



Satan

Women's Discipleship Class – September 25, 2019

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Verses Covered This Week

John 10:10

Ezekiel 28:12 – 19

Matthew 12:25 – 27

John 12:27 – 32

Matthew 25:41

Revelation 20:14 – 15

Matthew 4:1 – 10

1 Peter 5:7 – 9

Luke 22:31 – 34

Revelation 12:9 – 10

Ephesians 2:1 - 2

Satan has no name in the Scripture. For example, even when Jesus calls him Beelzebub, and we'll look at that briefly, that's the name of a Philistine deity. It's not satan's name. Satan, now let me show you something, and I'll explain this with *baptizō*. This is the Greek word, *satanás*, this is the Greek word *diávolos*. If you transliterate this, it's *diabalos*, which is, we get Devil from this. This is *satanás*. So what's happened? What have we not done with these two words? We've not translated them from the Greek. They're transliterated. A transliteration word is when you take a word and you sound it out in English, but you don't translate it. If you translate *satanás*, it means adversary. You translate *diávolos*, it means slanderer. Beelzebub, again, is simply a name for a pagan deity. There are a ton of words in the New Testament that are not translated. One example here, this is the Greek word *baptizō*. We obviously get the word baptism from this word. It's not translated anywhere in the New Testament. Why not? As a matter of fact, there's a Greek word, *rhantizō*, which means to sprinkle; never used for water baptism. *Baptizō* means to immerse, always used for water baptism. So why don't we translate it? Why don't we just translate it? He was immersed. Why don't we do that? Why do we not translate the Greek word for baptism? Because of money. There are only a handful of denominations that immerse: us, Church of Christ, and Assembly of God. They immerse. Methodist: nope. Presbyterians: nope. Catholics: nope. They all *rhantizō* which is never used for water baptism. So the problem would be that only Baptist, Assembly of God, and Church of Christ would buy a Bible that said that Jesus was immersed instead of being baptized. So it is money that drives it. So then you have the same

problem when you come to satan, he has no name. He's given a title, Beelzebub, a deity title. He's given a title, he's your adversary, he's given a title, we'll look at this in a minute in Revelation. He's your slanderer. So there is no name for him. He has no personal name. It's almost like the Bible considers him nondescript and of no value. So you're given titles, but not names.

So he is called satan in the New Testament. He's called the devil. So he's your adversary and he's your slanderer. Now I want you to go, we all know this, we're going to walk through. I want you to go to John 10:10. This is going to be your life understanding. If you can just live this one verse in the Bible out, you will have no issues that are your fault. (Except when you abuse the pastor publicly). So listen carefully. And, again, look at what it says. The thief. It doesn't name him. Gives him a description. He's either got a title or the title is a description.

¹⁰The thief comes to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

So he says again, no name, but He says the purpose of satan is to completely and utterly wreck your life. So you want to make sure he's not involved in your family. You want to make sure he's not impacting your children, impacting your husband, impacting yourself. Now let me give you a couple of places where we understand his beginning. Go to Isaiah 14. Now there are couple of places in the Old Testament that most people agree are descriptions of satan. Now the problem with some of the things in the Old Testament, they're kind of a double description. For example, Isaiah 7:14. It says;

¹⁴Behold, a virgin will conceive and bear a son,

We know that that's a literal reference to the birth of Jesus Christ. It's also a metaphorical reference to the king of Tyre in that day. So there are verses that seem to go two ways. This is probably one of them. But nearly everyone locks this down, this and a verse that we'll look at in Ezekiel. But listen to Isaiah 14:12.

¹²How you have fallen from heaven, O daystar, son of the dawn!

Again, no name. But it is a reflection of what he was before he fell. That there was a glorious creation to him. It is probably arguable that when we look at a couple things tonight, satan was the highest created being until we came along. Now that's going to cause a problem for him. Listen to this.

