Now Concerning Spiritual Things

an historical account of one man's walk with God

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SYNOPTIC WORLD HISTORY

The First World Order

Three Old Testament prophets and one New Testament Apostle tell of a civilization on planet earth prior to the creation of Adam that was ruled over by Lucifer before his fall. That world had cities, sanctuaries, commerce, trading and was a fruitful land. It was destroyed instantly in God's fierce anger because of Lucifer's pride, his multitude of iniquities and by the iniquity of his trading.¹ The destruction of this Pre-Adamic world, originally created perfect,² was so devastating, that all living beings of whatever type and description [birds of the air, all marine life, all animals, mammals (including man³), all creeping things and everything else living on the ground] was instantly and totally destroyed by water.⁴ This first flood on the earth was much more devastating than the flood of Noah, since in his flood, marine life and vegetation were not destroyed.⁵ The restoration or the replenishing of the earth after the first flood is recorded beginning in Genesis 1:3.

Lucifer was the ruler of the pre-Adamic earth. He was an anointed cherub who was the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty and had every precious stone as his covering. Timbrels and pipes [musical instruments] were prepared for him on the day he was created and he was perfect in all his ways till iniquity was found in him.⁶ Then he was deposed by God, his name was changed to Satan and the earth he ruled over was instantly and totally destroyed by God's fierce anger.

The Second World Order

When God replenished and restored the earth and created Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden, Satan then appeared as a serpent, successfully deceived Adam and

Eve and he (Satan) once again was in authority on the earth, a position he obtained from Adam through fraud and deceit.⁷ And this was the beginning [or the continuation] of the world war between Satan, his angels and demons and God (Elohiym) and all the remaining heavenly hosts. For about four thousand years, Satan's authority over the earth went unchallenged. through the cross, Christ came forth from the tomb, triumphant over death and the grave.⁸ He disarmed Satan and those under his command, and regained authority over the earth from the god of this world.⁹ Prior to His ascension, that authority was given to followers of Christ (believers) and it is left up to you and me to successfully engage the enemy with that authority, reinforced with the sending of the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost following the resurrection of Christ. The authority comes from Christ. 10 The power comes from the Holy Spirit.¹¹ You and I as believers are all God has to fight this battle.

Believers must learn to exercise this authority through knowledge of the word of God in order to be free of Satan's effort to steal (from us), kill and destroy us. 12 The activity of Satan and those under his authority will increase up to the midpoint of the Tribulation at which time Satan and his remaining angels at large will be cast down to earth. 13 Then, in a manner of speaking, all hell will break loose. Three and one-half years later, Christ (and his bride) will descend from heaven and He will slay massive armies marching against the small nation of

¹See Isaiah 14:12-15, 17; Jeremiah 4:23-26; Ezekiel 28:12-19; 2 Peter 3:5-7.

²See Genesis 1:1.

³Since there were cities, sanctuaries, commerce and trading in the fruitful pre-Adamic world, I presume those who carried on such activities were beings such as populate the earth today.

⁴See Genesis 1:2.

⁵See Genesis 7:23; 8:11.

⁶See Ezekiel 28:15.

⁷See the parable of the vinedressers in Matthew 21:33-46. In the parable the vineyard is the world, leased (obtained by fraud through Adam's sin) to vinedressers (Satan and his angels). The servants are the prophets, the Son is Jesus. The destruction of the vinedressers is the casting of Satan and his angels into the lake of fire, See Revelation 20:10.

⁸Read Hebrews 2:14.

⁹Satan has authority over non-believers and those who knowingly worship him since he is the "god of this world," (See 2 Corinthians 4:4). He has no authority over believers today except that which we give to him through ignorance, unbelief and sin. However, believers must learn how to use spiritual warfare weapons in order to free themselves of Satan's efforts to steal [from us], kill and destroy us.

¹⁰See Mark 16:15-18.

¹¹See Acts 1:8.

¹²See John 10:10.

¹³See Revelation 12:9.

