

By Jack W. Langford

SECTION THREE—

"<u>LUCIFER, Son of the Dawn</u>" <u>A Study on EZEKIEL 28:11-19</u> <u>And ISAIAH 14:12-17</u>

ANSWERING THE QUESTION—

WERE LUCIFER AND THE ANGELIC WORLD CREATED SOMETIME DURING THE SIX DAYS? AND DID LUCIFER REBEL AND FALL SOMETIME DURING, OR SHORTLY AFTER, THAT SAME PERIOD?

OR

WERE THE ANGELS CREATED BEFORE THE EARTH? AND WAS LUCIFER DOING BUSINESS ON A PRISTINE EARTH BEFORE HIS REBELLION AND FALL? AND DID HIS FALL BRING A JUDGMENT UPON THE EARTH?

<u>This careful and methodical study should reveal to an unbiased and objective</u> person that the creation of the angels, the rebellion of Lucifer and his immediate consequent judgment, happened long before the six day activity of God in rejuvenating the earth for man's habitation.

"LUCIFER, Son of the Dawn"

Ezekiel 28:11-19 and Isaiah 14:12-17

Notes on-The Amazing History of Lucifer— An account of such magnificence and proportions as to stagger our conscious perceptions and— Unlocking the mysteries of past ages in earth's history

By Jack W. Langford, May, 2010

"The Back Side of History"

There is a radio personality in my area who conducts a special section to his program on Saturday mornings entitled, *The Back Side of American History*. He specializes in digging up many untold accounts, generally anywhere from 50 to 200 years old. These concern little known events about well-known political personalities and places, especially in American history, and he explores them to a mesmerized listening audience. Many of the stories are exceptionally interesting, especially to history buffs.

Now the prophets Ezekiel and Isaiah are in a sense doing this very thing. Normally we think of prophets as men who are inspired to look to the future. And the future is indeed captivating to our interests. Who can measure today, the amount of time, energy, conferences and publications spent on prophetic material? However in this case, these prophets are inspired of God to look back in time—so far back that we can hardly conceive of what it means-literally, the "Back Side of Earth's History." Herein we will be surprised to find that the past is just as captivating as future prophecy. In fact, the future events have many ingredients which, we shall see, are actually reprints of the past. One thing we can surely learn is that if we better understand the past, we can better understand the future. Many events of the future will make sense only as we have proper comprehension of the past. Most certainly, this is one answer as to why God wants us to know some things about the past because it will help us to understand the future. As a practical illustration, we can ask how many times have children or even adults sat with their parents or older persons to ask inquisitively about the distant family past? And how many times has the past shed explanatory light on present circumstances? In human experiences, this can be a most sobering time.

And so, we might rightfully ask further, why does God reserve Lucifer's history to what we might call "*The Far Back Side of Earth's History*?" Remember, this is not a hidden story which is just one or two hundred years old. These two prophets wrote well over three millenniums after the first indications of Lucifer's interaction in human affairs.

Of course, I am talking about Satan's first temptation of Adam and Eve in the garden as recorded early in the Genesis account. And even here, I will be showing that this is obviously not the beginning of Lucifer's career. And then I am asking, why does God choose to wait well over three thousand years of human history to tell us about this mysterious personality who so surely upset man's career on earth? In all these intervening centuries man hardly knew anything about him. Man knew absolutely nothing of where he came from, or what his status was before God. Yet herein, in these two prophetic pictures that give us a glimpse of the past, we are finally told of the actual origin, the stupendous character of this personage and even of his position and career in past interactions of perfection. Indeed, there are even suggestions in these accounts of past ages of stupendous beauty, prosperity and interactions right here on earth.

A Separate History

When one has wrestled further with this realization he may conclude, as a second answer to my question, that the story of Lucifer's creation, career and fall deserves a place entirely *separate and distinct* from the story of man's creation, fall and consequent career in historic struggle with God throughout the ages. As we shall see, Lucifer's story is initially far removed from that of mankind. When one ponders this reality, he may also come to better appreciate that the angelic world, with its various levels of rule and authority, occupies an entirely different sphere of time and space which is completely separate from that of mankind, except for when they began to interact with human affairs and even join in a final conclusion of an historic world struggle that combines both the angelic world and that of the earthly human panorama of history.

At least three different Scriptures indicate that Lucifer's creation was even before the creation of the earth. I have stated in The Gap Is Not A Theory, SECTION ONE, that the LORD, Himself, tells us as recorded in Job 38:1-7 that "the sons of God," that is, the angelic beings, witnessed the creation of this earth and the laying of its "foundations" in space, and greeted such an event with a "shout of joy." "Where were you (Job)," the LORD asked, "when I laid the foundations of the earth...To what were its foundations fastened...When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God should for joy?" That would mean, of course, that the angels existed before this physical earth was initially created. Their creation was at an earlier time. In a similar manner the classic passage on creation, <u>Psalm 104</u> in its entirety, but especially verses <u>4 & 5</u>, again lists the creation of the angelic world before the actual placement of "the foundations of the earth." "Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire. Who laid the foundations of the earth, so that it should not be moved forever." In consistency, Psalm 148:1-14 again tells of the various creative activities of God beginning with the heavenly realm—"Praise the LORD from the heavens, Praise Him in the heights! Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him all His hosts!" (Verses <u>1 & 2</u>). Not until verse seven is the earth specifically mentioned—"Praise the LORD from the earth..."

Consequently, the revelation of the origin and history of Lucifer is a chapter in Biblical history that belongs in a category all its own. This history begins in heaven and in a sphere of rule and authority entirely distinct from, and long before, that of mankind on earth. As to the origin of Lucifer, I want to emphasize we are talking about a distinct history in *time* and in *location*. We are not told how long the angelic world existed before God created the earth. Furthermore, we are going to be told that Lucifer occupied a place on this earth after it was created and that he functioned in perfection on this earth before his fall. Again, we are not told how long Lucifer existed in a perfect condition and functioned in perfect ways on a perfect edenic earth. Surprisingly enough, we are not even told how long Lucifer existed after his fall and before man's introduction to him as recorded in Genesis chapter three.

Adam and Eve never met Lucifer before his rebellion and fall. There is absolutely no indication whatsoever that Adam and Eve knew anything of Lucifer's grandeur and prestige in the past. It was not until after Lucifer's rebellion and fall that he was commonly called in the Hebrew Scriptures "Satan," which means "adversary." This is the person in a fallen condition whom Adam and Eve encountered in their experience. Still much later in time, in the Greek Scriptures Lucifer is referred to as the Devil, which in the Greek is *diabolos* and means "accuser, slanderer or one who maligns." There are many other designations for Lucifer, but this is not a Bible study on his total history and works. There are others who have collected a great deal of data on Satan's total history, especially that concerning the present and also of the future. Rather, in this study we are just going to focus on the past as primarily revealed in these two passages of Scripture— Ezekiel 28 and Isaiah 14.

Man's First Encounter with Satan

When we step into the garden in Eden, as recorded by Moses in the Genesis record of chapter three, we are allowed to overhear a conversation between the woman and a serpent. This is very unusual on the face of it, because we know that snakes don't talk, at least not in our experience, and certainly not by means of the normal speech and language skills which we recognize. Now most scientists who have carefully studied the animal kingdom will tell us that every animal talks, or at least communicates; one simply has to recognize their technical skills and means of communications. However, in this case, if our understanding is correct, the serpent communicated with the woman in very understandable words, even with philosophic reasoning. Of course, we must realize that this is not the only time in the Scriptural record where an animal was allowed to miraculously speak "in a man's voice" (note Num. 22:28 with II Pet. 2:16).

Like scientists in the realm of the world of physical consciousness, so there are scientists in the realm of spiritual reality and consciousness. In spiritual revelation and consciousness, Biblical scientists (I mean careful Bible teachers) have come to understand that the serpent itself was just a puppet. There was, indeed, another sinister intelligence using and motivating the serpent. And, indeed, when God Himself spoke "to the serpent" (Gen 3:14 & 15), He obviously spoke in a twofold manner—both to the serpent and more surely beyond the serpent to that mysterious spirit intelligence using the serpent. In addition, God spoke of a conflict of long ages yet to come, and finally to a climax in that conflict where there is suffering, and yet a final victory. Most Bible teachers have recognized this record as "the seed plot" of the gospel of Jesus Christ (Gen. 3:15). Nor is this the only time God spoke to a person, and yet more profoundly to the spiritual intelligence motivating that person. Christ did it many times in speaking to those who were demon possessed. Often He was actually addressing the demonic being within the person possessed. However, in addition, one day Jesus Christ looked the apostle Peter in the eye and said, "Get thee behind Me, Satan!" (Matt. 16:22,23). I can just imagine

Peter stared back in bewilderment at first, until he realized that what motivated his own words to Christ must have been Satan. No doubt, this was a shocking revelation.

The King of Tyre

So it is, when we come to the books of Isaiah and Ezekiel and to the particular Scriptures of interest at this time, we will read on the surface—or as an introduction prophecies that are immediately directed to certain great kings, like the king of Babylon and the king of Tyre. Yet these prophecies, as we shall see, by their very nature are obviously directed far beyond those kings to a higher being of far greater intelligence and magnitude of power.

There are a few very liberal "scholars" who reject any evidence in these passages that they are speaking about the past history of Satan. I have personally remembered seeing the writings of one so-called scholar who vigorously denied that these passages are talking about Satan. It made me disgusted to even consider what else he had to say. The spiritual stupidity of denying this fact only exemplifies the ability of Lucifer in being able to blind men's minds to this level of self-induced ignorance. These kinds are better described by the apostle Paul as religiously educated men "understanding neither what they say nor the things which they affirm" (I Tim. 1:7).

Only a very few individuals (I don't think I ever met one) who claim to be conscientious Bible teachers will deny that the king of Tyre of Ezekiel 28 or the king of Babylon of Isaiah 14 are merely used as props in this remarkable revelation. Herein, the personage of Lucifer (or Satan) is superimposed upon the character known as the king of Tyre. It is very obvious, even to the most casual reader, that the characteristics applied to this personage could actually never be assumed by any human being on planet earth. In fact, this person is not really an "earthling," but an angelic being! He is one who not only has access to heaven, but there is the requirement for his personal duties in heaven before God. So, as we go along in this study I will let you be the judge as to whether or not what the prophet describes could ever be descriptive of a human being with a natural birth on earth. Usually when any Bible teacher goes to these two chapters in the Scriptures he is on common ground with all other Bible teachers and students. There has been general agreement among conservative Bible teachers that—

This is talking about Lucifer!

