The ‘Black-Sheep’ of our Family

Summary

Where did Satan actually come from, and when did the world go wrong? This article reads Genesis 1 in the original Hebrew to argue creation itself began perfect — and traces exactly how, and how long ago, that changed.

- Genesis 1:2’s Hebrew “tohu” and “bohu” read as “became” rather than “was” — a once-perfect earth that later fell into chaos.
- Lucifer’s rebellion, and that of a third of the angels, placed before Adam’s creation.
- The plural pronouns of Genesis 1:26-28 read as evidence of other early human populations created before and alongside Adam — offered as an explanation for the origin of the world’s races.
- Adam set apart specifically to begin Yahweh’s plan of salvation, overviewed across a proposed 6,000-year span of history.

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The ‘Black-Sheep’ of our Family

Is there a devil? Many people talk about the devil and Satan. Others scoff and say it's just superstition and imagination. But is there a devil? According to knowledgeable Israelites the Bible is supposed to teach that the devil is "the god of this world".

Did Yahweh create a devil? What does the Bible actually teach? To find out let's look back to the very beginning. Open your Bible to Genesis 1:1. "In the beginning Yahweh". Yahweh was before all. The next word in the Authorized Version is "created". "Yahweh created". He created the heaven and the earth. But the very next verse of the first chapter of Genesis typically says this: "The earth was without form, and void". The Hebrew words for "without form", and "void" are "tohu" and "bohu". Translated into English they mean chaotic, in confusion, waste, and empty.

When Yahweh created the heaven and the earth, did He create this earth originally in a state of confusion? Did He create it all topsy-turvy and chaotic? We read in 1 Corinthians 14:33, that, "Yahweh is NOT the author of confusion". Yahweh is the author of peace; Yahweh is the author of order and of law. Why would He create the earth in disorder and then have to straighten it out? That doesn't make sense! One definition points out that the Hebrew word for created, "bara", used in Genesis 1:1, "implies that the creation was a perfect work". That very word "created" implies, according to this definition, a perfect, beautiful order and system, not chaos or confusion!

The book of Job shows Yahweh talking with Job about the creation. Yahweh is saying to Job, "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth?" There is the implication here that Job had directed the building of some great edifice. Job was righteous and somewhat proud of his accomplishments. Yahweh was whittling him down to humility by a comparison of accomplishments. Yahweh continues, "Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened *[margin, "sunk"]*? or who laid the corner stone thereof; when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of Yahweh shouted for joy?" *(Job 38:4-7).*

The "morning stars" are light-(truth)-bringing angels and archangels, according to Biblical interpretation of symbols. As creations of Yahweh, they also are referred to as "all the sons of Yahweh". So this, too, implies a perfect and glorious creation of earth.

Then how did it become chaotic? In Genesis 19:26, the same Hebrew root word "hayah" is used that is translated "was" in Genesis 1:2. *(See also Genesis 2:7 and 9:15)*. And there it is translated into the English word "BECAME". In the first three chapters of the Bible, and many other places where you find the

Hebrew word "hayah", in almost every case it denotes a condition that was different from a former condition.

In other words, the earth "BECAME" chaotic. It had not always been that way. Plainly the word "was" *(hayah)* here has the meaning of "became". The Rotherham translation of Genesis 1:2, out of the original Hebrew language, is this: "Now the earth HAD BECOME waste and empty". It hadn't always been that way!

In Jeremiah 4:23, Isaiah 34:11, and in other places in the Bible, you find the same words, "tohu" and "bohu", meaning "chaotic" and "in confusion". In every case that condition is a result of sin. Notice Isaiah 45:18. "Thus saith Yahweh that created the heavens; Yahweh himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it NOT IN VAIN". "In vain" is an inappropriate translation of, "emptiness or waste".

The original Hebrew word here is "tohu". This Hebrew word is the identical word used in Genesis 1:2, meaning "confusion", or "emptiness", or "waste" - a result of disorder, a result of violation of law. In Isaiah 45:18 we have the plain statement that Yahweh created the earth NOT "tohu", that is, not in confusion, not in disorder. But in Genesis 1:2, the earth was *(because it had become)* chaotic and in confusion! Then it became that way after it was created. Now, what could have caused that confusion; that disorder? What sin could have wrecked the earth and brought it into the condition in which it was found in Genesis 1:2?