How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! ¹³You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven above the stars of God, I will set my throne on high. I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north. ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High. ¹⁵But you were brought down to Sheol, to the far reaches of the pit. ¹⁶Those who see you will stare at you and ponder over you,

Now you notice all through this, it's I, I, I. I will ascend. I will do this. So obviously, according to Isaiah, he was really good at the beginning, but he made a choice to kick God out. Somehow,

this is always intriguing to me and we don't have time to look at it tonight, but in Revelation it talks about 1/3 of heaven falling with him. So 1/3 of heaven thought he could win. You equally have at the end of time; he will gather the nations together to try to overthrow God one more time. It is an interesting concept that this being has been created with such beauty and such power that he thinks when he looks at himself that he's bigger than the God that created him. And he's looking at that God face to face. It was a uniqueness of arrogance and a self-delusion that occurs in this being. Now go to Ezekiel 28. Now listen to what it says.

¹²“Son of man, raise a lamentation over the king of Tyre and say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord God,

So, again, we have this double statement here.

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

So obviously in the beginning, God's made him an amazing creature.

¹³“You were in Eden, the garden of God;

Here's why the next statement is why Eve is so easily transfixed by him and buys into what he says instead of what God says.

Every precious stone was your covering: sardius, topaz, diamond, beryl, onyx, jasper; sapphire, emerald, carbuncle, and crafted in gold were your settings and your engravings. On the day that you were created they were prepared.

Now obviously this is a metaphor. So we learn that he is wise, he is gorgeous. There is immense, there's no way to overstate it, there is immense beauty in his being which explains partially, he comes across as wise. He's winsome and gorgeous. So when Eve hits him, he's offering her a wisdom that's obvious innately, that's obviously innate with him. There is a beauty to who he is. She has absolutely no fear of him. And this is the point where it talks about him being in Eden. And then he says,

¹⁴“You were anointed guardian cherub,

So he's not an angel. Now there are really four beings that we know of in the Scripture. There are: you're a seraph, you're a cherub, you're an angel, and then there's a weird construct in the book of Revelation. It's literally just a Greek participle. There are four living beings. It's a weird little construct in the book of Revelation. So you have, as far as we know, absolutely, and then men. You have us. You have seraphim, cherubim. The IM on the ending is plural in Hebrew so that's why it's translated cherubim, seraphim. But seraph is singular. He's a cherub. He's not an angel. He's not a seraph. He's not a man. He's a cherub.

I placed you. You were on the holy mountain of God; in the midst of the stones of fire you walked. ¹⁵You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created until unrighteousness was found in you.

So he's made, he's created, with perfection. So he does not start out bad. But obviously when you connect this with this, all of this caused him to become self-deluded and this became the driving force in his life so that he felt like he could overthrow God. And then he continues.

¹⁶In the abundance of your trade

Now he's kind of going back and forth with the king. So then in the last part of 16,

I cast you as a profane thing from the mountain of God. I destroyed you, O guardian cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁷Your heart was proud because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I expose you before kings, to feast their eyes on you.

So you have these two places where we see the enemy's source. Nothing wrong when he was created, but somehow there was a delusion that occurred that caused him to go against God. Now we're going to look at demons next time we meet. I want to end with angels not start with angels and go to demons and satan. And I don't really enjoy staying on this, but I do think we need to understand who our adversary is.

Now here's the difficulty, right. He makes a choice. Now I want you to understand this. It's going to be a little difficult. He makes a choice he's not allowed to make and therefore no redemption is ever offered to him. We made a choice we were allowed to make and therefore redemption is offered to us. He exercised a free will to rebel against his Creator. His wisdom and his beauty corrupted him. He became self-deluded, decided he could conquer God, he doesn't. But he's never offered redemption. The angels that followed him, probably also Cherubim and Seraphim, they're never offered redemption because although they make a decision, they're not allowed it, we were allowed it because God put the tree in the garden. He allowed satan in the garden. So a choice was allowed to us. Hence we are offered redemption, they never are.

