CORRUPTED THE EARTH

And YHWH saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. 6 And YHWH regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart. 7 And HE said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for I regret that I have made them. 8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of YHWH. 9 These are the generations of Noah: Noah was a just man and perfect in his generations, and Noah walked with Yah. 10 And Noah begat three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. 11 The earth also was corrupt before YHWH, and was filled with violence. 12 And Yah looked upon the earth, and, behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted his way upon the earth. 13 And YHWH said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them; I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth.





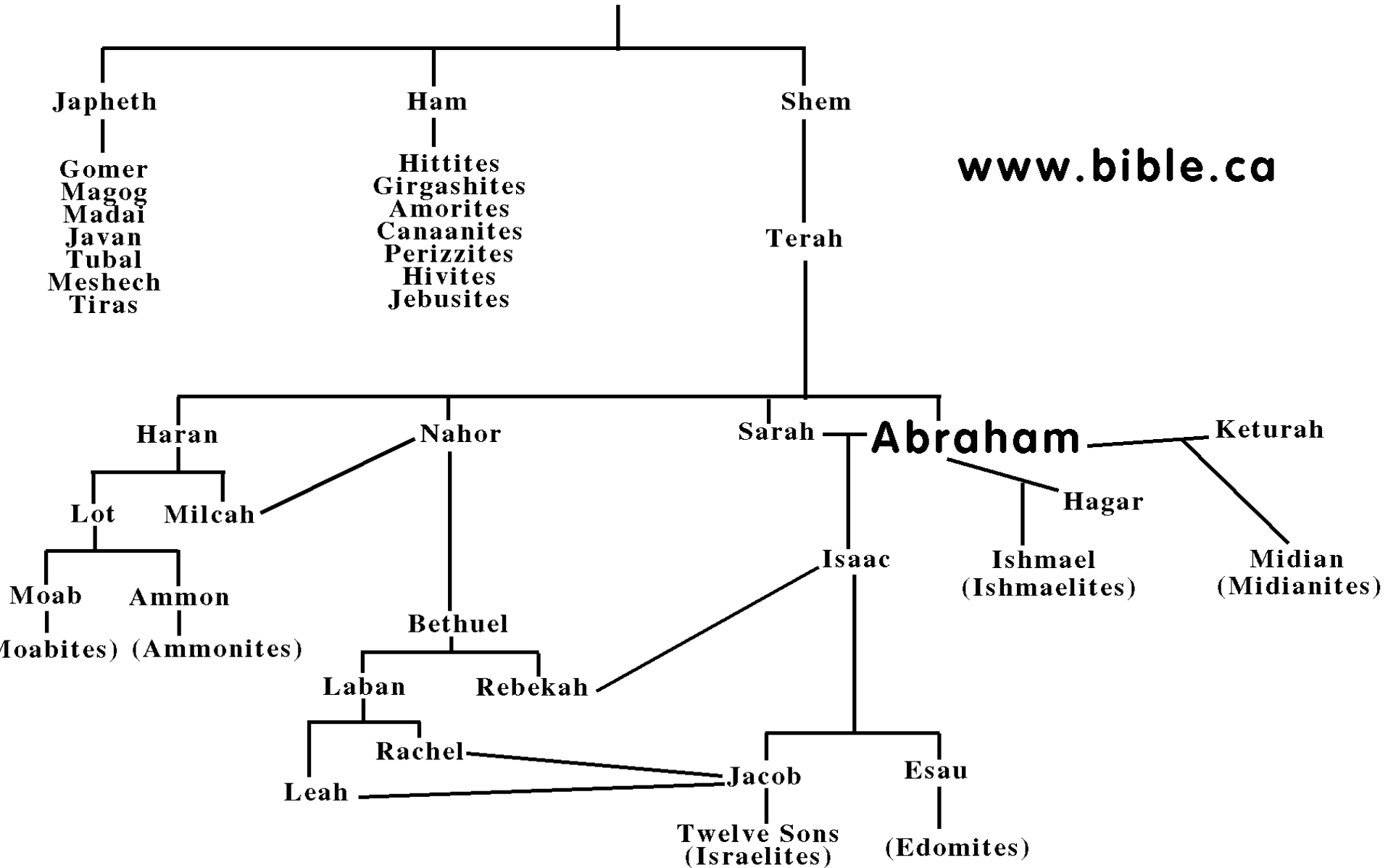
**DOES SATAN RE-APPEAR
AFTER THE FLOOD**

GENESIS 9:18-27 And the sons of Noah, that went forth of the ark, were Shem, and Ham, and Japheth: and **Ham is the father of Canaan**. These are the three sons of Noah: and of them was the whole earth overspread. And Noah began to be an husbandman, and he planted a vineyard: And he drank of the wine, and was drunken; and he was uncovered within his tent. And **Ham, the father of Canaan**, saw the **nakedness of his father**, and told his two brothers. And Shem and Japheth took a garment, and laid it upon both their shoulders, and went backward, and covered the nakedness of their father; and their faces were backward, and they did not see their father's nakedness. And Noah awoke from his wine, and knew what his younger son had done unto him. And he said, Cursed be Canaan; a servant of servants shall he be unto his brethren. And he said, Blessed be the Adonai of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant. YHWH shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem; and Canaan shall be his servant.

WHAT DOES UNCOVERING YOUR FATHER'S NAKEDNESS REALLY MEAN?

- *'The man who lies with his father's wife has uncovered his father's nakedness...'* **Lev. 20:11**
- *If a man lies with his uncle's wife, he has uncovered his uncle's nakedness. ... 'If a man takes his brother's wife... He has uncovered his brother's nakedness.'* **Lev. 20:20-21**
- *'The nakedness of your father's wife you shall not uncover; it is your father's nakedness'* **Lev. 18:8**
- *"In you [O Israel] men uncover their fathers' nakedness; in you they violate women..."* **Ezek. 22:10**
- *"Woe to him who gives drink to his neighbour, pressing him to your bottle, even to make him drunk, that you may look on his nakedness!"* **Hab. 2:15;**

Noah



Abraham's Family Tree from Noah

INCEST BRINGS A **GENERATIONAL CURSE**

Of Israel's nearby enemies, not all were Canaanites. For example, the Moabites and Ammonites were the product of other parent/child relations. Again involving drunkenness; Abraham's nephew Lot impregnated his daughters who gave birth to the Moabites and Ammonites (**Gen. 19:36-38**).