Therefore in reading this passage of Ezekiel 28:11-19, we will endeavor to make a prayerful and a proper Biblical hermeneutic. That means we want to apply the Scriptures properly and accurately. In addition we do not want to project upon them what is not substantiated by other Scriptures. And by all means, we should not want to subtract from them the amazing story that they will portray. We want our understanding to be in accord with, and correctly comprehending, God's intended revelations.

Even as there are a rare few who will deny that these passages are talking about Satan, so there are a great many today who will steadfastly refuse to believe that the history of Lucifer long antedates that of man. Actually, the sole reason they choose this position is because it would upset their "apple-cart theology" of a Young Earth Creationism. However, as we shall see in this analysis, there is no way possible one can Biblically telescope this spectacular history into the time frame of a few days, weeks or months. This story actually involves an amount of time so great as to place it in a category all its own!

As most teachers do, I will first list the verses, and then proceed to make deductions from them. Using the NKJV, Ezekiel 28:11-19 reads—

- 11. "Moreover the Word of the LORD came to me, saying,
- 12. 'Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, "Thus says the LORD God:

You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

- 13. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, berl, onyx, and jasper, sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created.
- 14. You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.
- 15. You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you.
- By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned; Therefore I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; And I destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones.
- 17. Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty;
 You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor;
 I cast you to the ground,
 I laid you before kings,
 that they might gaze at you.
- 18. You defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your trading; Therefore I brought fire from your midst; It devoured you, and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in sight of all who saw you.
 19. All who knew you among the peoples are astonished
- 19. All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; You have become a horror,

and shall be no more forever." ""

Even now as I typed out these lines above I was once again impressed, like one standing for the first time at the edge of the Grand Canyon, being totally unable to comprehend the magnitude of what was before my eyes. This passage is certainly staggering to our comprehension. As we read it line by line we can only vaguely understand the magnitude of what it must have been like when God created Lucifer. It is as if we are allowed to see far distantly into the past glories of his *creation* and *position* of importance, and then of his pride, *fall*, iniquity, violence and consequent *judgment*. It is our privilege and responsibility, however, to stop and carefully consider the words and information that is herein revealed.

I am going to separate and distinguish four different conditions regarding Lucifer which are manifest in this passage. First, Lucifer's *Creation*; second, Lucifer's *Position*; third, Lucifer's *Fall* and finally Lucifer's *Judgment*. I will discuss each of these separately, listing *seven* Scriptural statements for each category—

I. Lucifer's CREATION

1.) "*The Day Created*," Ezek. 28:13 & 15.

Both verses 13 and 15 speak of "the day" in which this being was "created." First of all, the fact that this is a specially created being takes him right out of the sphere of some human personality who can trace his ancestry back through his parents and grandparents and great grandparents. A created being has no genealogical record. Consequently, we can understand this is not talking about the king of Tyre. This personage, like Adam on earth, was specially created directly as the workmanship of God. Being a spirit creature of a heavenly realm, it must be understood that Lucifer's creation took place in the heaven of God's dwelling place, where he would immediately function. This begins for us a history totally out of the realm of the physical creation. Later when God creates the earth, Lucifer will have interactions with this physical world to be sure, but initially this is a scene which starts in the heavenly realm.

Concerning the "day" in which Lucifer was created, it is almost humorous, were it not so sad, to read of the various ideas of the "Young Earth Creationists." They read these verses and immediately scramble back and forth to pick out one of the "six days" of the week recorded in Genesis One, which is not talking about the heavenly realm of spirit creatures, but is only talking about the ordering of this physical world, especially the earth. They make a serious effort to find a suitable "day" for Satan's creation since they presume that absolutely everything there is in existence was created sometime during those particular earthly "six days."

They usually begin to reason, thinking it could not have been on "the 7th day" because on that "day" God rested from all His work. Therefore, one rubs his chin and says, "I know! It must have been 'day 4' of the creation week, because that is when God made the 'heavens,' and that would include the angels!" However, another cocks his head and objects, saying, "No, the fourth day is only talking about the starry heavens and not the third heaven—which is God's dwelling place." So then another speaks up and confidently proclaims, "Lucifer and all the angelic hosts had to be created *early* on 'day 3,' just before the land appeared, because Job seems to say the angels witnessed the land

appearing." Yet another shakes his head in the negative and says, "That is not what is stated in Job! The passage in Job is not talking about the land appearing above the water. Rather the passage in Job is talking about the very creation of the foundations of the earth itself." Therefore, another speaks up and says, "It would have to be very early on the very 'first day' of the week because that is when the Lord actually brought the land mass into existence (according to their presumption)." Others look seriously at the perplexing problems and realize that the first day actually says nothing whatsoever about God creating the land on that day—only light! Many have consequently backed off from this discussion only to say, "Well, we know for sure it was one of those 'six days' because Exodus 20:11 says 'For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and ALL that is in them,' and that must have included Satan!"

Of course, the reason Young Earth Creationists could never possibly agree on what "day" it was in which Satan was created is fourfold:

<u>Firstly</u>, the text in Genesis chapters 1, 2 or 3 says absolutely nothing whatsoever about the creation of the heavenly angelic hosts and of Lucifer. Lucifer's creation, or that of any of the heavenly hosts, is simply not the subject of that week of activity by God! In addition, we will also note in the passages of Ezekiel and Isaiah—where are described this initial creation, activity, perfection and the fall of Lucifer—it will say absolutely nothing of Adam's presence. Consequently, there are obvious insurmountable problems if one insists on placing the creation of Lucifer in there with the creation of Man.

<u>Secondly</u>, the Young Earth Creationists are reasoning on the faulty premise and presumption that these "six days" of Genesis One are talking about the initial creation of absolutely everything. As I carefully brought out in *SECTION ONE* of *The Gap Is Not A Theory*, the amazing thing about the revelation of this week of activity, is as much what God <u>DID NOT DO</u>, as it is of what He did do! The Hebrew text is VERY CAREFUL to reveal that the physical universe was *already here* <u>before</u> those "six days" even started! Those "six days" are very carefully delineated. The first day began when God brought the light into existence and <u>nothing else</u>. Nowhere during those "six days" does it say God created the foundations of the earth, or its mantle, or the surface land, or the waters, or even the starry heavens. They all were already here!

<u>Thirdly</u>, the only times the word "create" (Hebrew- *bara*) was used during those "six days" was in relationship to the life principle of the fish and fowl (Gen. 1:21), and in relationship to what we understand as the spiritual nature of man (Gen 1:27). God "makes" or "fashions" (Heb. *asah*) many different things out of preexisting material. God also "shapes" or "molds" (Heb. *yatzar*) as to man's physical body, but only "creates" (Heb. *bara*) as to man's essential spiritual being.

<u>Fourthly</u>, and in addition, all who read the Genesis account recognize that the word "day" is used three different ways even right here in the first two chapters of Genesis in the ordering of the earth. It is used of the "light" that we see for 12 hours at a time (Gen. 1:5). This is the "light" or "day-time" hours. And then, in the very same verse we understand that "day one" meant the first solar day of a full 24 hours, including both day and night. Lastly, in Genesis 2:4 we understand the word is used in a third sense of speaking of a period of time—"*This is the history* of the heavens and the earth *when* they were created, in the *DAY* the LORD God made the earth and the heavens." In other

words, this whole week of activity was "the day" *when* the Lord made the heavens and the earth. W.E. Vine says concerning Gen 2:4—"Here 'day' refers to the entire period envisioned in the first six days of creation." The Gesenius Lexicon, as well, emphasizes the use of the word "day" in Gen. 2:4 as the *"time...when* Jehovah God had made the earth and the heaven." We therefore, understand this usage to mean "a period of time," no matter how long or short that may be—and so it is used many other times in later Scriptures. Strong will say concerning one use of the word "day," "a space of time defined by an associated term."

What Day??

So then, some of my brethren from among the Young Earth Creationists will ask, "Well, Mr. Langford, on what 'DAY' was Lucifer created, since Ezekiel says he was created on a certain 'DAY'?" In response I must say the answer is really not that complicated; it really is as simple as "A, B, C." We do not have to make any vain conjectures about which one of the "six days" is involved. Note the following—

A.) Everyone admits the text of Genesis 1, 2 & 3 says nothing whatsoever about the creation of Lucifer or any of the angelic hosts during the "six days." If the Scriptures do not say this is when Lucifer was created, then careful Bible teachers should not say it, either. This could be making an assumption contrary to the revelation. In fact—

B.) We know positively it could not have been one of the "six days" of Genesis One because the text in Job 38:4-7 plainly tells us all the angelic hosts were conscious living *witnesses* to the initial creation of the earth. As pointed out before, the very moment God hung the earth in space, and laid its "foundations," the "sons of God" rejoiced at its beauty. God, Himself, tells us this in the account in Job. That means the angelic "Sons of God" *must have been created* at an earlier *time*! Psalm 104: 4 & 5 as well would indicate the angelic hosts were created before the earth! The text reads—"Who makes His angels spirits, His ministers a flame of fire. (v.4). (You) laid the foundations of the earth, so that it should not be moved forever" (v.5). Both of these passages of Job and Psalms are in harmony! The angelic world came first, then the physical earth followed.

C.) Consequently, when we realize Lucifer existed BEFORE the physical earth was created, this would also mean he was created before any earthly "solar day" could have taken place. The "day" in Ezekiel is not even related to any "day" in the account of Genesis 1:3-31, whether it is some daylight hour or some twenty-four hour period. This actually leaves us with no other conclusion than to understand Lucifer was created in *another epoch or history of time*—which is the third use of the word 'day'! And this particular "day" would pertain specifically and only to the heavenly, angelic world!

"Before...The Beginning!"