These facts prove that there must have been some form of LIFE on earth prior to human life. That life populated the earth, because the Bible says the sins of that life (the breaking of Yahweh's laws), had occurred on the earth and brought it into a condition of chaos and confusion!

Yahweh reveals what type of life that was in 2 Peter 2:4: "For Yahweh spared not the angels that sinned..." and now in the 6th verse of Jude, "and the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day".

The sin of the angels, brought about the chaotic condition on the earth. There was a devil already in existence when Adam was created. He and his demons had an estate that they did not keep, or maintain. "...and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord Yahweh; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of Yahweh; every precious stone was thy covering...the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes *[music]* was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created".

Notice, this is speaking of a created being - not a human being. "Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so," says Yahweh. In Exodus 25:17,20, we find the description of Yahweh's throne in heaven, and about this throne are two cherubim - super archangels - whose wings spread out and cover the throne. This created being then, is the former Lucifer, who was at the very throne of the universe, thoroughly experienced in the Government of Yahweh. He is then prior to Genesis, pictured as

being on earth to administer the Government of Yahweh over earth's angels and Yahweh's other created life forms.

There was happiness, peace and joy on earth. Of Lucifer, the Moffatt translation reads: "From the day you were created, you lived a perfect life, till you were discovered doing wrong" (Ezekiel 28:15). Yahweh did not create a devil, but a beautiful, perfect super angel. But Yahweh did give to his angels free moral agency - minds that were free to think and reason - the right of free choice. Lucifer had allowed his great intelligence and beauty to fill him with vanity; with self-glory and SELF-desire. He became envious of Yahweh's exalted position and resented Yahweh's authority. He plotted with his angels to marshal them into an invading army, to invade the heaven of Yahweh. "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of Yahweh: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High *[Yahweh]*" (Isa. 14:12-14).

Lucifer was going to try to be God of the entire creation! He was no longer satisfied with simply being the administrator of Yahweh's government on earth. A third of the angels united with Satan in the rebellion. *(Lucifer was no longer "light-bringer", but now an adversary - an enemy. The name Satan means "adversary". His angels now became demons.)* This rebellious sin of the angels reached into the heavens and brought chaos. What the geologists and astronomers see, is not an evolving universe, but the wreckage of a titanic battle waged by spirits throughout space - a battle fought before man's creation.

Millions of years ago, the earth and MANY TYPES OF LIFE FORMS, including what we euphemistically refer to as "pre-historic man", such as Cro-Magnon and Neanderthal, were created perfect, and placed under rule of Yahweh's most highly esteemed Lucifer. The angelic rebellion then caused the earth and its life forms to become chaotic, waste, and in confusion. Then Yahweh refashioned, remade, or RE-CREATED THE EARTH IN SIX DAYS for the purpose of providing a proving ground for His NEWLY CREATED human life. The human life that through Yahweh's plan of salvation, would overcome the devil, and become, the family of Yahweh.

Notice that the Bible does NOT say that ADAM and EVE were the first, or ONLY humans created! In the Hebrew language, "Adam", means literally, "MANKIND"! Genesis 1:26 states very clearly, that Yahweh said, "let us make man*[kind]* in our image, according to our likeness: let THEM have dominion ... on the earth"! And in verse 27 and 28, "So Yahweh created man[kind] in His own image, in the image of Yahweh created He him [mankind]; male and female created He THEM. And Yahweh blessed THEM, and Yahweh said unto THEM, Be fruitful and multiply, and REPLENISH the earth..."! *(Notice the use of the word "RE"plenish! Obviously, you can only "RE"plenish that which is no longer there; the former, or "pre-historic" life forms!)* Then AFTER this, in verse 7 of Chapter 2, Yahweh describes how he specifically created Adam like He had the rest of mankind, out of the "dust of the ground". And EVEN LATER

STILL, in verses 8 and 15, we are told that Yahweh "took the man *[Adam - mankind]* and put him [them] in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it".