Any child conceived in this way enters life set up to fail. Canaan had his grandmother for a mother, his grandfather for an uncle, his mother for a great aunt, his father for a cousin, and, worst of all, his brother for a father (half-brother, that is). Early humans reproduced with siblings and first cousins without harm because genetic deterioration had not become a significant factor.

NOAH

Genesis 10

"These three were the sons of Noah; and from them, the whole earth was populated" (Genesis 9:19).

3 sons

JAPHETH

Genesis 10:2-5

7 sons

Europe and Asia

HAM

Genesis 10:6-20

4 sons

Southwest Asia, Canaan, Africa

SHEM

Genesis 10:21-30

5 sons

Middle East
Shemites

Gomer

(France, Spain, Germany, Wales)

Magog

(Romania, Ukraine)

Madai

(Medes/Iran)

Javan

(Greek)

Tubal

(Georgia)

Meshech

(Moscow)

Tiras

(Macedonia, Yugoslavia)

Cush

(Ethiopia)

Mizraim

(Egypt)

Put

(Libya)

Canaan

(Palestine)

(Heb (Hittites, Jebusites, Amorites))

Elam

(Iran)

Asshur

(Assyria)

Arpachshad

(Chaldeans)

(Eber; Hebrew)

(Joktan; Arabia)

Lud

(Lidia)

Aram

(Syria)

“YHWH saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time. YHWH was grieved that He had made man on the earth, and his heart was filled with pain. So YHWH said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I have created, from the face of the earth—men and animals, and creatures that move along the ground, and birds of the air—for I am grieved that I have made them." But Noah found favor in the eyes of YHWH.

The flood occurred when Noah was 600 years old. From Adam to that point is 1656 years. In only 1656 years, our ancestors angered YHWH to the point of virtually total destruction. (Are we any better, or is YHWH holding on to His promise of never flooding the earth again?)

We also see, from this point on, the promise of Genesis 6:3, where YHWH promises to reduce the lifespan of mankind down to 120 years, coming into fruition.

NIMROD MEANS –“LET US REBEL!”

- NIMROD'S name literally means "*Let us rebel*". Cush felt threatened by Noah's prophecy of servitude, and consequently sought to establish his own kingdom through his son.
- Ham, Nimrod's father had laid the groundwork for open rebellion against his father Noah. He had resented Noah's authority, and in effect, YHWH's authority. This attitude trickled down to his son Cush. Cush, in turn, raised his son in a spirit of rebellion against YHWH and His plan for mankind.
- He would become the founder of the very empire which would one day completely destroy the nation of Israel and its Temple, and send its people into exile. This empire would, in due course, come to represent the satanic government set up and established in Revelation to pursue and utterly destroy all Jews and Christians from the face of the earth.

NIMROD WAS THE FOUNDER OF BOTH DEPRAVED CITIES OF BABYLON AND NINEVEH

The account zooms in on an individual named Nimrod, who is called a great hunter. He is a rather mysterious figure of great importance in ancient history. He is the founder of both Babylon and Nineveh, the two great cities of antiquity which became, ultimately, enemies of Israel. The prominent thing that is said about him here is that he was a mighty man, a mighty hunter against the Lord. Now, it was the work of kings in those ancient days to be hunters. This was a time when civilization was sparse and wild animals were a constant threat to the people. Kings, having nothing much else to do, organized hunting parties and acted as the protectors of their people by killing wild animals. Nimrod evidently gained a great reputation as such a hunter, but he was more than a hunter of wild animals. The Jewish Talmud helps us here, for it says that he was "a hunter of the souls of men."



Nimrod became the most feared man in the land. His power and wealth grew as Babylon grew. He made the laws, and those laws decreed that Babylonians should not look to the G-D of Noah as their ruler, but should be ruled by human governments. Nimrod also taught them that Satan should be honoured by worshipping objects they could see, such as the sun and snakes and other kinds of things (Rom. 1:21-23).

Nimrod lived in a country that is known to us today as modern Iraq. The scriptural names for this land are 'Shinar' and 'Mesopotamia,' the latter being the ancient Greek word for 'the land between the (two) rivers.' Here is where the Garden of Eden was located. And Mesopotamia provided the stage where from Nimrod became a mighty ruler.

THE GATE OF GOD

Nimrod called his tower in Genesis 11 'Bab' illi,' which means 'Gate of God.' But the ancient Hebrews called it 'Babel,' which means confusion. Any way that does not conform to the knowledge of the true G-d, no matter how systematised, educated, or religious, is bound to lead to confusion. Jacob, however, discovered in the wilderness of Bethel that saying yes to YHWH's will is no other than 'the house of YHWH and the gate of heaven.' Genesis 28:17

Through his tireless and tyrannical efforts, Nimrod laid the foundation of a monarchy that would become Daniel's 'head of gold.' And from the soil of ancient Iraq would emanate five of the greatest empires the world has ever known:

1. The Sumerian Empire;
2. First Babylonian (19th Century B.C. --Hammurabi being its most famous ruler);
3. The Assyrian Empire (Eighth Century B.C.--Jonah visited their capital, Nineveh);
4. The Second Babylonian Empire (Sixth Century B.C.--Nebuchadnezzar); and
5. The Abbasid (Islamic) Empire (A.D. 750-1258).



