

If man was going to love and serve his creator, he had to have a choice.

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The History of Man

In the beginning before the creation of humans, God had a split in heaven. His most anointed angel thought he was better than God and set out to replace Him. The fool's name was lucifer and he got himself and a third of the angelic host booted out of heaven. The angel became the devil and he was banished to the earth. We don't know how many millions of years the devil wreaked havoc here, what we do know is that God restored the earth and created man.

Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning God created the Heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form (a wasteland, vain, worthless) and void: and darkness was upon the face of the deep.

There was life in the earth but not human, just creatures without souls. God sent a flood to destroy all life, now we don't know how much time was between verse one and verse two. God spoke and restored the earth, He divided the water from the land and created a Garden for His first man. He named His first man Adam and gave him dominion over all of His creation. God created all new animals, the dinosaurs all drowned in the flood. God brought all of the animals to Adam so he could name them, Adam was the god of this world.

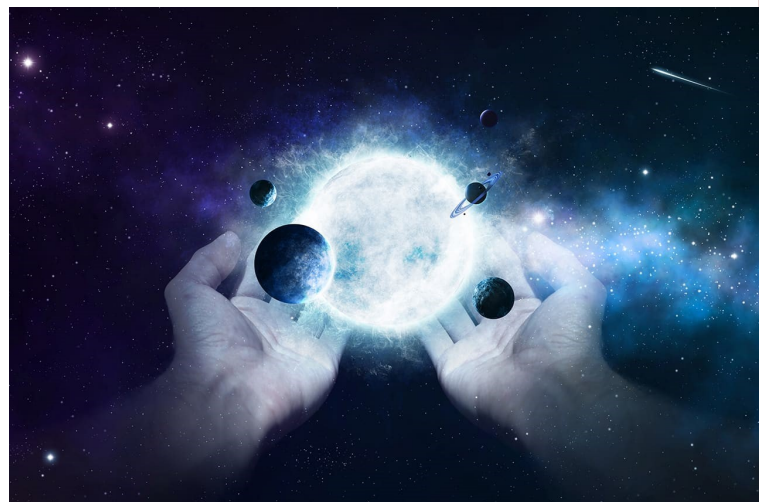
Genesis 2:17 The tree of the knowledge of good and evil, you may not eat of it: for in the day that you do eat thereof you shall surely die.

Now the devil used a beast to coerce Adam to disobey God, up until then the devil had no place in the earth. People often ask,, why did God allow the devil to tempt His man? If man was going to love and serve his creator, he had to have a choice. Adam let a subordinate talk him into a very grave sin. God said in the very day you eat of that tree you will die, but Adam lived until he was nine hundred and thirty years of age. When the Bible refers to death it is referring to separation, Adam died spiritually that day, he became disconnected from God.

Romans 6:16 Do you not know that to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey, his serv-

ant you are to whom you obey.

Adam became a child of the devil and his nature was that of evil. God still loved Adam but He held no place of authority in his life, nor in the lives of all his descendants. Thanks to Adam the whole world would lie in wickedness, and no man could get himself or anyone else free. Man was evicted from out of the Garden and he had to eat in the fields that he brought the curse on. For eleven hundred years, sinful man reigned in the earth. God found one man and his family that He considered faithful, He instructed him to build a large boat for his family and two of every kind of animal. God put them all in the ark and sent another flood to the earth, if He wouldn't have done this God would never have a place with the men He created.



He needed men who would cooperate with His plan of redemption.

God's Plan for Man

God has a problem, the devil is controlling and manipulating people and God has no place in the world He created. Our Lord knew from the beginning how all of this would come to be and He was prepared for it.

Revelation 13:8 The Lamb was slain from the foundation of the world.

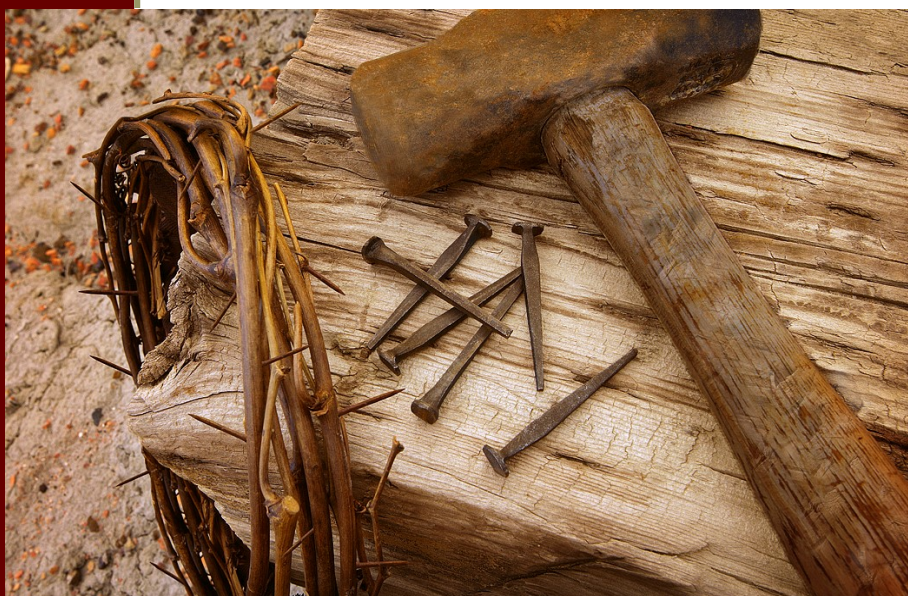
God knew what needed to be done and how it would all go down, but man had to make all the decisions. God gave dominion to man and man put himself under the dominion of the devil, God could not in any way alter this. He needed men who would cooperate with His plan of redemption. He found some who He could use, some for a lifetime and some for just a season. God could use King

Genesis 12:1-3 The Lord said to Abram, leave your father's house and I will make from you a great nation, and in you all the families of the earth can be blessed.