Israel in preparation for the millennial reign of Christ. During the Millennium, Satan and his angels will be bound by a great chain and locked in the bottomless pit. ¹⁴ At the end of the Millennium he and his evil hordes will be released from his prison for a "little while" to once again deceive the nations of this world. ¹⁵ Following this last opportunity of the devil to steal, kill and destroy mankind, he (Satan), the beast and the false prophet (the unholy trinity) will be cast into the lake of fire and brimstone to be tormented day and night forever and ever. ¹⁶

The Cost of Adam's Sin

According to my estimate, the length of time it will have taken God to finally deal with a rebellious anointed cherub, is (1) an expanse of time beginning with the deposition of Lucifer as ruler of the pre-Adamic earth to Adam's sin in the garden of Eden, plus (2) four thousand years to the cross of Christ, plus (3) two thousand years to the year 2000, plus (4) no longer than one (Bible) generation of forty years¹⁷ during which time I believe the Rapture will occur. Add to these figures (5) the one thousand-year Millennium plus (6) the "little while" Satan is loosed at the end of the Millennium to obtain the estimated total expanse of time devoted to the permanent elimination of Satan from the earth.

On one occasion, I asked God why it took Him so long to deal with Satan and take him out of the picture permanently. Here is the answer He gave me: "Because this world war we are engaged in (that started prior to the garden of Eden) is being fought under the laws of the creation of cherubs." Please think that one over. Here is the rationale under which that answer came. When God creates anything, He simultaneously creates laws governing the creation, birth, life, sustenance, maintenance, provision, death and final disposition of His creation. No exceptions. Here is an example. You don't plant a cypress tree in the desert. You usually find them growing in a swamp or along the bank of a river near an abundant water source. Their life-span and everything necessary for their sustenance, maintenance and provision was spoken into existence at their creation.

Weapons of War/Reclamation/Restoration

In a similar manner, when God created cherubs, He created laws governing all activities of cherubs and He cannot go beyond those laws because once spoken

into existence, they are truth and therefore cannot be changed. Truth neither conflicts with nor refutes truth, otherwise it would not be truth. Here is why this is an irrefutable law: Scripture reveals that God has (1) exalted His word above all His Name¹⁸ and that (2) forever is His word settled in heaven. 19 This means that *His Name is* important because of His word. Most would think that God's word is important because of His Name, but that is not so. In addition, the fact that His word is forever settled in heaven means that it will never change! That is why it is important to know His word which is the permanent operational manual for life. Therefore the world war you and I are presently engaged in as believers is going to be fought and won with the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, by believers like you and me. Try that one on for size! That's one reason why it is both interesting and exciting to be alive today. To know the Commander-in-chief personally and to understand and participate in the spiritual war in progress with ultimate confidence, is both a responsibility and a blessing.

The reason Satan made a run at Adam to once again gain authority over the earth was because he [Satan] had once ruled the earth as an anointed cherub. After being deposed by God in His fierce anger, he wanted once again, by hook or crook or whatever devious way he could devise, to take over what he had lost. He liked the feel of being in charge of planet earth and wanted that back again, at whatever the cost might be. The truth of the matter is, because of the laws of the creation of cherubs, he operated under authority from God and he knew it. The first Adam took his bait which portended a reclamation/restoration project of immense proportions that will last more than seven thousand years.

The Fruit of Sin

To get a small idea of the effect that Satan, his angels and demons have on the earth today, consider the Millennium when Satan will be locked in chains in the bottomless pit. Sickness, disease, infirmity and death will be virtually nonexistent. Animals will no longer be vicious. Poisonous reptiles will not harm a child. There will be no unemployment, no poverty nor lack of food to eat.²⁰ Now pause for a moment and consider who causes sickness, disease, infirmity of all types, unemployment, poverty, hunger, famine, plagues, AIDS, cancer [and

¹⁴See Revelation 20:1-3.

¹⁵See Revelation 20:3.

¹⁶See Revelation 19:20; 20:10.

¹⁷A bible generation is forty years. See Psalm 95:10.