Now go to Matthew 12. I want you to look at 25 to 27. Notice how it gets quiet when you talk about demons and satan and husbands? It's kind of the same thing. Baby don't say anything. No "amening" right here. Matthew 12:25 – 27. Now here's His direction in His kingdom.

²⁵Knowing their thoughts He said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste; no city or house divided against itself will stand. ²⁶And if satan casts out satan, he is divided against himself; how then will his kingdom stand? ²⁷And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore, they will be your judges.

Now obviously he has a kingdom which dictates, right, he is the king. We will learn when we look at demons they are totally under his control. They are under his direction. Not just his direction, but their control. They don't disagree with him. They don't fight him. We're going to look at a serious, spiritual organization that demons have inside Bryan, inside College Station, inside America, inside Texas. There are demons appointed to every sector of your life. So he has done that and they live at his bidding. That was Jesus' argument. He can cast them out. There are only two people that can cast them out. Only two people that can remove a demon. That's Jesus and satan. Satan would never do it. Why? Because he divides his own kingdom. So he is a king.

Now don't let anybody tell you that satan wanted Jesus Christ on the cross. It is the very thing he fought to keep him from. Now I heard growing up all these preachers talk about satan put Jesus on the cross. He didn't realize He was going to resurrect. And suddenly He resurrected and satan was stunned. No, no, no, no, no. Satan knew exactly what was happening. And the real essence of why he wanted Jesus off the cross is not you. It's him. Now we won't go back there, but if you go back to Genesis 1 to 3 we discover something that happens. We start out, we own the planet. It's ours. We get to name the animals. We get to plant whatever we want. We get to go anywhere we want. This is our planet. However, after Genesis 3, we are driven out. It is no longer ours. Now inside this is satan. And for you little English grammarians, I know his name's supposed to be capitalized, but I go back to two things. It's not his name and number two, I don't care. I just don't capitalize it because I hate him. So I did have to capitalize him, I'm trying to remember if his title was in my dissertation as a matter of fact. Because I wouldn't have capitalized it there either. And I don't care. At any rate, I do want you to notice, now I'm going to look at a couple of verses real quickly and then I'm going to come back and explain them. First of all, I want you to go to John 12:27 – 32. Now this is Christ as they're heading up toward the last supper, the walk from the upper room to the Garden of Gethsemane. So it's right at the end of His life. The last day or two.

²⁷“Now is My soul troubled; and what shall I say, ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I have come to this hour.

Now what's He talking about there? Crucifixion. He's talking about His own death, burial, and resurrection.

²⁸Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came from heaven: “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd of people that stood there and heard it said it thundered; others said, “An angel has spoken to Him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice came for your sake, not Mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to Myself.”

So, again, we're going to look at a couple verses and I want to come back and explain something. So He says, now at the cross the ruler of this world is cast out. We ruled here, we were driven out, we ruled in Genesis 1 and 2, we are driven out in Genesis 3. Jesus says, “Now at the cross, the one who has become the ruler through His death, burial, and resurrection, is going to be driven out. Now hold with me and I'll show you what I'm talking about. Go to Matthew 25:41.

⁴¹“Then He will say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels;

So we have an eternal fire for satan and his imps. Now slide to one more verse with me and then I'm going to come back. We saw this Sunday morning. Go to Revelation 20. We're going to look at 14 – 15. The last two verses of this little pericope.

