James: Chapter Four
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## **Phase One: The Formal Appeal:**

- 1. The formal phase of Satan's Appeal occurred during Old Testament history, beginning with the fall of man, and continued until the First Advent, i.e., the Incarnation of Jesus Christ.
- 2. Adam's fall repeated that of Lucifer's and he and those subsequent to him continued the process as did the fallen angels in the past when one-third of them joined the rebellion.
- 3. Therefore, God introduced the first Homo sapiens into human history, yet created lower than the angels. This fact is certified by and conclusive of the true humanity of Jesus Christ, Who is described thusly in:

Hebrews 2:7 "For a brief time, You [ God ] have made Him [ Jesus ] a little lower [ inferior ] than the angels. You [ God ] have crowned Him [ Jesus ] with glory and honor which belongs to You. (EXT)

- 4. The issue being addressed in the Appeal is angelic volition. Volition is an attribute of the soul common to both angels and men thus making them free agents with regard to personal decision making.
- 5. Volition is free. The individual, angel or man, has the autonomy to make independent decisions, good or bad, just or unjust, righteous or unrighteous, right or wrong.
- 6. Therefore, God designed mankind with free will thus making them equal with the angels in this particular way although without their physical attributes and capabilities.
- 7. The fall of mankind in the garden duplicates the fall of Lucifer in eternity past.
- 8. The sequence of events in the Appeal includes arguments presented by both the Prosecution and the defense.
- 9. The first phase of the Appeal begins with the defense which covers the Theocentric dispensations of the Gentiles and Israel.
- 10. This is followed by the Prosecution's rebuttal contained in the Christocentric dispensations of Christ and the church.
- 11. When Adam fell, Lucifer became the ruler of this world, the genius but fallen cherub-ranked angel who represents the fallen angels.

- 12. Lucifer's genius is off the charts when compared to the mentality of Homo sapiens. However, the management of the human race over the course of millennia is far more than even Lucifer's genius can consistently manage.
- 13. His efforts are focused on the creation of a perfect environment equal to that God produced with the original creation of the universe in Genesis 1:1 and which He restored back to its pristine perfection in Genesis 1:2*b*-2:4.
- 14. When Adam fell, so did the planet. Since then, it has been Lucifer's desire to restore the earth to is former perfection.
- 15. However, the planet fell with original sin and its restoration will require the intervention of the Creator, Jesus Christ, Who will accomplish that mission with the introduction of His millennial kingdom.
- 16. Nevertheless, Lucifer's objective is to restore perfection which will require him to restore the earth to its pristine perfection. These efforts are characterized today by the brainwashing that has taken place in the Federal Schools for the past 100 years.
- 17. Systems of government that have been shown to be either excellent or inferior have been what Lucifer has spent his time trying to implement perfection.
- 18. Economy refers to the exchange of goods and services in a way that benefits both participants privy to the process. Scripture indicates that the best system for an economy is capitalism.

**NOTE:** Consult the study, *The Parable of Labor Unions v. Management* (LUM10): Matthew 20:1–16; 33 lessons, available through the link below:

## http://www.joegriffin.org/media-archive/our-class-catalog/lum10/

- 19. All other systems of economy are far inferior and every time tried, fails miserably. Nevertheless, there always are those susceptible to Luciferian propaganda that insist their efforts will surely get it right.
- 20. There are presently those who speak about dollars numbering in the trillions which unfortunately refer to our national debt, an unfathomable number a generation ago, but is presently nearing 30-trillion dollars in the red. The next number in the math book is 1 quadrillion: \$1,000,000,000,000,000. Madness!

- 21. The theory that motivates Satan's desire to rule the world is the notion that he and those he propagandizes can restore a perfect environment that God implemented at the beginning.
- 22. To do this he assumes that this includes the elimination of human suffering which he declares to be unjust and caused by those who march to a different drummer.
- 23. However, mankind is fallen. People make poor decisions. They are led by their sin natures to apply human good and evil. These things are destined to fail and thus result in forms of failure that those so affected consider unfair and unjust.
- 24. However, the fact is that man must learn how to orient and adjust to the dark side of his existence. He is born fallen. He commits sins. He makes wrong decisions.
- 25. On the other hand, some believers are able to grow in grace and consistently make great decisions that result in great prosperity.
- 26. Yet, Lucifer's assumption that he can create a problem-free life by means of his genius system of totalitarianism is refuted by none other than examples contained in Scripture.
- 27. Recently, we studied the first chapter of Job where every blessing he possessed in goods, possessions, and members of his own family were taken away, yet his response to these considerable losses were, "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1:21*b*).
- 28. Yet in the last paragraph of the last chapter in the book, "The Lord restored the fortunes of Job when he prayed for his friends, and the Lord increased all that Job had twofold" (Job 42:10ff).
- 29. There are several other Phase-One examples of those who were witnesses in the Old Testament:
  - 1. Every believer who advanced to spiritual maturity presented evidence for the Prosecution. In addition to Job, we recently studied Abraham's advance through evidence testing by his willingness to sacrifice Isaac on the altar atop Mount Moriah, and the initial historical impact Elijah performed in his confrontations with Ahab and his 450 prophets of Baal, and Jezebel, and her 400 prophets of the goddess, Ashērah.
  - 2. It is concluded from these examples that God permits Lucifer to cross-examine mature believers.