¹⁸See Psalm 138:2 (b).

¹⁹See Psalm 119:89.

²⁰I have previously written somewhat extensively on the Millennium in a ten-letter series and for that reason will not elaborate further on Millennium conditions here.

other killers], the viciousness of animals and reptiles. *Paradise Lost/Regained*

God gave authority over the earth to the first Adam.²¹ When he sinned he forfeited to Satan that authority. That is why most everything on the earth today is contrary to man and his well-being.²² That is why I believe there was mourning in heaven when Adam sinned. He was the crowning creation of God, was made in His (or "Our") image – the image of Elohiym²³ and placed in a perfect environment without flaw. The environment that existed on the earth prior to Adam's sin may have been similar to that of the Millennium. And that is why, when Adam failed, God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit and all the heavenly hosts that remained after Satan's rebellion, had what I believe may have been the saddest day ever in heaven. That mistake has resulted in untold suffering, misery, death and has already consumed more than six thousand years in the ongoing correction process. That is why the second Adam's success is so important. That is why the second Adam is so very, very special! And that is why all the blame for evil should fall at the feet of Satan, the archenemy of God and man.

THE COURT OF HEAVEN

Definition/Participants

The purpose of a court is to render equity at law for the party charged. The court is presided over by a qualified judge who knows the law and renders judgment accordingly. One is brought before the court based on the charge or accusation by the prosecuting attorney. The nature of the prosecuting attorney is necessarily adversarial and aggressive. The one charged is entitled to an advocate to represent him. Both the prosecuting attorney and the advocate of the one charged must also know the law in order to have standing in the court.

You have just read a description of the *court of heaven*. God is the Judge, Satan is the prosecuting attorney and Jesus Christ is the Advocate representing

the one charged.

Position and Activity of the Participants

The position of the Lord Jesus as our Advocate and God as the Judge in the court of heaven is clearly defined by Mark. In chapter 16, verses 15 through 18, he records the Great Commission as spoken by Jesus and then in verse 19 he wrote, "So then after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God."

The position and the activity of Satan in the court is not as easily determined. Here is my explanation of his activity and his position as the adversarial prosecuting attorney in the court of heaven. Twice in the book of Job it is recorded that the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord and Satan came also among them.²⁴ The phrase "the sons of God" has come under question by Bible students and Bible translators. Here is the reason. The sons of God could not be earthbound men coming to present themselves before God. This identical phrase also appears twice within the same context in Genesis, chapter 6, verses 2 & 4. In this Genesis account the sons of God cohabited with the daughters of men and produced children that became giants. The result was that the wickedness of man became so great that every thought and intent of man's heart was only evil continually. The Lord then became so sorry and grieved in his heart that He had made man on the earth, He sent the flood of Noah to destroy civilization once more.

The sons of God in all four of these Bible references are translated from the same Hebrew words: Sons (Strong's #1121) and God (Strong's #430 -Elohiym). The context of these two accounts indicate that the phrase "angels of God" would be an appropriate translation instead of the sons of God. For example both the New International Version and the Living Bible translate the phrase as *angels of God* and the Amplified Version inserts *angels* in parenthesis. Consequently, in the Job account, we have angels coming to give their report to the Lord in the court of heaven and Satan comes along to question or raise doubts about Job's faithfulness. That's Satan's role and he plays it well. He did the same thing with Adam and it worked, big time. We therefore know that Satan, although he was deposed and "defrocked" by Christ at the cross, he still has access to the throne of God as the "accuser of the brethren," or as the prosecuting attorney.

Satan's job before God, therefore, is to bring

²¹In Genesis 1:26-28 God gave to Adam authority and dominion over the earth. But that authority and dominion was conditional upon obedience to God which Adam violated and consequently forfeited to Satan his God given authority to rule the earth.

²²Read Genesis 3:14-19.