So, when I say all the Biblical evidences tell us the actual creation of the angels, including Lucifer, had to be BEFORE the physical creation of the earth—no one should be shocked at this! The Bible reveals that a whole lot of things happened and existed "BEFORE" "the beginning" of Genesis 1:1. Here is a partial list—

1.) "Before the mountains were brought forth, or even Thou hast formed the earth and the world, even from

2.)	everlasting to everlasting Thou art God" Psalm 90:2. "The Word" certainly existed already "in the beginning,"
,	John 1:1-3. In fact, many say the "beginning" of
	John 1:1 was actually different from that of Genesis.
3.)	"And He (Christ) is before all things" Col.1:17.
4.)	Christ's "glory" with the Father existed long
,	"before the earth was," John 17:5.
5.)	The "love" of the Father and the Son existed long
,	"before the foundations of the earth," John 17:24.
6.)	The "hidden Wisdom of God" existed
	"before the ages," I Cor. 2:7.
7.)	Certainly, "Wisdom" personified existed
	"at the beginning of His (God's) way," and
	"from the beginning, before there was ever
	an earth," Prov. 8:22,23.
8.)	The "Throne of God" has always existed
	"forever and ever," Ps. 45:6 &
	and from "everlasting," Ps. 93:1, 2.
9.)	Therefore, God's "throne" and "Kingdom rule," the
	"angelic" hosts under that <i>rule</i> and His total
	"dominion" long antedated earth, Ps. 103:19-21;
	Dan. 4:34; Ps. 10:16; 145:13 & Jer. 10:10.
10.)	Christ as a "Lamb" was "foreordained before the
	foundation of the world," I Pet. 1:19,20.
11.)	God's grace was "given to us in Christ Jesus before
	time began," II Tim. 1:9.
12.)	Believers themselves were "chosen in Him (Christ)

before the foundation of the world," Eph. 1:4.

Just imagine, according to the last item above (number 12.)—"you" and "T" existed in the mind and heart of God as "chosen ones in Christ BEFORE" Genesis 1:1-31! Now if God "chose" little old <u>Me</u>, and I must say <u>You</u>, and <u>every other believer</u>, "BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD" (Eph. 1:4)—that means, I say again, before Genesis 1:1-31—then we should have no problem whatsoever in believing that the angelic hosts of heaven, including Lucifer, were created and could have been existing long before this physical earth was brought into existence, and certainly before any of the "six days" of Genesis 1:3-31. This is why Genesis 1:1-31 says nothing whatsoever about the creation of the angelic hosts of heaven!

Now we must also see that the nature of Lucifer is altogether different from anything in this physical world of Genesis 1, 2 & 3.

The Nature of Lucifer's Creation, continued—

Twice it is stated in this passage that the personage of whom it is addressing was a created being: "on the day you were *created*" (verse 13); and "from the day you were created" (verse 15). As I stated earlier, the fact that this personage was a special "created" being takes him right out of the human earthly realm. In other words, he is not a human being! He is an angelic spirit being! In addition, having become a created being means

he is not self-existent as is God, or Christ, or as the Holy Spirit of God. Lucifer's existence totally depends upon God. He is also, therefore, not self-sufficient. He did not achieve his position by his own genius or efforts—God made and placed him there. He did not achieve his brilliance and wisdom through some effort of his own; this is simply the way God made him. He is not all powerful, all present or all knowing.

2.) "Day Star, Son of the Morning," Isa. 14:12.

The name Lucifer comes from the account in Isaiah 14 and verse 12—"How have you fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the dawn (or morning star)." The Hebrew word normally translated "Lucifer," is heylel, and it literally means "light bearer, luminous, or star of the morning." The New Jewish Translation renders it "Shining one, son of Dawn." The lexicon of Gesenius says, "Bright one-Day Star." It is obvious from this descriptive name that Lucifer was a magnificent, luminous creation from God. Actually the name "Lucifer," which we commonly use in English, is taken from the Latin translation of the Hebrew; it literally is derived from two Latin words, Lux, meaning bright and ferre, meaning to bear, hence "Light-bearer." The English word "Lucifer," therefore, seems to be an accurate rendering of the original Hebrew idea. The central thought in either the Hebrew or the Latin is one of luminosity. This being was like a bright and luminous star. Others have stated that the idea can also be expressed by the term "phosphorous." A Greek designation for Lucifer was Phosphor, which means "light" or 'to shine." The Greeks likened Lucifer to "Venus, when it proceeds the sun and shines in the morning" (Webster's Unabridged Dictionary). From the Greek word *phosphor* we get the word phosphorous. Anyone who has been in the military may know the use of phosphorous shells which are set off over an area of action in order to *illuminate* the battle field at night. Such luminosity as was placed in the personage of Lucifer is hard for us to conceive.

In addition, when Christ spoke prophetically of Satan's final expulsion from heaven, He said, "I beheld Satan as *lightening* fall from heaven" (Luke 10:18). We have all seen lightening streak across the sky and strike the earth, usually with a loud explosion. Likewise, the angel indicated in Revelation 9:1 must also be Satan. John said, "I saw a *star* fall from heaven." The apostle Paul indicates that Satan still likes to parade himself as "*an angel of light*" (II Cor. 11:14).

3.) "*The Seal of Perfection*," Ezek. 28:12.

Three times in this passage it is stated that the personage was one of "perfection." Lucifer was "*the seal of perfection*" (verse 12). This, no doubt, has reference to Lucifer's essential, overall created being. The margin in the NASB has "Lit., the one sealing a pattern." The essence of his being was not only that of perfection, but he set the pattern for perfection! Of created personages, there was no greater. No doubt, the other angelic beings would greatly admire Lucifer. "*Perfect in beauty*" (verse 12 as well) has to do with his appearance before the rest of the created hosts. Lucifer's magnificent luminosity, his amazing covering garment and the very stature of his person was the essence of and the perfection of beauty. And, "*perfect in your ways*" (verse 15)—this latter verse suggests to us that Lucifer was <u>active</u> in whatever obligations and privileges God placed before him. Under the classification of "Lucifer's POSITION" we will discuss some of the "ways" in the various activities of Lucifer. He exercised them all with perfection. As

a free moral agent at the beginning of his existence, Lucifer purposed and served for a period of time—for how long we do not know—in an attitude and display of absolute perfection. At this time there was no fault to be found in Lucifer.

Certainly, Adam and Eve never encountered him under any of these characteristics. In the garden where Adam and Eve dwelt, this person was anything but perfect. As to his exact personage, it was hidden or concealed from them. Satan spoke to Eve through the intermediary of the serpent. Furthermore his *activity* was the opposite of "perfection." He was now a subtle deceiver in active rebellion against God.

4.) "*Full of Wisdom*," Ezek.28:12.

Other qualities are attributed to him. He was said to be "full of wisdom" (verse 12). Obviously, Lucifer had times of exercising his God-given wisdom. He didn't just have wisdom—he was filled up ("full") with wisdom. Were we to be able to liken him to one of our understanding, we could look at Solomon. Solomon was given special wisdom by God. People came from all over the world to hear the wisdom of Solomon. Lucifer must have been "the Solomon" of the angelic world. Later it is indicated that his "wisdom" became "corrupted" (verse 17) for the "sake of his splendor." This tells us that as a result of his pride and fall, he also fell into a period of "corruption" in the exercise of his wisdom. That means he apparently made false and erroneous expressions of what he thought was wisdom.

Earlier in this chapter, where it is speaking more directly about the king of Tyre, it characterizes him as following the same pathway as Lucifer—"Because your heart is lifted up and you have said, 'I am a god, I sit in the seat of the gods'…behold you are wiser than Daniel; there is no secret that is a match for you" (Ezek. 28:2 & 3). Not only did the king of Tyre imitate Lucifer's pathway, especially in this area of wisdom, but in the future the "Man of Sin," commonly called "the Antichrist," will manifest the same amazing "cunning" or "wisdom" (Daniel 8:23-25).

5.) "*Perfect in Beauty*," Ezek. 28:12.

I have already alluded to the fact of Lucifer's "beauty" under his "perfection." Nevertheless, the fact of his "beauty" should also be itemized separately because it is one of the very things contemplated in his fall. "Beauty" is actually an amazing word because it means "that which is pleasing to the senses or the mind." A thing that is beautiful expresses "the most comprehensive, applies to what stirs a heightened response of the senses and of the mind on the highest level" (American Heritage Dictionary). In our human, fallen natures, we find it difficult, if not impossible, to even comprehend the expression "perfect in beauty." Though men may try in every way and in various realms to discover the ultimate "beauty," they never even come near in succeeding. In Lucifer, as chief among the angelic hosts, God succeeded.

Just a few weeks ago I walked into the office of an investment corporation which was located up on the 9th floor of a very fine building in Dallas, Texas. I was there simply as a messenger to pick up a check for a certain building construction project on a ranch about eighty miles west of Dallas. After being admitted through a glass door that was activated from the inside, I paused at the information desk to notify the secretary of my purpose. She asked me to wait for a few moments while they prepared the check. I

turned to my left and looked across the room through a solid glass-paneled wall into a conference chamber, with its massive mahogany table and padded chairs surrounding that table. The outside wall of that conference chamber was also of glass, overlooking a part of the city of Dallas. But then I froze. In front of the right end of that window, and as it were at the head of this conference table, was a bronze statue of an angelic creature with its massive wings spreading upward and outward in a very artistic manner. The face and body of that creation was the essence of strength and beauty and perfection. Having just engaged in this study of Lucifer, I was momentarily almost petrified as if I was seeing the very subject of my study. Probably this corporation chose well on how they were adorning this important room where many financial transactions were made. It actually gave me an eerie feeling, because I knew that right here in Ezekiel 28 we are told of the fact that Lucifer was, indeed, one who engaged in and masterminded great business transactions and "trading." We will read about this in a moment, as it concerns the functioning of Lucifer.

Verse 17 says, "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty." How often can the conscious self-centeredness of a person become amplified by pride in one's beauty? Though beauty is a wonderful thing and a gift from God, when one dotes upon it as if he himself generated it and should be held in esteem for it, it becomes a stumbling block or occasion for a fall. Lucifer could have thought little of himself and had thankfulness for God's gift and handiwork. Instead, he treasured himself in his heart as the source of ultimate perfection.

6.) "*Precious Stones—Covering*," Ezek. 28:13.

