

NORTHEAST HOUSTON COMMUNITY CHURCH
SERMON – The Promise of His Coming Again Part 6
Satan’s vs. God – No Contest!
Scripture: Isa 14:12-15
05/21/2006

Isa 14:12-15 "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! 13 For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.' 15 Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit. NKJV

This is meat and I hope not too soon.

In our teaching from the Word of God we are now at the point in time when the tribulation is the next event on Gods calendar. I have spent considerable time on assuring you that the true church and the true Christian will NOT go through the tribulation as those with the POST and MID tribulation view claim.

I am convinced of this and I hope you are as well. There are only two remaining views and they are pre-tribulation and Mid-tribulation. I want to spend just a few minutes to tie this loose end up and then get into our main message for today.

The Mid-tribulation view is centered mainly on the sounding of the trumpets mentioned in: 1 Thess 4:16-18, 1 Cor 15:51-52 and in Rev 11:15

1 Thess 4:16-18 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. NKJV

*1 Cor 15:51-52 51 Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed — 52 in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, **at the last trumpet**. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. NKJV*

*Rev 11:15 **Then the seventh angel sounded** (his trumpet, the seventh): And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" NKJV*

The trumpet referred to in this Revelation passage is the last of seven. That would mean that the church would have to be around “in the tribulation” for the other six and for the previous seven seals.

The logic of Mid-Tribulation thinking does not add up.

Let me remind you of just two other times when God poured out His wrath on the earth.

The flood and the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. The flood was total destruction but what about the righteous living at that time. Noah and his family were placed in the ark of safety.

Sodom – God took Lot out before the destruction

You have to see this great example within these events. There is no mention of the righteousness of Noah's family. God recognized Noah as righteous

Gen 7:1 Then the LORD said to Noah, "Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation. NKJV

There is no mention Lot and his family being righteous only Abraham.

The families of Noah and relatives of Abraham were saved because of the righteousness of another.

The righteous church and the righteous Christian will be taken into safety. Not because of our righteousness but because of the righteousness of Jesus Christ given to all who believe and receive Him.

If you are a Christian you have to say Hallelujah thank you Jesus.

Now let me get back to the main message of the day.

In our focus passage Lucifer/ Satan has in His heart five "Wills"

There is much discussion among scholars that this passage is referring to Nebuchadnezzar and has been applied to Satan. I will address this later.

First let's look at the name "Lucifer". It is only used one time in the bible.

OT:1966

Lucifer = "light-bearer", the morning star, star of the morning, bright star. It is the Latin name for Venus. I found most interesting another definition for Lucifer which meant "DAYSTAR"

Lucifer is not necessarily the name of Satan but a description of his former self.

We will be talking for the next two Sundays about the Antichrist. He will be a key figure in the tribulation. He is not Satan but a servant/tool of Satan.

ANTICHRIST (Grk. antichristos, "against Christ"; some, "instead of Christ"). A word used only by the apostle John (epistles 1 and 2).

Judas could be placed into the category of an antichrist being against Christ. So there have been many antichrists that have come and gone and there are many here today. We mainly associate this title with THE ANTICHRIST of the tribulation.

That antichrist and all the others are servants of Satan. Therefore, Satan is behind it all.

Throughout the Bible we will see that there were many others that could be called antichrist, under the influence of Satan.

This passage though written in the time of Nebuchadnezzar, used by God and later used by Satan, applied more to Satan. This is not the only example of this kind of inspiration given to the writers by the Holy Spirit.

In *Ezekiel 28:13-19* when the writer was writing about the king of Tyre, servant of Satan, in mind he is describing the prominence Satan held in Heaven.

The rebellion against God began in the heart of Satan. He had great position as mentioned in *Ezekiel 28*, but pride filled his heart.

13 For you have said in your heart:

Satan's Five I will's

- 1 I will ascend into heaven,**
- 2 I will exalt my throne above the stars of God;**
- 3 I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north;**
- 4 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,**
- 5 I will be like the Most High.'**

Satan, desiring to be like God gave five wills and God said no you won't. Satan has been at war with God ever since. From the beginning of mankind in the Garden he has been at it.

I feel like I am always repeating myself but we have to understand this. I always talk about the darts of Satan and the first dart is the dart of "Doubt" and his final dart is the dart of "Death" *Ephesians 6:16 (NKJV)* ¹⁶ *above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one.*

In the garden what was the penalty of eating from the forbidden tree/ Death. How did he get Adam and eve to eat of the tree? By doubting.

Because of Satan's role, God predicted his doom.

Gen 3:15 **15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."** NKJV

Now Satan knows God very well and he knows that God cannot lie. He knows that that man is coming to destroy him and he knows that man is Jesus Christ. His only chance to thwart Gods plans it to stop Jesus Christ. Throughout history Satan has tried to destroy the people of God, the plan of God and the Person of God represented by Jesus Christ.

The antichrist in the tribulation will be his greatest attempt, but let us look at the others so that we may have confidence in God's sovereignty and victory.