²³"Then God said, 'Let us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness....'" (Genesis 1:26). The word *God* in this scripture is translated from the Hebrew word Elohiym, Strong's #430, the plural word for God, meaning God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

²⁴See Job 1:6 and 2:1.

charges against believers (not nonbelieiver) as our adversary who goes about the earth as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour.²⁵ He is relentless and is on the job 24/7.²⁶ He is a trickster, for he first comes to deceive us. If we take his bait, then he becomes our accuser before the throne of God.

Concerning where Satan makes his accusations, I believe it to be on the *left side* of God's throne. Here is why: The great white throne judgment for all the nations is the parable setting for the words of Jesus in Matthew, chapter 25, verses 32 through 46. In the scene described, the Lord will "separate them one from another as a shepherd divides the sheep from the goats." He will set the sheep on His right hand, but *the goats on the left*. To the sheep on the right He will say, "Come you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." To *the goats on the left* He will say, "Depart from Me you cursed, into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels."

The parable teaches that the righteous on the right (the sheep) are those who responded to the needs of others who were unable to provide the needs for themselves. The unrighteous on the left (the goats) are those who saw the same needs, "looked the other way," and failed to respond. The interesting thing about this parable is that Jesus said the good deeds done to those in need were done to Him, while those who saw the same needs but ignored the needy *ignored Him*.

For these reasons, I believe Satan's position when he appears as the accuser (prosecutor) of the brethren is on the left side of God's throne.

If my conclusions are correct, in the center of the court room of heaven is the Throne of God. To the right is the Lord Jesus as our advocate, while the left side is where Satan makes his entry as the accuser of the brethren.

At present the throne room of God is the court room of heaven. When believers sin, Satan as the adversarial prosecuting attorney appears on the left side of the Judge to address the court. He then accuses us of the violation before God which gives him the legal right to dispatch to us evil spirits or demons in whatever number and classification he determines. The moment we sin, Satan gains ascendency in that part of our life and the Lord Jesus is estopped from interfering until we confess the sin and repent. That's the law of heaven and earth.

Enemy Activity

Demons are the instruments Satan uses to steal, kill and destroy us and he's been at it a long time. So long as we continue in our sinful condition, the demons remain and do their dirty work. Our peace is destroyed and doubt, fear, rejection, insecurity, depression, low self-esteem, for example, may become real. Worry may become our companion. Illness and disease, over which we have no control, may invade our body and the enemy is in charge. So long as the sin is ignored, enjoyed or kept, Jesus has no authority to intervene as our Advocate. However, when we become fed up with the abuse, confess the sin and repent, Jesus then has the legal authority before the Father to step up as our Advocate and Intercessor and say to the adversary, "Enough! I paid the price for that sin. My blood cleanses and the sin is forgiven."²⁷ However, damage control may be in order. Whatever disease the sin has caused may continue until we expel the demons causing the problem and ask the Lord to heal us according to Isaiah 53:5, Mark 16:17, James 5:14, 15, for example.

That is why Jesus said, "In My Name they will cast out demons"28 and "they will lay hands on the sick and they will recover."²⁹ Until we as believers begin to understand and practice these principles, illness and disease and a plethora of other "problems" may find their way into our lives. On the other hand, when we learn, understand and begin to practice these principles and walk holy before God, we may then perceive that God (Elohiym), Who is Spirit, spoke all creation into existence with words. He therefore has authority over the physical realm (our bodies) and indwells all bornagain believers. 30 This usually takes time to learn and begin to practice, but once understood and once we venture out by faith into this arena, life becomes a whole new ball game! The reason Jesus came to earth is understood in an entirely different light and life may begin as an adventure with a special Friend. I have ventured out into this arena and invite you to come along with me. Once you begin this quest, you will never be the same again. And you will find some unexpected Spice in life you never knew existed.

²⁵See 1 Peter 5:8.

²⁶Read Revelation 12:10.

²⁷Read 1 John 1:7-9.

²⁸Mark 16:17.

²⁹Mark 16:18.

³⁰For an explanation of God [Elohiym] indwelling born-again believers, see my letter dated April 8, 2004, page 1, **THE** POWER **SOURCE.**