Ancient Babylon was the Seat of ALL
False Worship that intoxicates the World



- Nimrod was king/god over the seven city-nations who worshiped Nimrod/Satan from their "High places of human sacrifice/prostitution etc..." that their satanic "arch-demons" were over.
- "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities against powers, against spiritual wickedness in HIGH PLACES, against the RULERS of the darkness of THIS WORLD." Eph 6:12
- Not including Babel, "Babylon" the capital and highest place, we see Babylon sitting on "SEVEN" city/states that make up this dark kingdom. So the SEVEN MOUNTAINS represent all false religion including atheistic, agnostic or any "HIGH THING THAT EXALTS ITSELF AGAINST THE KNOWLEDGE OF YHWH." 2 Cor 10:4-6



NIMROD MARRIED HIS MOTHER

By the founding of Babylon and Nineveh we have a hint given of the nature of this man. We are told here that he was "the first mighty man on earth," i.e., after the flood. That phrase, "mighty man," takes us back to Genesis 6 where, in that strange story of the invasion of the "sons of God" into the human race, there resulted a race of giants called Nephilim.

Nimrod married his mother Semiramis, and together, they built the Babylonian Empire which combined their pagan religion with their form of government. They worshiped the stars, sun, and the moon, and they sacrificed their babies to Moloch. Noah's son Shem was so angry about this, that he had Nimrod killed and his body parts were delivered to different provinces within Babylon as a warning to those who worshiped Moloch aka Satan.

NIMROD IS THE SPIRITUAL **PREDECESSOR OF THE ANTI-MESSIAH**

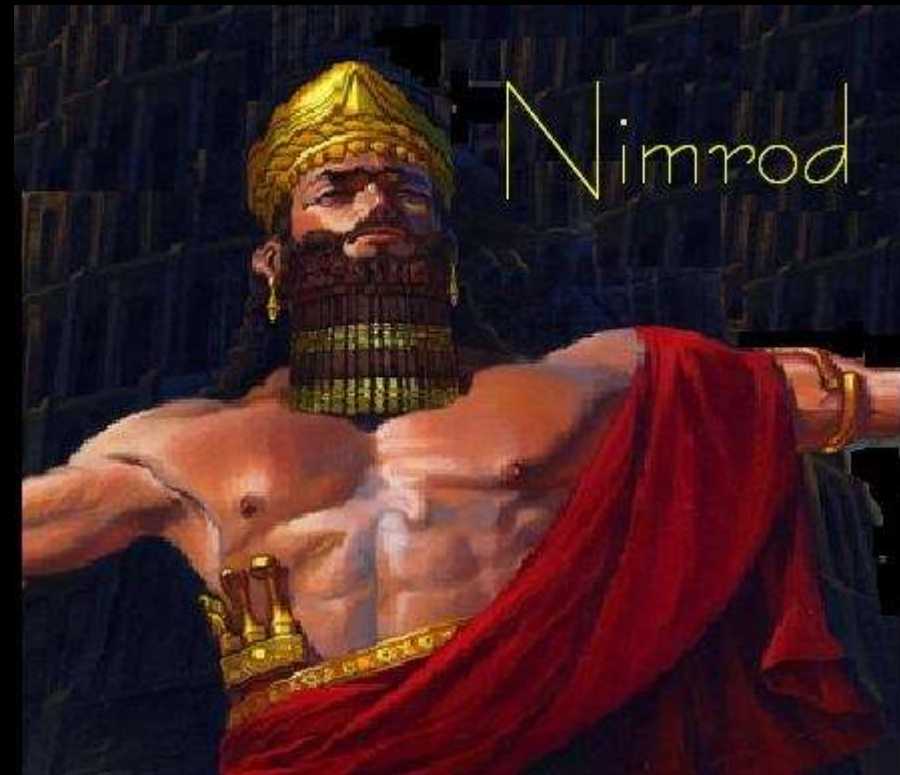
Nimrod is a shadow, a spiritual predecessor of the Anti-Messiah of Revelation. Like the Anti-Messiah, Nimrod sought to build for himself a kingdom, a government over which he himself would preside and rule over all the people of the Earth. His kingdom was founded upon the efforts of man and inspired by the common bond of defiance against YHWH.

It was Nimrod who laid the groundwork for the Babylonian Empire, an empire that would symbolize, throughout Scripture, man's arrogant attempts to institute his own religious and political system in defiance of YHWH Almighty.

NIMROD IS THE IMAGE OF THE MAN IN REVELATION'S

When reading *Daniel 2* and *Revelation 13 & 17*, we must understand that these ***“ten horns”*** and these ***“ten toes”*** were once located in one concentrated area. But then when YHWH divided up the nations, all of the continents were separated after the flood. The names of these regions that once comprised Nimrod's Babylonian kingdom are now all over the world in various nations. These will all come together again and ***“will have one mind”*** with the Beast. They will all ***“rule one hour with the Beast.”***

In the story of Nimrod, Noah's son Shem sent out a bounty hunt for Nimrod because he was sacrificing babies to Moloch. When Nimrod was finally killed, his body parts were delivered to all of the provinces below in the land of Shinar. But in the last days, this ***“image of a man”*** shown to Daniel is none other than Nimrod being put back together again! This is Satan's last great assault on mankind before the return of the Messiah.



THE IMAGE IN DANIEL'S DREAM
AND THE IMAGE OF NIMROD
BEARS A STRIKING RESEMBLANCE
BECAUSE THEY BOTH OF THE SAME
SEEDLINE AS THEIR FATHER SATAN.

PART 2A

THE STORY OF YHWH, JOB AND SATAN

THE IMPORTANCE OF SATAN'S PURPOSE

The purpose of Satan in the Old Testament is made evident. He is a prosecutor, an accuser. In the courtroom he is the one that has, does, and will accuse us every wrong doing. He will do this in front of YHWH (the Great Judge of mankind). He has/does/will do this to in the perverse hope that we are punished for our transgressions.

Most Believers will probably say that Satan has no purpose except to be the main enemy against YHWH, and HIS people. The Old Testament does show that his purpose is to wander the earth in search for the unrighteous. But, Satan also seems to go after those who have found favor in the eyes of YHWH (Job, Joshua, and even Jesus though the latter is mentioned in the NT.) Is this important? Yes. Satan was used to make sure that the righteous were actually righteous.