Twenty-one hundred years after Adam, God finds another man that He offers what Adam lost. If God can't find a man that will do what needs to be done, He will search for another and offer him the same option. Abram was a just man, he raised his son to follow in his footsteps and his grandsons followed after. Beginning with Abram, God was able to make a great nation we know still to this day as Israel. One of Abram's descendants was Moses and God gave Moses the law, a very important part of God's grand plan for man.

Israel had no idea but they were starting a tradition that would bring freedom to themselves and the destruction of the devil. They didn't need to understand, they just needed to obey, this is how a believer lives by faith. The devil loves everything connected to death, he thinks if man is separated from God then man will be reunited with him. Men were spiritually dead, sin kept them from the Father because it is written, "what place has light with darkness". God had to get His Word and His will into the earth. He would find a prophet, give him a word and when the prophet spoke it God would confirm it.

Hebrews 9:13 The blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer was sprinkled for the unclean, for the purifying of the flesh.



Every year the priest would offer the blood of animals to cover the sins of people. This had to be done every year because it changed nothing, the people continued in their sinful way because it was their nature. God could deal with His people on a limited basis but He knew this would lead to a permanent solution. If you step back and get an overview of the whole concept, you will see the devil cheering on account of the continual sins of God's people. This was God's plan for man and the devil, no man would see what was coming. Folks who are yet to be born-again are spiritually dead, they do not understand God but they are not related to Him.

Saul until he chose to disobey. But King David He could use his entire life.

Exodus 12:4-5 Speak to Israel and tell every man to take a lamb without blemish, and kill it and eat it all.

The devil Hastened his own Defeat

If you are a student of the Old Testament, you will clearly see God setting the devil up for annihilation. God has very cleverly used the devil's nature to lead him into a place where he can never recover from. The devil is a thief that has come to kill, destroy and steal. He relishes everything that involves death. The devil approved of God's plan to offer animal blood to cover sin because it was only a temporary fix. The devil knew Messiah was coming. But he didn't know who He would be, so he had all the male children under the age of two murdered. The devil's response for every problem is to kill someone. He ordered the death of every prophet that foretold of the coming of the Just One.

John 1:29 John sees Jesus coming and says, behold the Lamb of God, which takes away the sin of the world.

John was a prophet and he was sent to prepare the people for the arrival of the Messiah. The devil did not comprehend what John spoke, he called Jesus the Lamb God would offer for all sins. The devil was moved by his nature and he set out to kill Jesus and stop the fulfillment of the prophetic word. The fool did not understand that Jesus came to die, the righteous for the unrighteous. The devil seemed powerless over Jesus because he was. Jesus was not a sinner so He had all authority.

John 10:18 No man takes My life from Me, but I lay it down of Myself.

The devil put himself on a course of self destruction and he couldn't stop himself. The only way out of his dilemma was to



leave Jesus alone. But that would require love, something he has none of. The devil has no access to revelation, he was determined to kill Jesus and stop Messiah from setting His people free. The devil used his favorite tactics, he stirred up the Jews and caused them to be jealous of Jesus. The devil was their father so they had a kindred spirit. They called for Jesus to be crucified.

Galatians 3:13b Cursed is everyone that is hung on a tree(cross).

The devil was just giddy over the concept of Jesus hanging on a tree because then His own Father would have to announce the curse over Him. When Jesus died on the cross, His Spirit was sent to hell because He was made to be sin. The devils all over the world

must have been elated with great joy, for they killed the Son of God and stopped God's plan of redemption! In his haste to kill Jesus, the devil didn't take into account that Jesus never once yielded Himself to any temptation.

Romans 8:11 But the Holy Spirit came and raised Jesus from the dead.

Jesus became sin but it wasn't His sin, it was ours. His righteous blood was shed for all sinners. I would love to have seen the look on the devil's face when Jesus came flying out of hell. The devil did not comprehend God's plan of redemption until after he was thoroughly defeated. Jesus destroyed the works of the devil and then gave His Name to every born-again believer. So now the devil must deal with a whole world full of little Christs. Every time we use His Name the devil is reminded of his blunder. So use the Name and bless the Lord, He deserves the glory.

When
Jesus
died
on
the
cross
His
Spirit
was
sent
to
hell
because
He
was
made
to
be
sin.

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**Restoring the
supernatural power
of God back
to the local church**

A New Life for A New Man

Some folks are children of wrath, children of the devil and they are not aware. Jesus was born and died to rescue man from the snare of the devil.

Romans 5:8 But God commanded His love toward us in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

I know a lot of men, some of them are good men who know they're going to hell and they just accept it. They cannot grasp hold of the fact that God loves them and His Son died to keep them out of hell. The devil has done a masterful job of keeping the truth from those in dark-

ness. Please don't ever think that the devil and God have equal power. The only reason the devil is still around is because when God creates a spirit, that spirit will live forever.

Anytime a sinner makes a decision to search for God and the truth, no devil in hell or otherwise will be able to hinder him. I know because I was that sinner and I did not want to go to hell. I would have

settled for purgatory because that is not as permanent as hell is. God has prepared a new life for a new man but we must become this new born that is recreated in the image of God. A sinner cannot imagine what it is like to have Jesus. His Spirit dwells in you every day of your life.

So get born-again, if you don't like it the devil will take you back.