In verse 13, there is the unusual description of his "covering" made of "every precious stone." It is hard for us to conceive of what this actually means. As a garment that covers, inlaid with the brilliant stones which reflect all the various colors of the spectrum, it would be spectacular, to say the least. There are actually nine different stones mentioned. Apparently they were set in golden sockets fastened within the covering material. We know that different stones were used in one of the special adornments of the high priest who entered into the Tabernacle and Temple of God. Those were twelve stones and were representative of the twelve tribes of Israel. We also know of the twelve various stones that form the foundations of the New Jerusalem which also serve to represent the twelve apostles of the Lamb (Rev. 21:14). It has been suggested, therefore, that these various stones in the adornment of Lucifer also may have represented the various authorities over which he ruled or represented by his special position both in heaven and on earth.

A statement by E.W. Bullinger, on the subject of Biblical numerology and the significance of the number "nine" as used in the scriptures, is ironically very apropos in this case (see *How To Enjoy The Bible*, page 311). "Inasmuch as the fullness of times issues in judgment for good or for evil, so nine becomes the symbol or hall-mark of all that stands connected with judgment." In checking out this statement, one will note the reality of the observation. The great day of self-judgment (the Day of Atonement) for the people of Israel begins on the close of the "ninth day" of the month (Lev. 23:12). It was on the "ninth day" the remnant who were rebuilding were called upon for repentance (Ezra 10:9; see also Hag. 2:10 & 14). Repeatedly the number "nine" occurs in the various assaults upon Jerusalem (II Kings 18:10; 25:1, 3; Jer. 36:9; 39:1,2; 52: 4, 6;

Ezek. 24:1,2). It was at that infamous "ninth hour" when Christ cried out under the judgment of God which He bore in our place (Matt. 27:46 & Mk. 15:34).

No doubt the stones in Lucifer's garment were magnificent, but in his rebellion against God they became the very reminder of his impending judgment.

7.) "Workmanship of Timbrels and Pipes," Ezek. 28:13.

The final part of what appears to be a description of this garment was the "workmanship" of the "timbrels" (literally, *tambourines*, see margin of NASB) and "pipes," which are often rendered as musical instruments. Indeed the word used here for "tambourines" is always used as a musical instrument. However, in this context, newer translations most often render the words as having reference to "settings," and they render the word for "pipes" (which is used only on this occasion in the Hebrew) as "sockets." This would mean that instead of musical instruments, these are descriptive of holders for the precious stones that are set in this covering garment. This may be the case. Nevertheless, even if it should prove to be musical instruments in view, it would be consistent with the magnitude of the praise and joy of Lucifer's position, for every royal court has its instruments of music along with the musicians.

Thus we conclude this section of descriptive language concerning the creation of Lucifer. Next we come to those statements designating the function, service or position which was given to Lucifer as originally designed by God.

II. Lucifer's POSITION

1.) "You were in Eden, the Garden of God," Ezek. 28:13.

"You were in Eden, the garden of God" (verse 13). We know Satan was in the Eden of Adam and Eve, but most certainly NOT in this capacity and character of such "perfection;" NOR was he there, as is further described, in magnificent adornment and position and activity. This is not Satan in the same condition whom Adam and Eve met in their garden experience! In the whole description of the Eden in the Genesis account there is absolutely no mention of Lucifer or Satan in this capacity. I am sure we can conclude this must be the same person, but in an entirely different "garden" and under very different conditions of his person and activity! Just as we saw that there are <u>different</u> "days" spoken of in these Scriptures, so we can see there must be <u>different</u> "Edens" spoken of, as well!

One interesting fact that emerges as we traverse through these passages is that Lucifer will be allowed to travel back and forth between heaven and earth! It will become evident that Lucifer, from the very beginning, had a dual position: first in heaven, and then on earth! In the book of Job, Satan had clear access to heaven and is seen there (Job 1:6). Yet at the very same time he was said to have been "going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it" (verse 7). In fact, in the Greek Scriptures Satan does so to this very time (Matt. 4:1-11 & Rev. 12:10).

Now let us draw our thoughts back to the concept of "Eden." Actually the expression of "God planting a garden eastward in Eden" should not make us think there is only one "Edenic garden." Even in the prophets we are told of "Edenic" conditions in the future time of Messiah's reign on earth.

Once in this very same book of Ezekiel we are told of another Eden—"This land (Israel) that was desolate has become like the *garden of Eden*…" (Ezek. 36:35). And again in Isaiah we are told, "For the LORD will comfort Zion, He will comfort *all her waste places*; He will make her wilderness like *Eden*, and her desert like *the garden of the LORD*…" (Isa. 51:3).

So then, in the future we will all be able to realize a garden the size of the whole land of Israel including the expansive wildernesses, deserts and of course including all the land in the original Abrahamic covenant promises. No doubt, the Garden of Eden Adam and Eve were in was nothing compared to this one of the future in grandeur, beauty and size. In addition, God the Son will make His abode there.

All this is to say nothing of the fact that the incredible picture we have of the New Heavens and the New Earth in the last book of the Bible, the book of Revelation, describes for us a final and total Edenic earth. There we find another river, like that which flowed through the Garden of Eden, only this flows from the very throne of God in the New Jerusalem. And on either side of this precious stream is "the tree of life" which will bear "twelve kinds of fruit" and will be for the "healing of the nations." What an incredible scene! As you remember, Adam and Eve were driven out of the Garden of Eden so that "they could not partake of the tree of life and live forever" (Genesis 3:22-24). Now, however, God has more than restored access to the very same tree, including numerous such trees and furthermore, these are available forever.

If there is yet these future Edens of much greater magnitude from that found in the second chapter of Genesis, may there not also be a past Eden that existed long before that of Genesis?? And might it also be much greater in magnitude and beauty? And why not?—for that is the very conclusion one must come to who reads this passage in Ezekiel 28 about the original creation of Lucifer. He functioned in an "Eden the garden of God." This must surely be a place that God, Himself, would visit, even as He did in the garden He planted for Adam's care. This may be understood as descriptive of this earth as it originally came from the hand of God. This may also explain why the angelic host "*shouted for joy*" when God originally hung the earth in space, because they understood that the earth would be a spectacular residence for the "Prince of the Power of the Air." So Lucifer was to reside on earth even as he also had special access to heaven. In fact, in Isaiah, the prophet saw Lucifer as actually *positioned on earth* before his fall, and desirous of "ascending" into heaven into a permanent position as very God—Isa. 14:13.

Biological and Geological Evidences

Was there indeed an Edenic earth long before man's appearance on earth? One of the most stupendous facts from this theology is that scientifically there is an abundance of evidence that this whole earth was at one time, in the far distant past, a gigantic "Garden of Eden." That evidence is down deep in the strata of earth's crust in the abundant layers of organic matter in the forms of oil deposits, natural gas deposits and vast coal deposits. Right now our very own society today is almost totally dependent upon the resources of these vast layers of what amounts to—decomposed plant and animal matter. The seemingly unending coal deposits are formed from forests of a primordial earth. Quite often they are totally unlike plant life known in any epoch of man's existence. In other words, most of these forms were not contemporary with Homo sapiens. They are found in the carboniferous strata and some are also contemporaries of the dinosaur era. In addition, the decomposed animal matter—whether it be in the realm of microbiology, of ocean life forms, or of animal life forms—are all remnants vastly different from the most common life forms we know, no matter how far you go back in human history. These are commonly called "Fossil Fuels." Once again, the geological evidences are that Homo sapiens were not contemporaries with these animal forms which produced these deposits. The remains of the bones of these animal life forms have changed by means of metamorphosis to be locked into stone, almost as monuments deep in earth's graveyard. These are the memorial evidences of what was at one time—much earlier in earth's history—a veritable paradisiacal earth.

Furthermore, at the very time I have been typing out this part of the study (March 4, 2010), another scientific news report has come across the air waves, newspapers and the internet, expressing the confidence scientists from all over the world have finally come to agreement upon—that the mysterious termination of the "Dinosaur Epoch" drastically ended by a tremendous explosion from an asteroid impact. This is actually a theory which was propounded years ago, but has at last received an official endorsement from a wide range of scientists. "All the evidence points conclusively to an asteroid impact" the reports assert! They explain that the impact caused volcanic, oceanic and atmospheric disturbances that virtually wiped out life on earth. In addition, for an extended period of time the earth was submerged in "darkness."

Now this type of an event would certainly bring the earth into a condition described in Genesis 1:2 of being "wasted and emptied" and submerged in "darkness."

As a consequence of this testimony in the science of nature, which seems to actually confirm the evidences of the Biblical narrative, no sober-minded believer should carelessly shrug off the interpretation of this history of Lucifer as giving us the profound spiritual reasons for these monuments of destruction in earth's history.

In summary, the reasons I believe there was a vast Eden on earth long prior to Adam's creation and experience are because of the following facts—

<u>Firstly</u>, it is faulty to automatically conclude that the statement in Ezekiel, that Lucifer was in "Eden, the garden of God," must apply to the Garden in Eden occupied by Adam and Eve, when the very *context* of this statement in Ezekiel describes Lucifer in an altogether different characterization of "perfection" in both glory and function. Everyone admits that is not the way Satan was manifested, nor was it the way he conducted himself in the garden with Adam. Most certainly, in Adam's garden he was a hidden spirit creature in total opposition to God, whereas in the Ezekiel passage Lucifer was in full cooperation with God, operating in that glorious open manner.

<u>Secondly</u>, there are obvious references to other Edenic gardens yet in the future, wherein God will restore the land of Israel and even the whole New Earth to Edenic conditions. This fact itself leaves open the possibility of a pre-Adamic Eden as well. It seems like Edenic places, where God will also make His own appearances, are a *pattern* and not a singular event. God (actually, the pre-incarnate Christ) was in Adam's Garden of Eden; in fact, He planted the garden. God, again in the person of Christ, will dwell in Jerusalem in the midst of an Edenic land all around the nation of Israel. And finally, God will yet dwell in an Edenic earth in the New Heavens and New Earth. Consequently,

when we read of God's original creation of Lucifer, and his being in "Eden, the garden of God" as a beautiful, magnificent and perfectly created being in service to God, it is evident that God would be there as well. It was a distinct Edenic place.

<u>Thirdly</u>, when the earth itself speaks up, and bears abundance of just such evidence—that nearly all the whole earth itself was, indeed, at one time in an Edenic condition—we have greatly added to the correct conclusion of a FIRST Eden, long prior to that of Adam and Eve's day.