WE NEXT SEE SATAN TURN UP TO HARASS JOB

JOB WAS 5 GENERATIONS DOWN FROM AVRAHAM

The Septuagint tells us that Job was the son of Zare and that he was the fifth generation from Abraham. "And he himself was the son of his father Zare, one of the sons of Esau, and of his mother Bosorrha, so that he was the fifth from Abraam". We will trace this genealogy from Abraham.

ABRAHAM

HAGAR (wife of Abraham) (Gen.16:3)

SARAH wife of Abraham) (Gen.17:15)

ISHMAEL (firstborn son) (Gen.16:15)
Generation I

ISAAC (promised son) (Gen.17:19) -

BASEMATH (daughter of Ishmael) married
Generation II

ESAU (firstborn son of Issac) (Gen.36:3)-

REUL (son of ESAU and BASEMATH) (Gen.36:4) - Generation III

ZERAH (son of REUL) (Gen.36:13) - Generaton IV

JOB (son of ZERAH) (Septuagint-Job 42:17d) - Generation V

AN OVERVIEW OF JOB

YHWH decided to test Job's character to see how his commitment to Him would bear up under adversity. The account of Job is in Scripture to help righteous people, when they go through discouraging and traumatic experiences, to learn to trust YHWH patiently while awaiting the resolution of their problems.

JOB 1 In the land of Uz [North Arabian Desert between Palestine Idumea and the Euphrates according to Gesenius] there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared YHWH and shunned evil. 2 He had seven sons and three daughters, 3 and he owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen and five hundred donkeys, and had a large number of servants. He was the greatest man among all the people of the East.

4 His sons used to hold feasts in their homes on their birthdays, and they would invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. 5 When a period of feasting had run its course, Job would make arrangements for them to be purified. Early in the morning he would sacrifice a burnt offering for each of them, thinking, "Perhaps my children have sinned and cursed YHWH in their hearts." This was Job's regular custom. [Job was like an interceding high priest for his family, foreshadowing the church .

JOB MAKING A BLOOD SACRIFICE TO ATONE FOR HIS CHILDREN'S SINS



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Picture Collection

In Job 1:5, the hole in the hedge is revealed as Job's fear. Day after day Job got up early and offered sacrifices because he was afraid for his children. "It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed YHWH in their hearts." Job admits this fear later in 3:25, and it stands out as a treasure of truth that believers need to recognize. A heart full of fear will ultimately bring disastrous results.

"For the thing I greatly feared has come upon me, and what I dreaded has happened to me." Fear is a magnet for trouble. All through the Bible, YHWH exhorts His people to "fear not."



Satan as the Adversary of Job in (Job 1 and 2)

Now there was a day when the angels of YHWH came to present themselves before YHWH, and Satan also came among them. And YHWH said to Satan, "From where do you come?"

Then Satan answered YHWH and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it." [i.e. being in human form]

And YHWH 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 YAHUWAH and turning away from evil."

Then Satan answered YHWH, "Does Job fear YHWH for nothing? Hast Thou not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? Thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But put forth Thy hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse Thee to Thy face."

Then YHWH 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 YHWH (Job 1:6-12).



THE VENOM OF THE SERPENT DRIPS **FROM HIS WORDS TO THE ALMIGHTY**

But Satan's shamelessness is revealed in the fact that he tried to tempt YHWH in spite of all this. He doesn't seem to care that YHWH knows exactly what he's doing. There is not the least hint of shame or embarrassment about him. He is like the compulsive liar who can't stop lying even when he knows there is no chance he will be believed.

Ezekiel 28:17 tells us that Satan corrupted his wisdom when he fell, and we see evidence of that here. But Satan didn't stop at tempting YHWH. He laid before YHWH a very serious charge against Job, and, by implication, against YHWH Himself. He accused Job of only serving YHWH for the money, of trading his love for YHWH's favours -- of being a spiritual whore, faithful , perhaps, but for hire just the same.

And at the same time he implied that YHWH was buying the love of His creatures. "They don't love you," was the charge; "They love your money. They love your presents. They love the good health you give them, the fine families, the nice houses, the money in the bank, the thriving businesses, the multitude of friends. Their love is not genuine towards you and will only continue while you bless and protect them....."

In the exchange between YHWH and Satan, Satan says, "Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land." (1:10) YHWH not only wants prosperity but protection for His people, their families and all they own. YEHOVAH blesses the work of His people's hands and causes increase, not decrease. The devil's purpose is just the opposite of YHWH's, so it is important to remember that the security and impenetrability of the hedge is dependent on believing and living for YHWH.

These texts contain important truths concerning YHWH, Satan, and man which we will summarize:

(1) The Book of Job introduces Satan as an adversary, in the context of suffering, early in the history of mankind. While Job is not among the very first books of the Bible, many scholars believe Job lived during the patriarchal times, before Moses. While Satan may not be prominent in the Old Testament as a whole, he is clearly introduced early on as YHWH's enemy and man's adversary.

(2) Satan is counted among the “angels of YHWH” and is thus still included among the angels.

(3) Satan has freedom to go about the earth and even has access to heaven and the throne of YHWH.

(4) Satan acknowledges YHWH's authority, but he does not respect it or fully submit to it. Satan knows he cannot afflict Job without YHWH's permission. He acknowledges that for him to afflict Job is ultimately for YHWH to afflict him (Job 1:11; 2:5).

(5) Satan is arrogant toward YHWH. Satan's retort, "Skin for skin," in verse 4 of chapter 2 may not be fully understood, but the attitude behind it is obvious. Satan shows no respect for YHWH. "A man will give all he has for his own life. 5 But stretch out your hand and strike his flesh and bones, and he will surely curse you to your face."

So YHWH allows Satan to strike Job, but not kill him, and Satan does this. Job still refuses to curse YHWH. After this, the word Satan is nowhere else to be found in the book of Job.