To the audience - ARE YOU STILL WITH ME?

Satan's Attempts to thwart God

1. **Satan's Attempts** - Genesis – Demons came down and cohabitated with women to corrupt the lineage of the Messiah. This would pollute the bloodline on the human race. *Genesis 6:2 (NKJV)* ² *that the sons of God (angels) saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose.* *Jude 6 (NKJV)* ⁶ *And the angels (sons of God) who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;*

Satan's expected result – Satan knew that the bloodline of Christ had to be pure and of man. If he were to contaminate it with the blood of demons then Christ's blood would not have been pure. Jesus is the Son of God and the son of man, Satan tried to change that.

God's response - Genesis 7 – God brought a flood that destroyed this evil race and saved only Noah.

2. **Satan's Attempts** - *Ex 1:16, 22* Satan used Pharaoh to attempt to kill all male Hebrew boys.

Satan's expected result - This would destroy the bloodline of Israel from which the savior was to come. Remember in Bible Study we learned that the genealogy follows the father.

God's response - *Ex 2* The faith Jochebed releasing Moses to be found by Pharaoh's daughter changed Satan's plan and eventually saved the nation of Israel

3. **Satan's Attempts** - *2 Chronicles 21* – It was promised that the Messiah would come through the kingly lineage of David. (*Rom 1:1-4*) King Jeroram killed all his brothers reducing the line to only one. He had sons but the Arabians killed all of his sons except one, Ahaziah (*2 Chron. 22:1*) who ruled for only one year. He had sons but Satan used his wicked mother to slaughter all the kings' sons, her grandsons, all but one, Joash.

Satan's expected result – Satan tried to wipe out the kingly line of David so that the Messiah could not come that way.

God's response - Joash was hidden from her for six years (*2 Chron. 22:11-12*) thereby God preserved the royal line. He was later restored to the throne. Again, Satan failed to destroy the Messianic line

4. **Satan's Attempts** – Book of Esther – Satan tried to destroy the entire Jewish Nation. Satan used one-man Haman to persuade king Ashasuerus to issue a decree *to destroy, to kill and to cause to perish all Jews* (3:13).

Satan's expected result – If all the Jews were killed then Jesus could not come as a Jew as prophesied.

God's response - God had placed the right woman, Esther, in the right position to turn the king's heart around.

5. **Satan's Attempts** - *Matt 2:16* – Satan used Herod to slay all children two years and under in the region of Jesus' birth

Satan's expected result – to Wipe all Jewish males for good.

God's response - Jesus escaped to Egypt. (*Matt 2:13-15*)

6. **Satan's Attempts - Matt 4 1-10** - Satan attempted to destroy Christ by temptation and to commit suicide or sin against God.

Satan's expected result – Jesus would sin against God.

God's response – The word of God was hidden in the heart of Jesus. Christ was faithful to the mission and foiled Satan by the Word of God.

7. **Satan's Attempts - Luke 4:28-30** – **Satan tried to get a mob to push Christ off a cliff**

Satan's expected result – to kill Jesus before His time.

God's response – God provided a way out of no way. He escaped and walked right through the midst of them though their intent was to kill Him

8. **Satan's Attempts - John 8:59** – Satan incited people to stone Jesus.

Satan's expected result – to kill Jesus before His time. Death to the Messiah.

God's response - Again He walked through their midst in spite of their intent Jesus had such a commanding presence that no man takes His life. His time had not come and when it did come, He would lay it down.

Refer to the Garden of Gethsemane scene when they came for Him and learning who He was they fell down in fear. (*John 18:6*)

9. **Satan's Attempts** - Satan last attempt was when Christ was nailed to the cross. We know he was behind it all because he entered into Judas to betray Christ. (*Luke 22:3*) It looked like he had finally destroyed the rightful king. But this was only the bruising of the heel.

Satan's expected result - to kill Jesus.

God's response - But hold on here. On the third day God raised Him from the dead. Jesus rose in victory of the greatest power Satan thought he had, death.

Satan keeps trying to defeat Gods' plan but there is no contest for him.

From the garden to the Cross, Satan tried to use death to thwart Gods plan. But Jesus had victory over death and has given us eternal life in place of eternal death.

What remains now is the bruising of Satan's heel. Satan has taken his best shot and has come up short. Victory is ours. Death has lost its, sting and the grave has lost its victory.

We read about antichrist every day, they are here, but the tribulation is not.

The next event in history will be the rapture, when Jesus will come for His own, to take us into His arms of safety not to go through the tribulation.

Message Scriptures: Isa 14:12-15, Thess 4:16-18, 1 Cor 15:51-52, Rev 11:15, Gen 7:1, Ezekiel 28:13-19, Ephesians 6:16, Gen 3:15, Genesis 6:2, Genesis 7, Ex 2, 2 Chronicles 21, 2 Chron. 22:1, 2 Chron. 22:11-12, Matt 2:16, Matt 2:13-15, Luke 4:28-30, John 8:59, John 18:6, Luke 22:3

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