We conclude here, that Yahweh ALSO created many other ancestors of the human race; MANKIND! This stage of creation no doubt accounts for the origin of distinctions within the races, such as those of the Asians, Orientals, Africans, Indians, South Americans, Australian Aborigines, North American Indians and so on.

The placing of Adam in the garden of Eden, was Yahweh's FIRST STEP in His plan of salvation. Adam and Eve were specifically selected by Yahweh to begin a line of descendents that would become an example, or a "light to the world" as the Messiah would state it. Unfortunately, the earth and ALL HUMANS were still conditionally, under ruler ship of Satan. Adam had the chance to supplant him. In the contest to see if Adam would conquer, if he would obey Yahweh, he failed. He obeyed the devil instead, and man BECAME THE PROPERTY OF THE DEVIL, and the whole human race has been held captive by him ever since! Adam and Eve took of the tree of "the knowledge of good and evil", allowing them to decide for themselves what is right or what is sin. This, of course, meant rejecting Yahweh's law, which defined FOR THEM, the right and the wrong.

Adam, not deceived, nonetheless went along with his wife. With her, he took to himself the determination of what is right and what is wrong - thus DISBELIEVING what his Maker had said, REJECTING Yahweh as Saviour and Ruler - rejecting Yahweh as the source of revealed BASIC KNOWLEDGE. He believed, obeyed and followed Satan's way! When Yahweh "drove out the man" from the Garden of Eden *(cut man off from His presence)*, and barred re-entrance to the Garden, lest he go back and receive eternal life in sin *(Gen. 3:22-24),* Yahweh had, in effect pronounced sentence on all of mankind!

Once Adam failed, Yahweh wasted little time in getting to the next step in His plan of salvation; ABRAHAM - the FATHER OF THE FAITHFUL! In as few as 12 chapters in the Bible, Yahweh leads us to, and REVEALS *(or exposes)* the THEME OF THE ENTIRE BIBLE - His plan of salvation FOR ALL MEN *(1 Tim. 2:1-5),* through a line of descent, or spiritual adoption - from ABRAHAM, the father of the faithful, through to Yah'shua the Messiah, the ultimate Saviour of ALL MANKIND *(Gal. 3:16)!*

Yahweh said, in effect: "You have made the decision for yourself and the world, and all those that shall spring from you. You have rejected Me as the basic source of knowledge; you have rejected power from Me through My Spirit to live the righteous way - you have rebelled against My command and My government - you have chosen the `GETTING', TAKING' way of Satan. Therefore I sentence you and the world and those you shall beget to 6,000 years of being cut off from access to Me and My Spirit - except for the exceedingly FEW I shall specially CALL. And that FEW shall be called for special service preparatory for, and as part of, the kingdom of Yahweh. They shall be required to do what you have failed to do - discern, reject, resist and overcome Satan and his ways, and follow the ways of My spiritual law.

"Go therefore, Adam, and all your progeny that shall form the descendents of my plan of salvation for the world, produce your own fund of knowledge. Decide for yourself what is good and what is evil. Produce your own educational systems and means of disseminating knowledge, as your god Satan shall mislead you. As the rest of the world will, form your own concepts of what is "god", your own religions, your own governments, your own lifestyles and forms of society and civilization. In all this Satan will deceive you and the world with his attitude of SELF-centeredness - with vanity, lust, greed, jealousy, envy, competition, strife, violence, wars and rebellion against Me and My laws of love.

"After the world of your descendants has written the lesson of 6,000 years of human suffering, anguish, frustration, defeat and death - after the world that shall spring forth from you shall be brought to confess the utter hopelessness of the way you have chosen - I will supernaturally intervene. By My Power I shall then take over the government of the whole world. With re-education, I will produce a happy world of peace. And on repentance, I shall then offer eternal salvation to ALL MANKIND. After 1,000 years of that happy world to come, I will resurrect from death to mortal life, all who have died uncalled during this present 6,000 years. Their judgement shall then come. And on repentance and faith, they too shall be offered eternal life.