¹⁴Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. ¹⁵If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

So the lost go with satan. Now this is why he fought so hard to keep Jesus off the cross. It's why Jesus, when He prayed in Gethsemane, and remember He prayed three times, the capillaries in his sweat glands burst. So sweat came out with blood because of the emotional passion that He was fighting satan with. Satan didn't want Him to go to the cross because if Jesus doesn't go to the cross, what happened in Genesis 1 and 3, we switch places with him. When he sinned, his destiny, right, was the eternal fire. Jesus said, "Now the ruler of this world be cast out." We were the ruler, then our destiny became the lake of fire. He became the ruler and his destiny is here. He doesn't go to the lake of fire if Jesus doesn't go to the cross. And we simply stay here in a pitiful state with nothing. But since He went to the cross, now everything is restored. We get Jerusalem, we get a new heaven, we get a new earth, we get a whole new thing. We are given back, we're not driven out, we're put in. He's now driven out and anybody that refuses what Jesus did on the cross, they go where he goes. Obviously when you read Revelation 20 and Matthew 25 God's intent for us was never the eternal fire. It's only when we line up with what he tells us instead of what the Holy Spirit tells us, we're back to John 10:10. That we then endure his destiny. If he had kept Jesus off the cross, he would have won. This would have been his world. We would have been in his domain. And he would never have seen the lake of fire. But by Jesus dying on the cross, everything is restored and now we can have back a world we were driven out of and have back a Father we were driven from. He eternally has lost everything because of what Jesus did on the cross. So the reason he fights Jesus, he really doesn't care about you one lick, but he does care about his own destiny. And this is why he fought Jesus on the cross.

Now let me walk you through a couple other things. Matthew 4:1 – 10. And I'll let you ask some questions here in a minute. Now we all know this. I'm not going to look at the whole thing.

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²After fasting 40 days and 40 nights, He was hungry. ³The tempter came to Him, "Son of God command that these stones become loaves of bread." ⁴Jesus answered, "It is written,...." ⁵Devil took Him to the holy city and set Him on the pinnacle, ⁶"If You're the Son of God, throw Yourself down;....." ⁷Jesus said, "It is written, 'You shall not put the Lord God to the test.'" ⁸He took Him up, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; ⁹and he said to Him, "All these things I will give you, if You fall down and worship me." ¹⁰Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, for it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'"

Now I want you to be clear, OK. You've got satan and Jesus. Now the other interesting thing in the Bible for me, the Bible never proves the existence of God. It just says in Genesis 1, In the beginning, God. It just makes that assumption. It never proves the existence of satan. It gives you the same assumption. He is there. He is alive. He knows you. And if he doesn't, he has beings that do know you. We're going to look at that next time we meet. It's a little bit bothering, but I think you need to understand some things. So he comes to Jesus and he tries to get Him to eat. It had been 40 days. Jesus certainly has the power to turn the stones into bread. But here's what I want you to understand. There are some, like I hate, the New Christian Standard Bible, which is put out by Southern Baptists. There's your first rule. If we put it out, don't buy it. Because in that, it talks about recite instead of meditate. The assumption I've run into with Christians is, "Well all I have to do is quote Scripture and it will conquer satan because that's what Jesus did." No, no, no, no, no. He knows the Bible better than you do. He knows it better than I

do. Quoting it, he likes, because he will twist it. Jesus didn't quote it back to him. That was not what conquered satan. What conquered satan is Jesus stood on it. He could have turned the stones into bread, but why didn't He? Because His Father had not given Him the authority to do it. So He's living in submission to the Father. And so in doing that He stood on that submission. When he says, "Why don't You cast Yourself down?" Jesus is protected by the Father, but He's not going to make the Father protect Him. And then when he offers Him the kingdoms of the world, obviously when you go back to Genesis 1 through 3, that offer was legit. He could have given us to him, but Jesus would have had to have bowed. And so Jesus refused that and said, "Nope, I'll take the cross for them. I will not bow to you." So the reason He conquered satan is because He didn't just quote the word, He stood on it. You cannot conquer satan by quoting the word to him. You're going to have to stand on it. When you stand on it, he has zero power over your life.

Now you do face a problem. Go to 1 Peter 5:8 – 9. Now listen to what he says.

⁸Be sober minded, be watchful. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹But resist him, firm in your faith,

That's exactly what Jesus did. So you have an enemy who is seeking you. In other words, what He's proactive. He's not reactive to you. He's proactive to you. He is seeking to destroy you and God allows some of this. I want you to look at Luke 22:31 – 34. Jesus has finished the Passover. The disciples are whining about who the best is. Jesus makes a really unusual statement.