<u>Fourthly</u>, this fits perfectly as to the explanation of why the earth came to a chaotic condition as described in Genesis 1:2. It was a judgment from God, directly and immediately due to Lucifer's rebellion. Also we can see a parallel emerging from these facts. God cursed the earth as a result of Adam's rebellion (Gen. 3:17-19), so that in the process of time it would come to the condition as stated in the prophets of being "without form and void" at the second coming of Christ (Jer.4:23; Isa. 34:11 & Isa. 24:1). So also, God originally cursed the earth as a result of Lucifer's rebellion and fall, so that in the process of time, under judgment, the earth also came to a condition of being "without form and void" just as has been described earlier in Genesis 1:2.

And fifthly, it also explains to us why it is that Satan has such great interest in, or I might say, desire of REGAINING his own lost position from the very man (Adam) whom God has now created to have "dominion" on earth! Now it all makes sense! Lucifer was originally in dominion on earth. This was his earth! After God created Lucifer, He then created the earth, and placed Lucifer in Eden the garden of God to rule and reign on a paradisiacal earth. For a period of time he served in perfection until his rebellion. Because of that rebellion he lost his position of dominion. Now, however, by deceptively wresting it back from Adam, he has temporarily regained it again. Our great grandparents foolishly "sold out" only to allow Satan to regain his control once again!

2.) "Anointed Cherub Who Covers," Ezek. 28:14.

As to the actual function of Lucifer in a heavenly capacity, verse 14 says he was positioned as "the anointed cherub who covers," as directly "established" by God. I think we would all understand that there is no higher position than this among the created The supreme article of furniture, designed for the Tabernacle and later the beings. Temple, was the "Ark of the Covenant" upon which rested the "Mercy Seat" which was overshadowed by two solid gold "cherubim," one on each side, whose wings stretched over the seat to touch in the middle. It was from in the midst of this setting that the Shekinah glory of God emanated to mark God's presence. This being the case, Lucifer's position fits with Moses' replica of what he saw as the "patterns" from the LORD, and of things "in the heavens" (Num.8:4 & Heb. 9:23). It meant Lucifer was originally created to serve in that prestigious position before God in heaven. We can think of no more glorious position and place of prestige among created beings than this! This does not mean that Lucifer stood in that precise position permanently like a statue. We will see that he had many activities. In all probability, Lucifer rotated in his services before God just as the priest did in the earthly Temple of God. Each priest was designated certain weeks to serve in his assigned capacity in the Temple. We say this about Lucifer also because of his other services, especially from the perspective of those duties and assignments wherein he was to function on earth.

3.) "On the Holy Mountain of God," Ezek. 28:14.

In addition, Lucifer was "on the holy mountain of God" (verse 14). This of course represented God's dwelling place in the heavens, the place from which God rules or governs. No doubt there was made a replica, or replicas, of this place on earth as well. Actually much later in man's history, we know of God establishing Zion in the land of Israel as that place on earth where God would dwell and rule. Psalm 48:1-3 states in effect, "Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, in the city of our God, *in His holy mountain*. Beautiful in elevation, the joy of the whole earth is Mount Zion on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. God is in her palaces; He is known as her refuge." Mount Zion in Israel was the replica of God's "mountain" in the heavens during the time of man's probation on earth. It is no accident, therefore, that during this final time of man's probation on earth, Satan will make a grand effort to assume God's position. He will come to indwell the Antichrist (or "man of sin") and assume a position in the very Temple of God of the last days (see II Thessalonians 2:4).

Lucifer was apparently given a place of rule and authority. The term "Prince" is given to certain of the angelic beings (see Daniel 10:13). The "Prince of the kingdom of Persia," as mentioned in Daniel is understood to be an angelic personage. "Michael, one of the chief Princes" is likewise an angelic personage. Satan, himself, is called "the Prince of this world" by Jesus Christ in John 12:31; 14:30 & 16:11. Because of Satan's deception of Eve and usurpation over Adam, he regained total control over this earthly system. The apostle Paul would regard him as "the Prince of the power of the air" (Eph. 2:2). Thank God, by virtue of Christ's redemptive work on our behalf, every believer has been "delivered from the power of darkness and conveyed into the kingdom of the Son of God's love" (Col. 1:13.).

4.) "*Walked...in the Midst of the Stones of Fire*," Ezek. 28:14.

Verse 14 says that Lucifer "*walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones*." This is evidently a further description of Lucifer's immediate presence before God, on the very pavement of God's presence, and upon which God was positioned or stood. You may remember that when Moses and the 70 elders of Israel were allowed to view the God of Israel upon the mountain of Sinai, there was "under His (God's) feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stones, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity" (Exo. 24:10). Though we normally think of sapphire as possessing a blue tint, yet the sapphire stone has transparent qualities and can exist in nearly all colors of the rainbow. With radiance shining through, they were alive with color. So it is that Lucifer as well was allowed to walk upon these glowing stones in heaven in the direct presence of God.

This would again signify the authority of Lucifer as allowed and ordered by God. There is no higher authority than this prestigious position. And yet when self-pride and ambition entered into the heart of Lucifer, he actually lost all this and received instead "The *stones* of the pit" (Isa. 14:19) upon which he could parade his rebellious accomplishments.

It is thought by some that Korah, Dathan and Abiram were among the elders of Israel who were allowed to view the God of Israel upon this paved work of sapphire stones (Exo. 24:9, 10). They also, like Lucifer, in later pride and rebellion took an early trip into that very pit designed for Satan.

5.) "Perfect in Ways," Ezek. 28:15

Verse 15 says, "You were perfect <u>in your ways</u> from the day you were created." This tells us that Lucifer functioned perfectly, both in the immediate presence of God in heaven as a cherub overshadowing the throne, functioning in the courts of heaven in a governmental capacity, functioning in the exercise of his unique wisdom, and also in whatever duties and services that were delegated to him on earth, and lastly in the capacity indicated as "trading" which we will discuss in the next section. All this suggests a wide variety of different manners ("ways") in which he functioned. And just as important, it suggests time in those services—time unmeasured and certainly not to be convoluted into a few hours or days at the time of his immediate creation. "Perfection in ways" can only be demonstrated and assessed as a result of an extended period of time during which the many performances can be documented and characterized.

The Scriptural statement actually is saying Lucifer not only began perfectly in his ways at the time of his creation, but in addition continued doing so from the day of his creation—leaving an indefinite and unmeasured period of time, not to be marked off by any other immediate event. So we must acknowledge that the time period Lucifer functioned in his perfection does not overlap that of Adam, nor can it be compressed into a few hours or days of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.

6.) "Abundance of Trading," Ezek. 28:16

Verse 16 speaks of "the <u>abundance</u> of your (Lucifer's) <u>trading</u>." The original King James renders it—"By the multitude of thy merchandise." The Jewish Publication Society of America translation puts it modern terms—"by your far-flung commerce." In the Hebrew the word translated "trading" has to do with a merchant man trading or trafficking in merchandise. The word is used earlier in Ezekiel 26:12 which talks about the destruction of Tyre and how the enemy will take all its riches—"They will make a spoil of your riches and a prey of your <u>merchandise</u>." The word is also used right here in Ezekiel 28, earlier in the same chapter about the King of Tyre himself, "By your wisdom and understanding you have acquired riches for yourself, and have acquired gold and silver for your treasuries. By your great wisdom, by your <u>trade</u> you have increased your riches, and your heart is lifted up because of your riches" (Ezek. 28:4 & 5).

Now we are to understand that what was true of the king of Tyre is also true of Lucifer before him. Of Lucifer it was, no doubt, of much greater magnitude. It is said "By the *abundance* of your *trade* you became filled with violence within" (verse 16). This is clearly another statement which demands a substantial period of time in this activity. And in further commentary it says again, "In the unrighteousness of your *trade*, you profaned your *sanctuaries*" (verse 18). This statement indicates that there was a continuation of activity even after Lucifer's initial rebellion. In a fallen state Lucifer continued his "trading" activity in "unrighteousness." And once again, there is no time limit indicated as to how long this condition continued.

Now, what are we to make of all this? In human terms, in our modern society, we might say this man was a famous Wall Street trader who—because of his unusual brilliance—began to amass fantastic wealth which corrupted him into dishonesty and even violence. Whatever the kind of merchandising or trading was involved in Lucifer's case we are not specifically told. However, if we believe the Word of God, it becomes

evident that Lucifer was actively engaged in accumulating fantastic wealth. The wealth or riches that he amassed can only be measured by an entirely different standard than our own of today, which treasures would give even greater fame to his person. This gathering of great wealth must be placed in the context of Lucifer's great pride as described in the account of Isaiah 14.

7.) "*Your Sanctuaries*," Ezek. 28:18.

In addition, when this "trade" became illicit activity, it actually brought disgrace to, and "profaned" the very "<u>sanctuaries</u>" in which he dwelt. Now this word "sanctuary," is the very same Hebrew word for the Tabernacle and Temple which were later built here on earth. In fact, the Israelite people themselves could and did "profane the sanctuary" many times, either by priestly disorder or the king's and nation's ungodly deeds (see for instance Lev. 21:23; 26:31; Jer. 51:51; Zeph. 3:4 & Amos 7:9). Apparently God wants us to know that Lucifer had special "sanctuaries" in which he was allowed to function. No doubt, that meant whatever special place on earth in which he was allowed to function, and possibly even the "sanctuary" in heaven. These dwelling places had become defiled, and must be cleansed or even destroyed. Lucifer would now have to be displaced from his exalted position before God. The book of Revelation speaks repeatedly of the "Temple in heaven." No doubt there was an immediate removal of Lucifer from heaven's "holy place" as the "cherub that covers."

In addition, in the future concerning the last days, we are told that Satan will come to influence the Antichrist to defile the rebuilt Temple or Sanctuary in Jerusalem, and after some three and one half years that "sanctuary" will finally be "cleansed" (Dan. 8:11-14). So, as Lucifer defiled sanctuaries in the past, he will also do in the future.