THE DESTRUCTION OF JOB'S FAMILY AND LIVESTOCK

(1:13-22) One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine, a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were grazing nearby, and the Sabeans [sons of Sheba the son of Cush the son of Ham] attacked and carried them off. They put the servants to the sword and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!

While he was speaking, another messenger came and said "The fire of YHWH fell from the sky and burned up the sheep and servants, and I am the only one who escaped to tell you!" While he was speaking, yet another messenger came and said, "Your sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I'm the only one who has escaped to tell you!"

At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship and said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. YHWH gave and YHWH has taken away; may the name of YHWH be praised."

In all this, Job did not sin by charging YHWH with wrongdoing. {The "fire of YHWH" was a poetic way to describe lightning (1 Kings 19:38; 2 Kings 1:10-14). In this case, it had to be unusually powerful to kill 7,000 sheep.}



2 On another day the angels came to present themselves before YHWH, and Satan also came with them to present himself before him.

2 And YHWH said to Satan, "Where have you come from?"

Satan answered YHWH, "From roaming throughout the earth, going back and forth on it."

3 Then YHWH said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears YHWH and shuns evil. And he still maintains his integrity, though you incited me against him to ruin him without any reason."

4 "Skin for skin!" Satan replied. "A man will give all he has for his own life. 5 But now stretch out your hand and strike his flesh and bones, and he will surely curse you to your face."

6 YHWH said to Satan, "Very well, then, he is in your hands; but you must spare his life."

7 So Satan went out from the presence of YHWH and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the crown of his head. 8 Then Job took a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat among the ashes.



9 His wife said to him, “Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse G-D and die!”¹⁰ He replied, “You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from YHWH, and not trouble?”
In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.





11 When Job's three friends, Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite, heard about all the troubles that had come upon him, they set out from their homes and met together by agreement to go and sympathize with him and comfort him. 12 When they saw him from a distance, they could hardly recognize him; they began to weep aloud, and they tore their robes and sprinkled dust on their heads. 13 Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights. No one said a word to him, because they saw how great his suffering was.

Job's response to his second test - physical affliction - contrasts greatly to his attitude after the first test (1:20-22). Job still did not curse YHWH, but he cursed the day of his birth. He felt it would have been better never to have been born than to be forsaken by YHWH. Job was still struggling emotionally, physically and spiritually; his misery was pervasive and deep. Never underestimate how vulnerable we are during times of suffering and pain. We must hold onto our faith, even if there is no relief.

Why did the friends arrive and then sit quietly? According to Jewish tradition, people who come to comfort someone in mourning should not speak until the mourner speaks. Often the best response to another's suffering is silence. Job's friends realized that his pain was too deep to be healed with mere words, so they said nothing. (If only they had continued to sit quietly!) Often, we feel we must say something spiritual and insightful to a hurting friend. Perhaps what he or she needs most is just our presence, showing how much we care. <http://www.angelfire.com>

Job 4 Then Eliphaz the Temanite replied: 2 “If someone ventures a word with you, will you be impatient? But who can keep from speaking? 7 “Consider now: Who, being innocent, has ever perished? Where were the upright ever destroyed? 8 As I have observed, those who plow evil and those who sow trouble reap it.

Job's friend Eliphaz claimed to have been given secret knowledge through a special revelation from YHWH (4:12-16), and that he had learned much from personal experience(4:8). He argued that suffering is a direct result of sin, so if Job would only confess his sin, his suffering would end. Eliphaz saw suffering as YHWH's punishment, which should be welcomed in order to bring a person back to YHWH.



In some cases, of course, this may be true (Galatians 6:7,8), but it was not true with Job. Although Eliphaz had many good and true comments, he made three wrong assumptions:

(1) a good and innocent person never suffers

(2) those who suffer are being punished for their past sins

(3) Job, because he was suffering, had done something wrong in YHWH's eyes.

Job 5 8 “But if I were you, I would appeal to YHWH;
I would lay my cause before him.

9 He performs wonders that cannot be fathomed,
miracles that cannot be counted.

10 He provides rain for the earth; he sends water on the countryside.

11 The lowly he sets on high, and those who mourn are lifted to safety.

12 He thwarts the plans of the crafty, so that their hands achieve no success.

13 He catches the wise in their craftiness,
and the schemes of the wily are swept away.

14 Darkness comes upon them in the daytime;
at noon they grope as in the night.

15 He saves the needy from the sword in their mouth;
he saves them from the clutches of the powerful.

16 So the poor have hope, and injustice shuts its mouth.

“Blessed is the one whom YHWH corrects; so do not despise the discipline of
the Almighty.

18 For he wounds, but he also binds up; he injures, but his hands also heal.

19 From six calamities he will rescue you;
in seven no harm will touch you.

20 In famine he will deliver you from death,
and in battle from the stroke of the sword.

21 You will be protected from the lash of the tongue,
and need not fear when destruction comes.

22 You will laugh at destruction and famine,
and need not fear the wild animals.

23 For you will have a covenant with the stones of the field,
and the wild animals will be at peace with you.

24 You will know that your tent is secure;
you will take stock of your property and find nothing missing.

25 You will know that your children will be many,
and your descendants like the grass of the earth.

26 You will come to the grave in full vigour,
like sheaves gathered in season.

Although Job was an upright man, he also had spiritual pride in his godliness. That is why YHWH took him through this trial: to make him humble. Paul was also taken through suffering by YHWH to keep him humble (II Corinthians 12:7). This is the reason why YHWH allows His people to suffer, so that He can keep them humble and thereby keep them as vessels of His grace (James 4:6).

JOB 13: 15 Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face. 16 Indeed, this will turn out for my deliverance, for no godless person would dare come before him!