³¹"Simon, Simon, behold, satan demanded to have you that he might sift you like wheat; ³²but I prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." ³³Peter said, "Oh, Lord, I'm ready to go to prison or death!" ³⁴And He said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster will not crow this day until you deny three times that you know Me."

Satan asked for Peter. God gave Peter to him partially. Jesus said, "I prayed that your faith won't fail when you return." He doesn't pray that you won't deny Me. He's already told him he's going to deny Him. What He's praying for is that after satan sifts him that the faith he has in Jesus will win out over the sifting. He doesn't pray that he won't be sifted. He prays that whatever sifting satan's going to bring will not destroy Peter's life. The sifting was vicious. You need to remember, and again we'll talk about this when we look at demons, and I don't mean to be frightening, but I do think you need to understand the depth of what you face. You have an enemy that's after you and there are parts where God says, "OK." He allows him certain access in your life. He did the same thing with Job. He allowed him access to his family, to his possessions, and to him partially. When Peter, when they came to get Jesus, right, Peter said, "I'll go to prison and then to death." He pulls his sword out, he fights, he takes a stand, a courageous stand. You've got to remember these guys are fishermen. Now this wasn't fly fishing and rod and reel fishing. They took a cast net, threw it in the sea, and then they pulled that cast net every day. These guys were stout. So Peter takes the sword out, whacks them, and says, "Bring it on." Jesus makes him put the sword up. And now, all of a sudden, he's terrified. He's even terrified of a little tiny slave girl who says, "You were one of them." And he begins to curse Jesus. What's the difference? Because when they first come up, he's facing men. But when satan said, "I want to sift him." All those demons that went after Jesus in the Garden, some of them stopped and went after Peter. And he couldn't handle it and he was sifted. However, and if you'll remember in Luke 22, we looked at it a couple

weeks ago when we looked at Peter, he looks up, Jesus' eyes meet his eyes, and he's broken. And Jesus' prayer works because when you stand at that point in the Sea of Galilee, when Jesus says, "Do you love me?" "Yes." "Feed my sheep." "Do you love me?" "Yes." "Feed my sheep." "Do you love me?" "Yes." "Feed my sheep." And he says, "Absolutely." Jesus' prayer worked. He was sifted by satan, but Jesus' prayer pulled him out of the sifting. So satan did, and he has, now one thing I want you to understand then, you cannot keep satan from tempting you. I don't know where we get these ideas we have. But I see people all the time when I used to do a lot of youth revivals, and they'd have people that would walk into the church, and they'd walk down between the pews and they'd say, "Jesus, remove the demons from this pew. Jesus, remove the demons from this pew." You can't do that. You can't remove them from Jesus. You can't remove them from you. He will request daily something to do with your life that God will allow. It's interesting to me, though, the Bible says in Hebrews that Jesus intercedes for us daily. He does for us what He did for Peter. As satan requests and God allows, our Savior intercedes. Which is why we conquer instead of being destroyed. So you have the very same thing here in our own life.

Now one last thing. We won't go here, but Revelation 12:9 – 10, it says he is the accuser of the brothers. That goes back to devil. He's your accuser. So he does two things as your adversary and he's your accuser. So is the Holy Spirit. We talked a few weeks ago about the grief of the Holy Spirit. What's the Holy Spirit doing when you sense His grief? What's He doing? He's accusing you of what you're doing; not reflecting the glory of the Father. What's the difference? The Holy Spirit's grief brings you back to forgiveness and restoration. The accusation of the enemy drives you into guilt and fear and failure. And it's our age where we struggle with that. I've told you before and it's never failed, I've been here 33 years, the thing I'm going to miss the most actually are Wednesday afternoons with the kids. I go through the same questions every time I have a little guy or little girl in my office. Have you sinned? Do you know what sin is? Yes. Give me an example. And here's the next two questions I always ask. Does God like your sin? No. Does He like you? Yes. I've never had a kid ever think that God doesn't like them. I have a ton of adults, some of you in this room, that struggle with that because continual over the years accusations take their toll. Continual yielding to the grief of the Holy Spirit creates forgiveness and holiness. So if you listen to the accuser, you'll believe the wrong thing about the Father. If you listen to the grief and the joy of the Holy Spirit, you'll believe the right thing about the Father.