Summary of Lucifer's Function in His Perfection

Now there are several legitimate deductions that can be made from all this. First of all, this compounds the proof that Lucifer's career long predated that of Adam. Under no circumstances whatsoever can all this activity, which does not even take into account the fall of Lucifer, be pressed into the short time of Adam's presence in the Garden of Eden. I say again, there is not the most remote indication this all took place coinciding with Adam's short service in the garden. The difference in the magnitude of activity and in the scope of the activity clearly eliminates it from even a remote possibility of synchronizing with the Genesis account of Adam and Eve taking care of the garden. Even as there is no mention in the Genesis account about this activity of Lucifer, so there is absolutely no mention in the Ezekiel or Isaiah accounts of Adam and Eve's presence while all this "trading" was going on! It therefore becomes absolutely incongruous and blatantly dishonest to attempt to place them in the same situation.

To contend that Adam and Lucifer began a career together is an extremely careless and superficial extrapolation which the Scriptures are very careful NOT TO MAKE!

After reading and thinking carefully about this revelation concerning the creation and functioning of Lucifer, there comes a very simple reason why Lucifer's history is not mentioned in the Genesis account—It VERY OBVIOUSLY DOES NOT BELONG THERE!

III. Lucifer's FALL

Normally when we have talked about the fall of Lucifer we think of a very simplistic event—He was lifted up with pride and wanted to be like God. However, when we itemize the Scriptural accounts concerning this matter, we find that there was actually a great deal involved in Lucifer's fall. Note the various statements in this regard just from Ezekiel 28:15-18—

"Until unrighteousness (iniquity) was found in you" (verse 15).

"By the abundance of your trading you were *filled with violence* within" (16).

"And you sinned" (16).

"Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty" (17).

"You corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor" (17).

"In the unrighteousness of your trade" (18).

"You profaned your sanctuaries" (18).

1.) "Iniquity was Found in You," Ezek. 28:15.

In verse 18 this iniquity is also described as a "*multitude* of iniquities." In other words, this was not a singular event, but a "multitude" of events which amounted to a cascading effect in the fall of Lucifer. No doubt, the fall of Lucifer had an initial beginning, but this passage indicates the beginning was followed by many wicked activities, all of which would have manifestations within the context of the various functions and activities which he served. For instance—

2.) "Filled with Violence Within," Ezek. 28:16.

Notice the language used. Lucifer did not just engage in a violent act. First of all, he was "filled with violence within." Violence was born within the heart of Lucifer. However, this birth no doubt produced a multitude of violent activities. Lucifer was literally "filled" with violence. The type of violence that came to be outwardly expressed by Lucifer, we are not specifically told. It is unthinkable that Lucifer was "filled with violence within," but it had no expression "without." Likewise, as to whom the violence was directed against, we are not told. Since Lucifer's rebellion seems to have begun while he was on earth, it would follow that the violence involved crimes on earth. This violence apparently developed within his very own being and in turn came to be directed against those personages, whether earthly or heavenly or angelic persons or agencies, which discovered and recognized his wickedness. The magnitude of Lucifer's rebellion is later demonstrated in the book of Revelation (12:4) where we learn that fully one third of the heavenly angelic hosts had come to be joined in his iniquity. So, therefore, in the angelic world there came to be the evil angels as well as the good angels. In addition, as to other spirit creatures, there were fallen demonic personages, who are best explained as "disembodied spirits" in the ranks of those who opposed God and God's purposes.

We know that in Satan's later influence in the affairs of mankind, he most certainly inspired Cain's murder of Able. Jesus Christ said concerning Satan, "He was a murderer from the beginning" (John 8:44). What was placed into the heart of Cain had long been in the heart of Lucifer. And now that Satan interferes in the affairs of mankind

on this present earth, he passes on that same murderous hatred into the hearts of those who would be submissive to his influence. Furthermore, as man's history developed to a climactic point, we are told "the earth was *filled with violence*" (Genesis 6:11). That "violence" which was born within Lucifer, and is initially expressed in Ezekiel 28:16, came to also be expressed by those very same words as what characterized man's career on earth under the influence of Satan. The decadent society of mankind came to be characterized by the very violence which originally flooded the heart of Lucifer.

I personally believe that the pre-adamic earth, under Lucifer's fallen and rebellious influence, became "filled with violence" as expressed here in Ezekiel 28. Just as God brought to an end the world of Noah's day which was "filled with violence," so it is that God brought to an end the world of Lucifer's original sin and "violence." That "end" is expressed in the terms of Genesis 1:2, which scene much resembles the catastrophic end of those in Noah's day. Indeed, paleontologists tell us, and even demonstrate it with photographic evidence, that the epoch of time commonly called the dinosaur era, came to be characterized by extreme violence. The teeth and claw marks on the metamorphosed bones of different animals demonstrate conclusively the violent activity of that period of time. Consequently, when Hollywood depicts movies involving dinosaurs, they will emphasize the violent activity of many of those animals.

Thus the evidence of sin and death lay buried deep under the feet of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and all over the world as well. And lurking just outside their immediate protected environment was Lucifer awaiting his opportunity to spread his influence to the new personages God had placed upon this renewed earth.

Popular Objections

And this places before us two popular objections that are often voiced by those Young Earth Creationists who oppose any idea of a gap. First they say, "Why would God have sanctioned 'millions of years' of death as 'very good' in Genesis 1:31?" Of course, the answer is very simple! Gen 1:31 does not sanction the memorial stones of death buried deep within the earth! Genesis 1:31 ONLY SANCTIONS, as being "very good," what God has done during the SIX DAYS of activity! As I have initially demonstrated in this Biblical study of the positive evidence for a gap, the six days of activity had nothing whatsoever to do with the initial creation of the earth, nor with what existed prior to the event of calling into existence the first day. The events of the six days were simple to enumerate—Day one, *light*; Day two, *atmosphere* (separation of the waters); Day three, *land appears* above the waters and *plant life initiated*; Day four, *the sun, moon and stars function*; Day five, *birds and fish are created*; Day six, *animals and man* are created. All these things were said to be "good." These days had nothing whatsoever to do with Lucifer and his rebellion and the earth that existed under his domain.

The second objection is much like the first, "Why would the book of Romans confirm the Genesis history that death came as a result of Adam's sin if in fact there were vast ages of death prior to Adam?" The truth is the book of Romans does indeed confirm the Genesis record that sin and death IN THE HUMAN FAMILY came as a result of the head of that family—Adam! Most certainly, however, every Bible reader knows SIN did not originate with Adam! It originated with *Lucifer*! And, likewise, DEATH (separation from God) did not originate with Adam! *Lucifer* was already dead to God before Adam

sinned! So sin and death were already real components of this universe and its prior occupants before Adam's rebellion.

Both these objections above were printed in *Acts & Facts*, April 2010, pages 16 and 17, by The Institute For Creation Research.

3.) "And You Sinned," Ezek. 28:16.

As to the pride that was born in Lucifer's heart, it is itemized in Isaiah under the famous five "I wills," Isaiah 14:13 & 14—

"You said in your heart,

I will ascend to heaven;

I will raise my throne above the stars of God, and

I will sit on the mount of the congregation on the sides of the north,

I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;

I will make myself like the Most High!"

From this we understand that Lucifer was situated on earth, even though we know he also had access to heaven, and sometimes situated himself in the very presence of God for various duties which I have before enumerated. Apparently Lucifer desired permanent residence in heaven. In addition he wanted a throne position far above all other angelic hosts. He wanted the prestige of permanent residency in the very dwelling place of God. This would be above all other heavenly authorities. And finally, he would wish to make himself like the Most High God.

We all marvel at the audacity of Lucifer to think he could be God. Yet when we contemplate his actual magnificence in brilliance, beauty, wisdom and power, the birth of such pride in his heart is more understandable. What is hard to believe is when natural, lowly human beings succumb to this same desire. Yet we find that sometimes men do this very thing. Self-esteem permeates their hearts. They are lifted up with pride and are self-deceived. Obviously, such lowly creatures as men of dust could only be inspired to think such things of themselves as a result of Satan's influence! I have personally faced such a person who was so self-deceived as to be persuaded he was God; he had other people believing it as well. He is now physically dead.

4.) "Heart Lifted up because of beauty," Ezek. 28:17.

This was another ingredient in the fall of Lucifer. Perhaps the only way we can appreciate the reality of this is when we see it in our own experiences of life. We look at certain people who are graced with prominence and beauty, and yet we might also be repulsed by those persons as we recognize conceit and haughtiness in their attitudes. When a person gets "stuck on himself," his beauty becomes vain. "Vain beauty" is merely the aroma of pride. Rather than being pleasing to the senses, it stinks.

The case of disobedient king Saul comes to mind in this regard. When the people of Israel in their carnality decided to choose a king, God directed them to the tallest man among them. Saul actually didn't think much of himself at first and he actually hid from being chosen (I Sam.10:21 & 22). When he was found Saul was head and shoulder taller than any other Israelite. "There is no one else like him among all the people," Samuel shouted (verse 24). So Saul became the peoples' choice. Yet after a few years the attitude of Saul changed in his execution of the Lord's directives. In I Samuel 15:17-19

the prophet Samuel told king Saul, "When you were little in your own eyes, were you not head of the tribes of Israel? And did not the Lord anoint you king over Israel?...Why then did you not obey the voice of the LORD?" Obviously, the attitude of Saul had changed once he had established a successful kingship and fought some victorious battles. Now he thought more of himself than he did of the Lord Who had made him the king and given him victory in battles.

Perhaps there is no better illustration of this than Absalom, the son of king David. In II Samuel 14:25 we are told "Now in all Israel there was no one as handsome as Absalom and so highly praised; from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head there was no defect in him." The text goes on to say that he cut his hair only once a year because of its weight upon him. He was obviously a proud individual.

In his arrogant pride he sought to take the kingdom away from his famous father, David. He was merciless in the execution of this conspiracy so that king David and all of his people had to flee Jerusalem. Nevertheless, in battle with David's army, Absalom was actually caught by the head of his hair in an oak tree where he was helplessly suspended. He was an easy target for death, being held captive as it were by his own pride (see II Samuel 18:9-15).

5.) "Corrupted Your Wisdom," Ezek. 28:17.

Wisdom concerns itself with the proper use of knowledge in the midst of certain circumstances. A wise person can sort out facts and events in such a manner as to come to proper conclusions and judgments. Conversely, when a person's wisdom is tainted by some corruption or misalignment in evaluation, his conclusions and judgments become dangerous and even bring about horrible perversions. There is nothing as sickening as to know "wise men" are responsible for perverse judgments. Lucifer fell into this category. Lucifer was created a wise being, and no doubt he still is, but in his pride his "wisdom" became his own and not that of God. Therefore, it gave birth to "corruption" and necessary lies to cover its trail.

