

bringing God's love into question, of putting God's love on trial.



The Origin of the Trial

Lesson 1

There was a time when all of God's creation was in harmony with God. Everyone was aware of God's great love for them. At that time, there was no question in anyone's mind regarding the goodness and integrity of God. Yet, this harmony and peace would soon be broken by the rise of sin in the heart of the angel, Lucifer, whom we now call Satan. The name Lucifer means "light bearer," and after he rebelled against God he became a deceiver and murderer, so his name was changed to Satan, which means, "adversary."

1. Who has fallen from heaven?

Isaiah 14:12 _____

2. How does God describe this person when he was created?

Ezekiel 28:15a _____

3. When we have a perfect heart, what will we do?

1 Chronicles 29:19 _____

4. What is the first and great Commandment?

Matthew 22:36-38 _____

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When Lucifer was perfect He obviously obeyed the first and greatest commandment, which is to love God with all his heart, all his soul, and all his mind.

5. Why do people love God?

1 John 4:19 _____

6. Describe some ways that God expressed His love for Lucifer.

Ezekiel 28:12-14 _____

Love for God always begins with an understanding and appreciation of God's love for us. When Lucifer was perfect, and loved God with all his heart, he must have had a deep appreciation of God's love for him. But this appreciation of God's love did not remain forever.

7. What was found in Lucifer that indicated a change in him?

Ezekiel 28:15b _____

8. What was lifted up in Lucifer?

Ezekiel 28:17 _____

This is another way of saying that Lucifer became proud.

9. What became corrupted in Lucifer?

Ezekiel 28:17 _____

The only wisdom that would effect a change in Lucifer's love is His wisdom about God's love for him. (1 John 1:9). Understanding and knowing God's love is the only thing we can glory in. (Jeremiah 9:23, 24). This is the primary wisdom that became corrupted in Lucifer as a result of his pride, which affected all his wisdom.

While Lucifer was perfect, he viewed God as a Person who is loving, just, and fair in everything He does and, therefore, Lucifer loved God with all his heart. However, Lucifer began

to turn his eyes upon himself and realize how beautiful, how perfect, how wise, he was. He started to become proud of himself, his beauty, and his abilities. He stopped being a light bearer and has become Satan.

10. Whose position did Satan desire to have?

Isaiah 14:14 _____

As Satan's pride continued to grow he started to believe that he deserved a more exalted position than God had given him. He started to think that since he was so wonderful, and deserved a better position in heaven, God was not being fair to him for withholding from him what he deserved. After this, Lucifer began looking upon God as a Person who is unfair, unjust, and selfish. No longer did he recognize God's character of love. His wisdom about God's character of love became corrupted; he began to doubt God's love, causing his love for God to diminish. He became discontent.

- 11 Where do wars come from?

James 4:1 _____

12. Did Satan convince others to share his corrupted view of God's love?

Revelation 12:7-9 _____

13. How many of the stars of heaven were cast to the earth through Satan's trickery?

Revelation 12:4 _____

14. What do these stars represent?

Revelation 1:20 _____

Satan's arguments must have been very persuasive for him to be able to convince a third of the holy angels of God. They themselves began to misunderstand God's love.

Sin began with a disbelief in God's love, and Lucifer knew that if he could get others to disbelieve God's love they would join him in his rebellion. He took up the unholy task of