"During this 6,000 years, when I Myself shall cut them off from Me, they shall not be eternally judged. Only, as they sow during their lifetimes, they shall reap. But when I open eternal salvation to them, there shall be no Satan to hinder or deceive them - no Satan to overcome. Those few called during the first 6,000 years shall have to reject and overcome Satan. But those who do overcome (My elect), shall sit with Me in My throne, and have POWER UNDER MY SUPREME AUTHORITY TO RULE ALL NATIONS FOREVER!"

So, as the Bible says, Satan is "the god of this world". You need only look around to see an abundance of supporting evidence. We are still, necessarily required to resist the selfish and negative influences of Satan and his demons. They, and this influence, are all too real. The Bible warns us repeatedly to "believe not every spirit, but try *[test]* the spirits whether they are of Yahweh" *(1 John 4:1).* Don't be fooled! Satan is the father of all lies *(John 8:44).* If a message in any way contains a lie, then it is not from Yahweh, because Yahweh cannot lie *(Heb. 6:18).*

Satan the devil is very clever. No wonder. Before he became the devil, he was a resplendent spiritual being - an archangel. At that time he was "full of wisdom"
(Ezek. 28:12). However, all that wisdom has become perverted - it became such a masterful example of trickery and deceit, that it has deceived the WHOLE world, as the Bible clearly states *(Rev. 12:9).*

In the same way media broadcasting has at times been misused by human propagandists, Satan "broadcasts" his deceptive message. He is the "prince of the power of the air" *(Ephesians 2:2)*. He emits a contagious attitude of defiance and disobedience. Some of his message consists of outright lies, some of it

is disinformation - a mixture of truth and deceit. But the message is always the same - do not totally submit to the government of Yahweh.

Though Satan has fallen, Yahweh has not yet removed him from his throne as the "ruler of this world", as Yah'shua acknowledged him to be in John 14:30. He has deceived "the whole world". Satan is a compromiser, he will engage in give and take as long as he gets his way in the end. It is vital that we understand, that we not be "ignorant of his devices", lest he get the advantage over us *(2 Cor. 2:11).*

The devil has something for everyone. The broad highway leading to destruction - the one humanity is following, is broader than most think. It is divided into innumerable lanes, at least some of which, nearly everybody is sure to find appealing. If he had his preference he no doubt would want everybody to be Yahweh hating, atheistic anarchists bent only on doing evil, but he hasn't succeeded in bringing this about. There are a few individuals in the world like that - but most are not. There are devil worshippers. They too, are small in number. There are those who deny Satan is real and those who have no opinion on the matter. Satan does not care so long as they do not totally obey Yahweh.

Satan is even willing to allow you to obey many of Yahweh's laws, as long as there is at least one point in the law that you refuse to keep. The reason, is that he knows Yahweh has ordained that to break one point of His law of love is to break it all *(James 2:10,11)*. Therefore, to refuse to submit to one point is to rebel against Yahweh's entire divine code of behaviour - not totally submitted to Yahweh. That's good enough for Satan.

There are those that preach powerfully and eloquently against Satan and his evil works, condemning his ways as corrupt. They may even promote acceptance of Yah'shua as Saviour.

All this, too, can fit into the parameters of his scheme. How? It is possible for church denominations, and unfortunately quite true for most of them, to stop short of teaching that we must obey all of Yahweh's holy laws.

Most traditional Christian churches teach differing versions of the false doctrines adopted and/or created by the Roman Catholic church and the Protestants ("Mother of Harlots"), where the pagan traditions of men have been placed above the law of Yahweh!

We must beware: A glass of good water with a few drops of cyanide in it still looks like an innocent, perfectly good glass of water. Your only hope of not being fooled by him is to study and believe Yahweh's Word and obey all of Yahweh's laws.

Do what Satan does not want you to do - surrender to Yahweh, then "resist the devil and he will flee from you" *(James 4:7)*. That's how to get rid of Satan's influence in your life.

That's how you come to the place where you can make the same victorious statement Yah'shua made when He declared concerning the devil: "He has nothing in me!" *(John 14:30)*.

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