No doubt there were many trials and events wherein Lucifer's corrupted wisdom became manifest to all. Especially would this be true when it became evident Lucifer turned against his own Creator.

6.) "Defiled Your Sanctuaries," Ezek. 28:18.

As was stated earlier, Lucifer defiled the "sanctuaries" that existed during the time of his operations in perfection, whether they were in heaven or upon the earth. We also know he will yet defile "the Sanctuary" during the midst of the Great Tribulation. When we look into the prophets and see the magnitude and importance of the "abomination that makes desolate" in the midst of the great tribulation (Matthew 24:15; Dan.11:31 & 12:11; 9:26, 27 & 8:13), we can have an idea of the magnitude of Lucifer's first "defiling" of heaven's sanctuary, and that sanctuary originally on earth as well.

7.) "The Iniquity of your Trading," Ezek. 28:18

No doubt, all these expressions demonstrate unusual pride and self-exaltation. However, they also are descriptive of many various and sundry activities. There was discovered "unrighteousness" in Lucifer. This was apparently due to, among other things, corrupt "trading" practices, which even led into actions of "violence." He became "lifted up in heart" (self-exalted) by dwelling on his own "beauty." His amazing "wisdom" also became contaminated because of his "sin." And the immediate text indicates it was because of the "unrighteousness of his trading" practices that his "sanctuaries were profaned." No doubt, all these things amounted to many different situations, many events of confrontation and even violence.

In Summary under Lucifer's FALL are indications of many encounters over long periods of time!

Undoubtedly Lucifer, in his original creation and occupation, involved an epoch of time all his own. There was obviously a period of time when he operated in "perfection." And then the many actions of sin and rebellion which are indicated in this text constitute another epoch of time distinct from the first. In turn, this will also be followed by a period of time wherein Lucifer would experience an immediate judgment and expulsion from all previous positions. Please keep in mind that there must be an immediate judgment, if not a series of judgments, which followed upon the continuance of his various and sundry sins in rebellion against God. But, in addition, the texts in Isaiah and Ezekiel also indicate there is a long range of unfolding judgments as Satan's career overlaps that of mankind.

In other words, allow me to give this example. Every interpreter of this account recognizes there is a vast period of time between Lucifer's first being deposed as the "anointed cherub that covers" (verse 16), from that final period of time when Satan will be "turned to ashes upon the earth" (verse 18). In fact we know it will be—at the very minimum, 6000 years of human history. And this is not even taking into consideration the time before mankind was created. Now if this is true between the events in verses 16 and 18, how much more could it be true between any other of the verses? And there are other examples right here in this text of the same principle. We shall see in a moment that there are one thousand years between "becoming a horror" in verse 19, and "shall be no more forever," in the very same verse. In addition, how could there be "an abundance of trading" (verse 16) unless there was an abundance of time to do that trading? And again, how could there be a "multitude of iniquity" (verse 18), unless there was a multitude of time to perform these iniquities? Virtually everything in this passage demands time. This is the only reasonable conclusion one could come to!

Dispensational Bible teachers have carefully delineated and separated the various epochs of time in the history of man's probation on earth. Before man's fall, it is proper to see Adam and Eve in a time frame of what is called "Innocence." It is an undeniable fact that during this time Adam and Eve were in a state where there was no death, no suffering, or pain, or heartache. The earth was fruitful and unblemished. However, after Adam's sin and fall, we can divide up the various epochs of time that followed into distinct dispensational periods wherein man was tested under different economies. Man failed under each test. Now if this was true of human beings and of human history, how much more must it also be true of Lucifer in his career which vastly overshadows that of man on earth?

The period of Lucifer's creation, position and functioning in perfection must have been wonderful. How long this existed, we are not told. And then there came the initial sin which was followed by a whole volume of iniquity and violence. Then consequent judgment must follow. As man's period of probation brought him through great periods of testing and judgment, so it must have been for Lucifer. In addition, as man's rebellion will bring him to a yet future catastrophic judgment, described in terms of "wasteness and emptiness" at the "Day of the Lord" (see *SECTION TWO*—"Genesis 1:2"), so it was at the conclusion of Lucifer's early reign on earth and probation, that there were a series of judgments bringing the very earth to the conditions described by Genesis 1:2—"And the earth was (or became) wasted and emptied."

Further Testimony of Geology

I cited earlier the testimony from geology of an Edenic earth. Such geological testimony is in perfect accord with this Biblical revelation. Now allow me to draw your attention to the one who has been called "the Father of Paleontology," the great French scientist, **Georges Cuvier**. His is one of the most respected names in science. He was probably the first to prove decisively an abundance of geological and paleontological evidence signifying a series or succession of catastrophes, most of which happened long before man's appearance on earth, each involving the disappearances of life forms followed by the sudden appearance of new life forms. Neither was he ignorant of the evidence of the effects of the more recent Noatian flood, which he indicated had divided man's own epoch into two different periods.

Georges Cuvier was not attempting to reconcile the Bible with geology. He vigorously opposed the ideas of evolution that were prevalent in his day. He did not believe the Bible needed reconciliation with the newly discovered evidence of long ages in the past. He knew quite well that the age of man on earth according to the Bible was in the approximate range of 6000 years. However, he also knew that the Bible said nothing whatsoever as to how old the earth actually was. He was a professing Protestant in the midst of the largely Roman Catholic France and a devout scientist in the fields of his expertise. His observations concerning a series of catastrophes were very accurate and would not be revived again until our day—within the last thirty or forty years.

Cuvier was simply an astute student of the physical evidences presented in the earth's record, which he frankly stated early in the nineteenth-century, some 200 years ago. Cuvier was a comparative anatomist of rare ability who came into prominence doing research on fossil mammals when geology was emerging as a new science. Cuvier's observations brought him to the conclusion that there were a series of "destructive" catastrophes in earth's history, the last one being the worldwide flood in Noah's day, which, as I stated earlier, divided an "old world" from the "new world." The bones of Neanderthal, Cro-Magnon, and full Homo sapiens from the "old world" era had not yet been discovered, but he believed they would be, and, of course, in time they were.

Charles Lyell, on the other hand, was greatly opposed to the idea of geological catastrophes. By 1830-33 he published his first editions of the *Principles of Geology*, wherein he proposed his doctrine of "uniforitarianism." His logic was to assume that what we see happening today is actually all that has happened in the past. He taught that geological history is the normal accumulation of strata through the long slow ages.

Charles Darwin, of course, as is well known, formulated his theory of long, slow evolutionary processes squarely upon the doctrine of long, slow uniforitarianism. Darwin published his theory in 1859. It was primarily secure as long as there were no catastrophes to terminate different life forms. Both Darwin and Lyell were staunchly opposed to the idea of geological catastrophes. (However, it surprised Lyell to see how Darwin was using his principles of uniforitarianism to explain the theory of evolution, of which Lyell was very skeptical.)

On December 23rd, 1963, **Newsweek** published the following article that very well summarizes the problem concerning what geologists were discovering once again. Read it carefully—the title—*God*, *Man*, *and Geology*.

"Catastrophism is a fighting word among geologists. It is a theory based on divine intervention, and its adherents held that the history of the earth and the life on it were moved by a series of disasters inspired by God—the last one Noah's flood. It was a major line of thought for a few decades last century, but a vigorous counterattack by the naturalists against the supernaturalists eventually pushed it aside.

But now many geologists believe the counterattack may have been all too vigorous. In their haste to reject the hand of God, they passed over some solid evidence...As a result, many geologists at the recent meeting of the American Geological Society were advising the rehabilitation of catastrophism, without recourse to a supernatural agent.

The current theory about geological change, called uniforitarianism, holds that once the laws of nature were put in motion, they proceeded smoothly. At his office at the American Museum of Natural History last week, paleontologist Norman Newell explained the trouble with this concept. 'Geology suffers from a great lack of data,' Newell said, 'and in such a situation, any attractive theory that comes along is taken as gospel. That is the case with uniforitarianism. Geological students are taught that "the present is the key to the past," and they too often take it to mean that nothing ever happened that isn't happening now. But since the end of World War II, when a new generation moved in, we have gathered more data and we have begun to realize that there were many catastrophic events in the past, some of which happened just once.'

On the other hand, Darwin was firmly set against the notion of catastrophes, a position that made it difficult to explain how life has come this far this fast.

Most geologists now suggest that the two concepts be merged into a historical image that is generally uniform, but occasionally catastrophic."

Today in the last twenty years, the dinosaur extinction, and the extinction of many other life forms on the same occasion has once again been linked with solid geological evidences of such mass extinctions. The very popular proponents of the new view are Stephen J. Gould, paleontologist of Harvard University and Niles Eldredge who has been Curator of the Department of Invertebrates at the American Museum of Natural History. Their theory has been called "Punctuated Equilibria." They have correctly observed that earth's strata bears an abundance of evidence of catastrophes and mass extinctions followed by new forms of life that maintain "stasis" or "equilibria." This primarily means that the new forms of life will characteristically be the same throughout their time period. In his excellently documented book with dynamic photography and introduction by Gould, *Fossils- The Evolution and Extinction of Species*, Niles Eldredge says, "species that remain, in the vast majority of cases, (are) very much recognizably the same throughout their entire existence. Stasis is the single most compelling fact of the fossil record." And again on the same page (44), "But stasis does not imply that organisms do not vary: rather, variation within species always occurs within certain limits." Understandably, their conclusions brought an explosion of controversy within the evolutionary ranks.

This brings us to the last section, the reason for mass extinctions—

Lucifer's JUDGMENT

1.) "Cast as Profane Out of the Mountain of God," Ezek. 28:16.

Lucifer's Immediate Judgment

According to the account in Ezekiel, Lucifer was immediately "cast as profane from the mountain of God." This would mean that any authority of governmental rule which Lucifer possessed was rescinded, and like one who has profaned, he was cast away from his position as an unclean being. Lucifer could no longer enter the courts of heaven as one in responsible authority and rule. The Scriptures clearly indicate Satan would still have access to heaven and even be allowed to appear before God, but no longer in that position of authority.

Please keep in mind that this must have been Lucifer's immediate judgment. It would also imply that any authority Lucifer had on earth was rescinded as well.