Now one last thing. Ephesians 2:1 – 2. Go there like you know where it is.

¹You were dead in the trespasses and sins, ²in which you once walked following the course of this world,

Literally the age of this world. That would be the culture that you're living in. The world doesn't change, but the culture in the world changes. As a matter of fact, if you grew up in my day, culture change in a society was about every 20 or 30 years. In your day, the cultural change is every 5 to 7 years. It's a massive difference. Now listen to what he says:

The course of this world following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit is now at work in the sons of disobedience.

You have a culture controlled by satan. This is why, so he has two elements that he uses to pull you away from the truth of Christ. We started with John 10:10 – the thief comes to steal, kill, and

destroy. I have come that men might have life and have it abundantly. You can live an abundant life. You can be wrecked by satan. And the way you're wrecked by satan is two tools. He has his demons that are around you now in this room. He equally has a culture, and we worry about what people think, and so the culture with the demons, he uses to pull us away from the Father. This is powerful. And the problem is, the church has failed miserably in this. When I walked through this, when I was in Colorado as a kid, a young man in my class, Martin Theo, called me and said, "Hey, dad wants to take us to the car racing place." I said, "Man that'd be great." But I was leery of going with Martin as was every other kid in our class leery of Martin. This is like fourth grade. We're all a little scared of Martin because he's the only kid in our school whose parents are divorced. Because the culture in that day was controlled by satan. You should stay in a marriage no matter what. You say, "Well that's exactly what the Bible says." No, it does not say that. And the problem is the church embraced the cultural view instead of the Biblical view. So that what happened was, we said to people who left their marriage, we put them on the back row of the church, we criticized them, we attacked them. I know this because it's exactly what I did in my early years of preaching. What happened is, we became the accuser of the brother by adopting what our culture taught us instead of what the Bible said. All of a sudden into this affront comes James Dobson who begins to talk about the difference between men and women, that men should love their wives as Christ loved the church. We have never envisioned that. It ended for me when in my first church I had a young lady call me and she said, "I want to come see you with my husband. He wants to leave me." She had two little girls, 4 and 2, this is why I began to realize what an idiot I have been. We get in the room, I look at him, and I go, "So your wife tells me you want to leave." Now this is the whole conversation. He looks at me and he goes, "Look, man, I don't want to be here. She's a great wife. She's a great mother. She's a great friend. She's a great, godly Christian. She's a great member of your church. I don't want to be here anymore. I'm out." Walked out of the room, never went back home. Now it hit me obviously as an idiot, if I had not been in that room and heard that, when I heard she was divorced, I would have accused her because she was divorced. Because the culture and the Bible said, you stay together no matter what. What the Bible says is not that you stay together no matter what. It says, women you submit to your husband as holy in the Lord. And men you love your wives as Christ loved the church. And inside that domain, you build a home that represents the church and the value of Jesus Christ. That is not what I preached early on in my life and I was bought into the culture and I became an accuser of the brethren instead of the grief and joy of the Holy Spirit, a redeemer of the brethren. And I hope I've made that shift in my life today.

So he controls the culture so even when the culture seems like it might be in line with Christianity, it's not. That's why it is insane that we are driven politically to try to fix our culture. You cannot fix a culture he owns. I think you ought to vote. I think you ought to vote for the right person. I get all that. And you need to speak and you need to stand, but at the end of the day, he owns the culture. It's his world until Jesus comes back.