Many chapters relate the faulty reasoning and accusations of Job's three friends and Job's denials. Finally, one of Job's younger friends, Elihu, spoke up. He recognized that Job's perspective was flawed and distorted. Job had convinced himself that his afflictions served no purpose. He decided that YHWH was simply not treating him fairly. Elihu realized that Job was so obsessed with his innocence (Job 33:8-9) that he was finding fault with YHWH rather than looking for lessons to learn from his trials

Bildad's general approach is to reinforce the theology of retribution: the wicked, though they may thrive for a while, will ultimately perish while the blameless will yet laugh again (8:21). Bildad seems to believe that Job will be among the righteous but he doesn't state that with unalloyed confidence. He obviously has thought about the issue of retribution deeply, for he comes up with one of the more memorable images in the book describing the wicked:

Job 8:13-15 "Their confidence is gossamer;
a spider's house their trust
Such is the destiny of all who forget YHWH;
so perishes the hope of the godless.

14 What they trust in is fragile
what they rely on is a spider's web.

15 They lean on the web, but it gives way;
they cling to it, but it does not hold.

A series of footprints in sand, starting from the top left and moving diagonally down towards the bottom left, leading the eye towards the text.

Job 23:10-11

He knows the way that I take;
when he has tested me,
I will come forth as gold.

My feet have closely
followed his steps;
I have kept to his way
without turning aside.

To Job's complaints Elihu replied: "Do you think this is right? Do you say, 'My righteousness is more than YHWH's'?" (Job 35:2). Instead of seeing his adversity as opportunity for patience and for letting YHWH mold him, Job had grown in his resentment toward his Creator. He closed his mind to the possibility that he could learn something valuable from his suffering. Job's principal objection was that was unresponsive to him, that He was not properly acknowledging his righteousness.



YHWH'S WAYS AND THOUGHTS ARE HIGHER THAN OURS

Contrary to Satan's claim, Job did not curse YHWH and die when calamity wiped out his fortune and family. Rather, we see evidence that Job's relationship with YHWH went far beyond the assurance of His protection and blessing. With gratitude, he received YHWH's gifts but never took them for granted. Therefore, when they were taken away from him, Job gave us immortal words of faith which we now often repeat in the face of death. "The ALMIGHTY gave, and the ALMIGHTY has taken away; blessed be the name of the ALMIGHTY" (1:21).



Over the previous 35 chapters (since Job 2), YHWH has been directly absent from the account. We read nothing of YHWH's direct role in comforting, speaking to, or sustaining Job in the midst of his crisis. Over that time, Job has ached repeatedly for a word from YHWH and then he hears the voice of HIS BELOVED G-D.

Then YHWH answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said:

2 “Who is this that obscures my plans
with words without knowledge?

3 Brace yourself like a man; I will question you,
and you shall answer me.

4 “Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation?
Tell me, if you understand.

5 Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know!
Who stretched a measuring line across it?

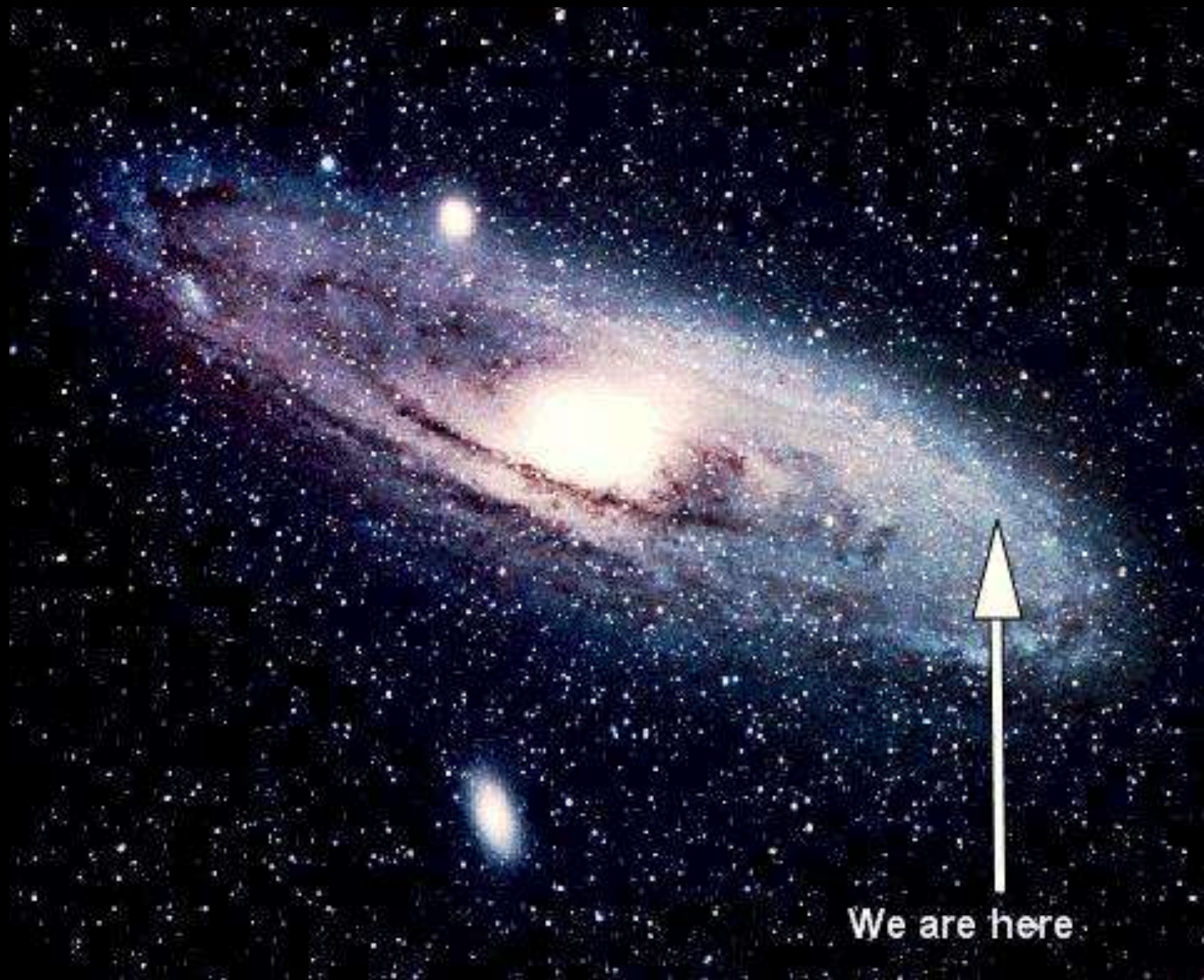
YHWH questioned Job from the whirlwind Job 38:4-7:

Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?
... or who cast it's corner stone, when the morning stars sang
together, and all the angels of YHWH shouted for joy?