2.) "Destroy from the midst of the Stones of Fire," Ezek. 28:16.

In addition to losing his governmental rule in heaven, it says he was "destroyed as Covering Cherub from the midst of the stones of fire" (verse 16). This means, of course, that his exalted privilege and position in such close proximity to God is forever lost. No longer could he approach God in this capacity and closeness.

Of necessity, this would also mean, of course, that any position Lucifer had on earth during his innocence and perfection was likewise destroyed due to the magnitude of his crime and wickedness, which apparently all began while Lucifer was in charge on the earth. Remember also, that when God appeared to Moses and the elders of Israel on earth there was the pavement of brilliant stones under His feet here on earth as well. Consequently, whether on earth or in heaven, Lucifer would no longer be in a place of supreme authority. Whatever sanctuaries and grandeur, whether on earth or in heaven, he may have amassed to himself through his "trading" or business activities, were taken away. Whatever position he had, almost as a priest before God functioning in a sanctuary, was taken away. As I stated earlier, this judgment would of necessity have its immediate effect on earth. No doubt, this eventually brought the earth into a condition of judgments and final violent upheaval.

The book of Job makes applicable statements that fit this case squarely—

"Who has hardened (himself) against Him (God) and prospered?

He (God) removes the mountains, and they do not know when

He overturns them in His anger;

He (God) shakes the earth out of its place,

And its pillars tremble;

He (God) commands the sun, and it does not rise;

He (God) seals off the stars" (Job 9:4-7).

Certainly the earth never experienced this type of an upheaval anytime during man's occupancy, not even in Noah's day. The things Job says are apropos to Lucifer's rebellion when he "hardened (himself) against God." That rebellion must certainly have brought catastrophic consequences in the very earth over which Lucifer ruled. By no stretch of the imagination was there this type of catastrophic result from the flood in Noah's day. There is only one singular time in earth's history where this type of wrath from God could have been expressed and that is as described in Genesis 1:2! Therein, the earth lies in ruins and the very light of the sun and moon were extinguished, only to be restored on the fourth day of that week of restoration.

3.) "Fallen From Heaven," Isaiah 14:12.

Here is where we insert the judgment mentioned in Isaiah. Actually this passage is prophetic in nature. It speaks of the final exclusion of Lucifer from any allowance to be in heaven. Earlier, Lucifer lost his initial position of prominence before God and the government of heaven, even though he still was allowed access to heaven. But now, Satan is actually totally disposed from heaven. This particular event is thousands of years distant from the earlier expulsion from his position as "Anointed Cherub that Covers."

This synchronizes with the information we get from the last book of the Bible, the book of Revelation, that at the future period of great tribulation on earth, there will also be the final expulsion of Satan from heaven (Rev. 12:7-9)—

"And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon (Satan); and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was there a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world, He was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

Herein we also learn of the magnitude of the corrupt influence Lucifer had while he was in Heaven and in rebellion against God. One third of the heavenly host (Rev. 12:4) joined affinity in Lucifer's rebellion.

4.) "I Will Cast You to the Ground," Ezek. 28:17.

According to the passages in Ezekiel, Isaiah and Revelation there will also be a future prophetic judgment against Satan that will finally terminate his whole career in heaven. Eventually, Satan will actually be "cast to the ground" (Ezek. 28:17). Isaiah as well states that Satan will be "cut down to the ground" (Isa. 14:12). In other words, Satan will no longer have free access to heaven. He will be totally cast out.

In the book of Revelation the warning goes out to the world—"Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the Devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows he has a short time"—only three and one half years (Rev. 12:12).

5.) "I Laid You Before Kings," Ezek. 28:17.

According to the passage in Isaiah given before, one stage of Satan's final judgment is prophesied as taking place at this future time. During the period of time

called "the Great Tribulation," Satan will be permanently expelled from heaven—"How are you fallen from heaven" (Isa. 14:12), and cast "to the ground." At that time, here on earth, Satan will embody himself in the Antichrist and after some three and one half years will come to destruction by Christ Himself.

The humiliation that is ultimately given to Satan is when he will be displayed as a defeated and destroyed enemy of God and fallen before the very kings of earth whom he has deceived. Of course, the kings of earth will be surprised and appalled to view and understand such a great power as Satan, himself, brought to such humiliation and disgrace. I cannot think of a more embarrassing disgrace than to be displayed in utter defeat before the very ones to whom you boasted great things. No doubt, Satan will have to listen to the many expressions of exasperation and contempt directed towards him by those who thought so highly of him.

6.) "I brought Fire from the midst of you," Ezek. 28:18.

Furthermore, the same passage continues to say, "*I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you.*" We might ask, how can a spirit creature be turned to ashes? This evidently is possible because later Scriptures indicate Satan's embodiment in "the Beast" (Rev. 13:2), which will be destroyed by fire. This has reference to the Man of Sin (Antichrist) who heads the final ten nation confederacy, who will be totally consumed by fire when Christ "descends from heaven in flaming fire" (II Thess. 1:8, 9 & 2:8). It is interesting that this last passage by the apostle Paul states that the man of sin will be destroyed "by the BRIGHTNESS of Christ's coming." Whereas the very name Lucifer signifies brightness, yet in rebellion against God he will be destroyed in the person of Antichrist by the "Brightness" of the Son of God.

The false "god-man" (Antichrist-Satan) will thus be destroyed by fire, yet the spiritual persons of both Antichrist and Satan will continue to exist in hell.

And yet we know this is not the total end of Satan.

7.) "You have become a Horror and shall be no more forever," Ezek. 28:19.

"You have become a horror"

Actually there are two stages to this final destruction of Satan. According to the book of Revelation, Satan is immediately imprisoned in Hell. Isaiah says, "Nevertheless you will be thrust down to Sheol, to the recesses of the Pit" (Isaiah 14:15). Then Isaiah goes on to say in verses 16 & 17—

"Those who see you (Satan) will gaze at you, and consider you saying: Is this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms, who made the world as a wilderness and destroyed its cities, who did not open the house of his prisoners?"

In the book of Revelation we are told Satan will be confined in Hell for "One Thousand years" (Rev. 20:2). Here, he is a "horror" to all the other occupants of Hell. Here the kings of the earth and great ones gaze upon this one who was so responsible for the many destructions on the earth and was the fear of all.

"And shall be no more forever."

However, the book of Revelation also reveals that there will be a final short release of Satan, to once again go out and deceive the nations, which have been living under Messiah's rule, even under perfect Edenic conditions. And surprisingly enough, many nations will again succumb to his deceptions. As a concluding judgment Satan will then, in climactic finality, be dispatched to "the Lake of Fire" (Rev. 20:7-10) "forever." And so will end the panorama of the history of Lucifer.

In conclusion,

I read an article in the past by a prominent Young Earth Creationist who confidently stated that there is no evidence in the Bible that Lucifer ever existed on earth prior to Adam's time. Now I know that this man has read the Bible and the passages in Isaiah and Ezekiel that speak of Lucifer's past creation, performance and rebellion, but he must not have realized what those passages state.

Ezekiel 28:13 makes it clear that Lucifer was in an "Eden, the Garden of God," in perfect conditions with a spectacular garment of precious stones. He most certainly did not match this condition in the Garden of Eden in Adam's day. Isaiah 14 makes it very clear that Lucifer's initial pride and rebellion began from his position on the earth. How else could he desire to "ascend to heaven" and exalt himself above the throne of God? The passage in Ezekiel 28:16 also explicitly speaks of Lucifer's "trading" practices wherein he desired great riches to further exalt himself. This would normally imply an earthly enterprise.

I would also remind you that the things stated by the apostle Paul in II Corinthians chapter four, which were taken up in the previous *SECTION* about the meaning of "without form and void," most certainly add additional confirmatory evidence to the things I have concluded in this study about Lucifer/Satan. The apostle Paul places Satan as the responsible party for the earth's darkness and destruction. According to a careful analysis of the passage in II Corinthians, we see that Satan is positioned in opposition to God prior to God calling light into existence. In addition, Satan's opposition to God brought destruction upon this earth, which has its reflection in the lost of this age being destroyed because of their blindness of heart toward the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In conclusion, therefore, I wish to point out that of these four categories concerning the history of Lucifer—I, His Creation; II, His Position or Function; III, His Fall and IV, His Judgment—it is only under the last category of Lucifer's Judgment that his history overlaps that of mankind on earth. And of this category it is only the last five points of the seven, which we have just discussed immediately above, that we know for certain overlap the history of mankind.

All admit to the fact that Satan is already a fallen spirit creature under the disciplinary hand of God when he appears in man's career on earth as stated in Genesis chapter three. Of necessity, this means all else happened before man appeared on earth. In addition, these Scriptures, taken at face value and without any distortions in the handling of these Scriptures, make it evident that the career of Lucifer far antedates the history of man on earth. And yet at the very same time, that history involves Lucifer's career on earth in a perfect condition and in perfect functioning in God's appointed ways. During that time we understand the earth was in an Edenic condition.

That history also involves Lucifer's rebellion and activities associated therein, which means there was a judgment, or even a series of judgments, in the fall of Lucifer involving the earth as well. The earth had to be cursed as a result of Lucifer's rebellion just as it was under Adam's rebellion. And Lucifer's rebellion far preceded that of man. I might add that, just as God permitted a series of ages or dispensations in the history of mankind, each one concluding with some sort of judgment, so it was with Lucifer. In all probability there were a series of judgments, the last one being the climactic destruction that terminated the dinosaur era. Afterwards, the only evidence for a serious judgment was the inundation of the earth in Noah's day which separated the "old world" animals from the "new world" animals. The "old world" animals consisted of such animals as the mastodons, mammoths, Saber tooth tigers, and giant animals of most nearly every kind. Concerning these animal types man himself was contemporary, drawing their pictures on cave walls. The men of this epic of time are designated as Neanderthal, Cro-Magnon, and even the modern Homo sapiens. The disappearance of these larger life forms in the animal realm is regarded as another mystery in the scientific world.

The answer, of course, to this mystery is the flood in Noah's day which clearly divided the history of life on earth into two distinct epics of time—that from Adam to the flood, and that from the flood till now. The larger animal forms belong to the history from Adam to the flood, whereas the modern life forms belong after the flood. I will have more to say about this in the last *SECTION*.

THE END