Questions

- Q. When you bring up the cherubim, the seraphim, the angels, and the four living beings, is that a ranking?
- A. No. It is a ranking in this sense, men, I think the cherubim outrank the seraphim probably since satan was a cherub. I think they probably outranked the angels. But that's my theory. Where these guys fit, I don't have any idea. It was just in the New Testament. It does seem to hint to me that God created other things we don't know about.
- A. Yeah, and I can't remember what it translates as, but again, it's the same kind of deal. They're all titles. Really, they're more adjectives about who he is. Son of the morning star. That sort of thing. That would be more of a description of Christ. And so the idea was he was Christ-like, but neglected that.
- A. It's both. Romans 8 talks about the Holy Spirit. Hebrews talks about Jesus. So both are interceding for us to the Father. Holy Spirit intercedes based on Romans 8 when you don't know how. Jesus intercedes in this position. So I think the intercessions are different.
- A. Yeah, as a matter of fact, in Isaiah 53, it says it was the Lord's will to put Him to grief. Jesus said to Judas, "The Son of Man goes as it is written of Him, but woe to the man through whom He is betrayed." What happens is, satan fights Him in Gethsemane. And then after that he begins to do everything he can to attack Him. If you listen to them on the cross, what do they say to Him on the cross? "If You're the Christ come down." If He steps off that cross 5 minutes before the six hours, He has to stand there. We're not redeemed and satan wins. So absolutely. And he does everything he can to torture Him. Psalms indicate that Judas; it talks about Jesus' best friend betraying Him. So it's an interesting thing. Judas probably should have been Paul and we'd have never heard the name. Judas would have written 13 books and done three missionary journeys.
- A. No, it makes total sense. You will sense your attack by satan. It's interesting, and I'm not being funny here, but if you'll notice, when you really try to get in concerted prayer, you'll find the same demonic attack the disciples found. You'll be sleeping. It's exactly what they faced. So, yeah, absolutely and so I think this is what I'm saying. You have to deal with that. Galatians 5:16 does say, if we walk in the Spirit we can't gratify the lust of the flesh. That's why the key to me is if I can get to the place in my quiet time where the Holy Spirit is speaking to me, it's far more difficult for him to dog me. It's interesting to me as well, if you think about, OK. If we go back to Isaiah, Ezekiel, two things about him, and I think we sense this, there are times when I sense him in a room and I feel. Let me back up. There are times I've gone in a room and just thought, this is wrong. So why do I yield to him? Because he has this perfect composite of beauty and corruption. He's still as beautiful as he was. So he's still appealing. I have to live my life as best I can where the grief of the Holy Spirit makes me feel his corruption and not yield to his beauty.
- A. I don't think so. That's a good question. Can I verbally say what Jesus said, "Get behind me satan."? No. Because in the book of Jude, Michael, the arch angel of God who probably took satan's place in that hierarchy, is arguing with the devil about the body of Moses. And

he makes the statement that he wouldn't dare rebuke satan, but he simply said, "The Lord rebuke you." So even the archangel of God doesn't jack with him. He's that powerful. So I don't think we can tell him what to do. I think my response is, I just lean on the Holy Spirit and when I lean on the Holy Spirit, he's got to face the Spirit, not me. He's not afraid of me, but he is real afraid of the third person of the Trinity.

A. You do speak the name, but I think you've got to trust the name.

Q. If satan chose to go his own way before man was created, but if sin hadn't entered the world then how was satan able to sin in the presence of God?

A. OK. I think the question makes great sense and it's a really simple answer. Satan has fallen and drummed out of heaven before we're created. And then he's allowed to be our tempter after his failure. There are two different kinds of sin because there are two different kinds of beings. He sinned by choice without allowing. I sin by choice by being allowed. Redemption's offered to me; it's not offered to him. No, it was perfect, but somehow he, out of his beauty and his wisdom, deluded himself that, "I can conquer that Being." You wonder how he could think he could conquer Him, but for me, I've always gone back to the idea, we're so caught up in our sin, He's so passionately in love with us, I think satan may have sensed such a deep love in that Being he thought, He'll back down. I can take Him out. I think the love overwhelmed his understanding of who He was. And then he brought the sin in his own life and with the others. I think God's compassion and love made them think, "I can take Him."