6 On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—
7 while the morning stars sang together and all the angels
shouted for joy?





We are here

When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons/angels of YHWH shouted for joy: This tells us that angelic beings (here called morning stars and sons of YHWH) did in fact witness the creation of the earth, and they rejoiced at the glory, power, and wisdom of YHWH in the creation.

“Shouted for joy; rejoiced in and blessed YHWH for his works; whereby he intimates that they neither did advise or any way assist him in his works, nor dislike or censure any of his works, as Job had presumed to do with the works of his providence, which are not inferior to those of creation.” (Poole)

Since YHWH said that all the sons of G-D shouted for joy, we can take from this that Lucifer fell from his exalted position as the anointed cherub who covers at sometime after YHWH created the earth.

Why was Job's wife spared when the rest of his family was killed? It's possible that her very presence caused Job even more suffering through her chiding or sorrow over what they had lost.

Many people think that believing in YHWH protects them from trouble, so when calamity comes, they question HIS goodness and justice. But the message of Job is that you should not give up on YHWH, because He allows you to have bad experiences. Faith in YAHUWAH does not guarantee personal prosperity, and lack of faith does not guarantee troubles in this life. If this were so, people would believe in YHWH simply to get rich.

YHWH is capable of rescuing us from suffering, but He may also allow suffering to come for reasons we cannot understand. It is Satan's strategy to get us to doubt YHWH at exactly this moment. Here Job shows a perspective broader than seeking his own personal comfort. If we always knew why we were suffering, our faith would have no room to grow.

In the end Job saw that the basis of his problem was his lack of understanding and excessive confidence in his own righteousness. Then his view of YHWH's fairness changed. He saw that His critical attitude toward YHWH was wrong:

42 Then Job replied to the Lord: 2 “I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

3 You asked, ‘Who is this that obscures my plans without knowledge?’ Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.

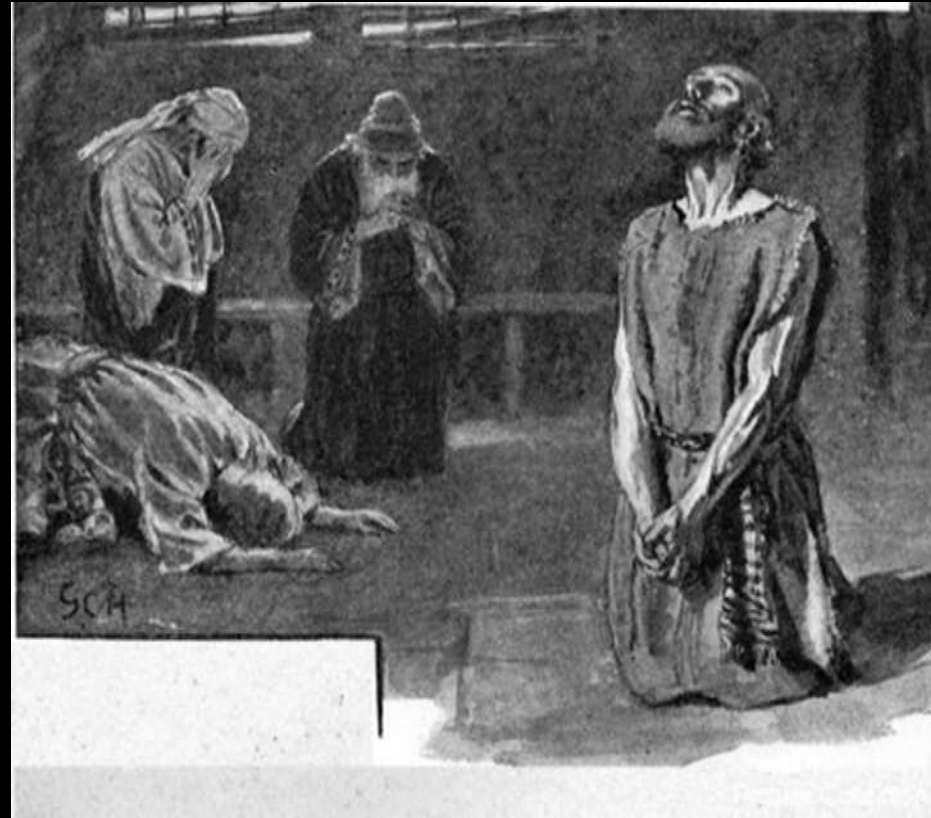
4 “You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.’ 5 My ears had heard of you now my eyes have seen you.

6 Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.” (Job 42:3-6).

Job's experience is recorded in great detail so we can learn the folly of holding too high an opinion of ourselves. "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud" (Proverbs 16:18-19.

Epilogue

7 After YHWH had said these things to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite, “I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has. 8 So now take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and sacrifice a burnt offering for yourselves. My servant Job will pray for you, and I will accept his prayer and not deal with you according to your folly. You have not spoken the truth about me, as my servant Job has.” 9 So Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite



WISDOM IS TO WAIT ON YHWH UNTIL YOU SEE VICTORY

Job's experiences can explain why righteous people may go through discouraging and traumatic times and be tempted to resent YHWH for not obviously and quickly intervening on their behalf. Like Job, we can fail to understand that YHWH sees far more than we see.

No matter how severe a trial is, we should never assume YHWH isn't listening or doesn't care. He sees lessons we need to learn that are beyond our present understanding. We need always to remember some excellent advice from King David: "Wait on YHWH; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen your heart; wait, I say, on YHWH!" (Psalm 27:14).

We should learn from Job's experience to maintain patient respect and trust in YHWH even in the midst of our sufferings (James 5:10-11

Satan has revealed his ultimate weapon. In attacking us, he probes and probes until he finds our point of vulnerability. His assumption is that each of us has a price for which we will deny our faith, curse YHWH, and die. In Job's case, Satan made the error of thinking that the man's circle of faith did not go beyond his fortune and his family.

For many of us, Satan's assumption might have been true. If we faced the sudden loss of all the blessings of YHWH which we take for granted, would we remain faithful? Few of us have ever been put to that test. Perhaps YHWH knows our limits and protects us from the attacks of Satan. If so, the absence of this test may be an indictment upon the smallness of our trust and the shallowness of our relationship with YHWH. Faith grows large and deep only when it is tested. <http://www.ccel.us>

Another attestation to the righteousness of Job is the fact that Satan can attack him only from the outside. No evil desire or hidden lust gives Satan a beachhead within Job from which to launch his attack. He must resort to the effect of sin in the natural order. In this case, Satan uses either Job's hereditary weakness or environmental influence to cause the most grotesque of physical diseases.

Within ourselves each of us has a susceptibility to a variety of physical diseases. As long as we are healthy, the diseases are kept dormant by the defence systems of the body. If, however, our defence systems are broken down, we become vulnerable to diseases peculiar to us due to hereditary or environmental influences. Diabetes, for instance, is heavily affected by hereditary factors. Skin cancer, however, is on the rise due to sunbathing in polluted air penetrated by ultraviolet rays. Hereditary factors, such as skin pigment, are still not ruled out. A fair-skinned person who disregards the doctor's cautions about exposure to the sun is inviting the kind of cancer for which he or she has a weakness.

SATAN ATTACKS OUR WEAKNESSES

Satan also knows our psychological point of vulnerability. Each of us has a different tolerance level for tension. Persons with a high threshold can cope with multiple stress factors. Those with a low threshold of stress, however, may buckle under the weight of a single factor. Holmes' scale of stress, for instance, identifies 100 stress experiences in descending order. At the top are such factors as divorce, death of a spouse, change of position, and moving to a new location. The most stressful situation is to combine several of these high stress factors into a cluster of stresses within a short time frame. Everyone will show some signs of trauma during such times, but depending upon the threshold of stress, one person might break under the strain while another might gain strength. It all depends upon our vulnerability to stress.

YHWH'S STRENGTH IS MADE PERFECT IN WEAKNESS

It is YHWH's will that Christians remain as emotionally and spiritually and physically bruised-free and victorious as possible through every attack the devil launches against them. Nevertheless, many spiritual battles have inflicted needless pain on born again believers, or will inflict needless pain, simply because Christian believers aren't aware that the devil is the one they primarily need to be waging spiritual war against during their time of struggle.

Satan will do everything he can to try to get us to believe that he is not the instigator or originator of our pain. He wants us believing it is people period ... not people being influenced by the devil that is causing our pain. Or more deceptive still, he wants us believing YHWH is the one behind it all. How about sicknesses and diseases brought on by sources "other" than demonic powers?

The question needs to be answered: Did YHWH bring these sicknesses and diseases upon humanity, or did sin through the fall of Adam and Eve bring them upon humanity? There's not one shadow of a doubt in my mind HOW they came upon humanity. They came because of sin. If truly came "to give life, and life more abundantly," as John 10:10 says that He does ... then it should not be too difficult to understand that the one who comes to "rob, steal and destroy" is the one ultimately responsible for sicknesses and diseases.

Bottom line ... he will do everything possible to try to convince the Christian believer he is not the source of their conflict. When the Christian is blinded to fact that Satan is their real source behind the conflict they are facing ... they won't seek YHWH in how to wage effective spiritual warfare against Satan, will they

The test on Job must have been a sealing test. Job pictures the travails of the true church (body of believers). We are all tested by Satan who is authorized by YHWH, and if we keep faith we are sealed and gain the kingdom whereupon we get many more blessings than Satan takes from us in this system. It also appears that for Satan to really test people he has to take human form.

As described in the Book of Job, what happened through Satan's opposition to YHWH and Job is exactly what always happens in the plan of the ALMIGHTY. Satan is allowed to manifest his rebellion and bring about that which he supposes will hinder YHWH's people and His plan. Satan is allowed to do only that which HE has planned for His glory and our good. He does nothing apart from divine permission. He does nothing contrary to YHWH's plan. Through Satan's opposition, YHWH's purposes are fulfilled, and Satan's purposes are frustrated. In spite of his failures, Satan never learns. Instead, he hastens on in his rebellion. It is false to believe that only the wicked suffer. The truth is that wicked people often live long, are wealthy, are able to see their offspring grow, retain their possessions, have businesses that prosper, spend their days in pleasure, and are not under YHWH's chastening (Job 21:7-13). Our earthly situations (which are temporal) are no determinant of our standing with YHWH.

When YHWH speaks to Job, reminding him of HIS omniscience and power, Job is convicted. YHWH is in complete control and nothing occurs by happenstance. YHWH doesn't speak to Job about his sin or his children's sin; He simply reminds Job of His own greatness and all Job could say is, "I am nothing." (Job 40:4-5)

JOB'S FAMILY RESTORED



10 After Job had prayed for his friends, YHWH restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before. 11 All his brothers and sisters and everyone who had known him before came and ate with him in his house. They comforted and consoled him over all the trouble the Lord had brought on him, and each one gave him a piece of silver and a gold ring.

12 YHWH blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the former part. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys. 13 And he also had seven sons and three daughters. 14 The first daughter he named Jemimah, the second Keziah and the third Keren-Happuch. 15 Nowhere in all the land were there found women as beautiful as Job's daughters, and their father granted them an inheritance along with their brothers.

16 After this, Job lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to the fourth generation. 17 And so Job died, an old man and full of years.

GO TO PART 3

**SATAN NEXT SHOW'S UP AS THE
ADVERSARY OF ISRAEL**