Q. That's why in the beginning of Genesis it says darkness over the earth and is the darkness.....

A. No. That's a theory. There is a theory that the world, and it goes back to her question. There's a theory that the world's created in perfection. Satan fell and then God had to redo it. No. It's simply darkness means He hadn't created light yet for the world. No. That is not a reference to satanic fall. There are some that say that. The Hebrew word is unique. It can be used to create out of something. So there is some debate there, but I don't go there.

Q. Can satan hear our prayers and thoughts?

A. Oh, goodness, yes. If he can't, he's the best guesser in the world. I mean, absolutely. I have heard he can't. And I finally pinned one guy down one day. I said, "Where in the Bible does it say that?" "Well he just can't." "Where in the Bible?" "Well he can't." "Where in the Bible?!" It's nowhere in there. Ephesians 2, further down from what we read tonight. It says that Christ placed us in the heavens. It talks about in Job the sons, like Job, came and marched before the Father. Once we got saved, we're now in a realm where he lives. We're in the realm where the angels live. We're in the realm where the demons live. We're in a realm and he is active. You have demons, I'll show you this next time we meet, you have demons that are around you now and they are listening to you and they affect your prayer life by how you pray. So absolutely they can hear.

Q. So Satan's not omnipresent, but you're saying he is omniscient?

A. No! No, no, no, no, no. Three things that characterize God. He's omniscient; He knows everything. He's omnipotent; He's all powerful. He's omnipresent; He's everywhere. Satan is none of the three. He is not omniscient. That's why he has demons. As a matter of fact, my bet is very few people actually encounter him. Billy Graham probably did. Somebody like that. I would think James Dobson. Franklin Graham. I doubt I ever have. I've encountered his imps. But most of us he's not bothering with. He's going after the big guns. If he goes, he's got enough guys with him to do what he needs to do.

Q. Did God know he was going to fall?

A. Absolutely He knew. So why did He make him? You know what you're doing with that question? You know what you're doing? You're sinning. No, no, no. I'm really serious. The question, you're putting the way you are on to Him. If I knew Satan was going to sin, I wouldn't create him. God, because of the rich, passionate love He possesses, created what He created no matter what He knew. His foreknowledge never determines His decision. It does with us, and so we put that on Him and anytime we put what we are on Him, except in the image of God, we violate Scripture. He's the only Being that would do that. So He knew, but it didn't affect Him.

A. I don't want to help my kids discern that difference. It's like sex. I want them to stay in their innocence as long as they can. I would give, it's one of the things, let me see if I can remember exactly where I am with this. He prays for them to, OK, he says in Ephesians 3, I want you to know the height, width, depth, length of the love of God to know the super abundance of the love of God that you might be filled with all the fullness of God. I would read them those verses, Ephesians 3:14 – 20. As a matter of fact, it is a prayer you're supposed to pray for your children. Because of this I bow my knees to the Father out of whom every family in heaven and upon the earth is named. You want to pray that. As a matter of fact, it's interesting. This is what I'm looking for. This is my Greek New Testament. In 17 it says, that Christ might dwell through faith in your hearts. In love rooted and built up. He uses two metaphors. He uses a metaphor for farming that a plant is rooted in the ground. He uses a metaphor for construction that a building has a foundation. He uses both of those. Which if you grow up in this day, you're agrarian, you understand planting and you understand building a house. He says, "I want you to know at the very basis of where God is, He loves you." I would pray that over my children. Now I would specifically pray that part of the prayer that they understand at the very foundation of God, is the intense love He has for them. That's where I would go. And you're praying biblically, because that's what Paul prayed for the Ephesians. Ephesians 3:14.