

Satan

When we go to the market and purchase, say, an apple. It is very good when it's ripe off the tree. But, when it's left to age, it **becomes** bad and loses its first "goodness". Thus it is with Satan. He was created good but became evil, but of his own accord. That's where "choice" enters. We were not created as robots who obey every command without choice. Because that's where love comes in. God showed His love for us by giving us the choice to love Him through our obedience to Him. We return that love by obeying Him. Choices have with them, consequences.

Satan, the angel.

Job 38:4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. 5 Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or Who hath stretched the line upon it? 6 Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or Who laid the corner stone thereof; J7 When the **morning stars** sang (*Heb.7442- to creak [or emit a stridulous {Webster: strident- shrill} sound], that is, to shout [usually for joy]*) together, and all **the sons of God shouted** (*Heb.7321- figuratively to split the ears [with sound], that is, shout [for alarm or joy]: -make a joyful noise*) **for joy?** (*Emp. Added*)

"This must refer to some intelligent beings who existed before the creation of the visible heavens and earth: and it is supposed that this and the following clause refer to the same beings; that by the sons of God, and the morning stars, the angelic host is meant; as they are supposed to be first, though perhaps not chief, in order of creation."
Adam Clarke

Man was/is the focus of creation. Satan would have been among the hosts of Heaven who welcomed the founding of the physical creation. He determined his own destiny, via his choice, to ultimately become the beginning of the end for all of mankind's physical existence on earth. But because of His omniscience, God knew Satan would be the one to fall and thus planned for it in advance.

Job 37:16 Dost thou know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of **Him which is perfect** (*Heb.8549- entire: -complete*) **in knowledge?**
(*Emp. Added*)

Gen 1:31 And God saw **everything** that He had made, and, behold, *it was* **very good**. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day. (*Emp. Added*)

"If God created everything, can it be said that He also created evil?" Evil is not something that originated with God. It would go against His righteous nature. For instance, God cannot lie, He didn't create the lie so He's not responsible for it*. It originated, by choice, with Satan, the first sinner. Thus Jesus refers to him as the "father" of the lie.

**Tit 1:2 In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;*

Joh 8:44 ... He (*Satan*) was a **murderer** from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his

own: for **he is a liar**, and the **father** (Gk.3962- Thayer: "...used of one [concerning an offspring] who shows himself [in this context, the liar] as like another [here, Satan] in spirit and purpose as though he had inherited his [the liar] nature [to sin] from him [Satan].") of it. (Emp. Added)

Gen 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

"Literally, a death thou shalt die; or, dying thou shalt die. Thou shalt not die only spiritually, by losing the life of God, but from that moment thou shalt become mortal, and continue in a dying state till thou die. This we find literally accomplished; every moment of man's life may be considered as an act of dying, till soul and body are separated. Other meanings have been given of this passage, but they are either fanciful or incorrect."
Adam Clarke

Satan's sin wasn't that he "murdered" Adam and Eve. His sin was his pride* that ultimately brought about their separation from the tree of life through their expulsion from Eden, the consequence of which brought about their mortality. Thus his subtle lie caused Eve to commit "the lust of the flesh...the lust of the eyes...the pride of life" (1 Jn 2:16).

2Co 11:3 But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve **through his subtilty**, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ. (Emp. Added)

*1Ti 3:6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with **pride** (Gk.5186- to envelope with smoke, that is, [figuratively] to inflate with self-conceit: -lifted up with pride, be proud) he fall into the **condemnation** (Gk.2917- a decision [the function or the effect, for or against 'crime']: -damnation, judgment) **of the devil**. (Emp. Added)

Evil, self-centered pride condemns. But not all pride is evil. For instance: the Gentiles were proud of the fact that the Jews fell so that they could be grafted into the vine, giving them access to Christ. It was evil for them to be proud of their gain through someone else's loss.

Rom 11:18 **Boast not against** the branches. But if thou boast, thou bearest not the root, but the root thee. (Emp. Added)

But Paul was proud of the fact that he was given such authority that would affect the edification of the church as a whole.

2Co 10:8 For though I should **boast** somewhat more of our authority, which the Lord hath given us for edification, and not for your destruction, I should not be ashamed: (Emp. Added)

Just as money, in and of itself is not evil, it can be used in such a way to make it so. When the pursuit of good intentions are perverted, as good as they may have originally been, they become sinful.

1Ti 6:9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the **love of** money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. *(Emp. Added)*

Evil feeds off of good. Without which it wouldn't exist. It is the antithesis, the exact opposite, of good. It cannot use "good" to condemn unless it perverts it.

Gal 5:22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: **against such there is no law.** *(Love, joy, etc., left alone without being perverted are good so there's no law against them that Satan can accuse us of to trick us into being separated from God. These are what bring us closer to God.) (Emp. Added)*

1Ti 1:8 But we know that the law is good, **if a man use it lawfully** *in other words, doesn't pervert it as many lawyers do*; 9 Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient... *(Emp. Added)*

But any righteous law can be perverted into causing disobedience to it.

Rom 7:7 What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? God forbid *(Certainly not! NKJV)*. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet. 8 But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence *(Gk.1939- a longing [especially for what is forbidden])*. For without the law sin *was* dead.

When the law says no, human nature say go! Satan took that one very simple righteous law that God gave to Adam and Eve and perverted it by telling them they would be as God to know good and evil.

1Co 15:56 The sting *(Gk.2759- [figuratively divine impulse] of death is sin (by God's righteousness, His response to sin is to punish it by way of death)*; and the strength of sin *is* the law.

"...if sin did not exist, death would not exist (sin is one of the things that gives death its on-going power)."
Brad Price

Gen 3:4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: 5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be **as gods, knowing good and evil.** *(Emp. Added)*

Gen 3:22 And the LORD God said, Behold, the man is become as one of Us, to know good and evil *(thus losing his innocence because he was seduced by his sinful rebellion)*: and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: 23 Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken.

Isa 5:20 Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

“Well if God is the One Who gave me this ‘choice’ it can be said that He made me this way and that it’s His fault that I sin?”

Rom 9:14 What shall we say then? *Is there* unrighteousness with God? God forbid. *(Certainly not! -NKJV)*

Eze 18:23 Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die? saith the Lord GOD: *and* not that he should return from his ways, and live?

Rom 9:20 Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed *it*, Why hast Thou made me thus? 21 Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the **same lump** to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour? 22 *What* if God, willing to shew *His* wrath, and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath fitted *(Gk.2675-to complete thoroughly, that is, repair or adjust: -prepare)* to destruction: *(Emp. Added)*

All mankind has been created from the “same lump”, we all have our beginning from Adam and the dust of the earth. Which means we all have the same choice! We were all given a part of God when we were formed in the womb but because of Adam’s sin that passed death down to each generation we also are born with the power to chose between right and wrong.

Rom 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh [*Gk.4561- human nature*],) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.

This is where Paul explains that God has given man choice; by implanting in us the will to chose between our human nature and His righteousness through having implanted His Own spiritual DNA in everyone. A child’s innocence proves this. One might ask: *“What if a person from a child grew up on a deserted island without the influences of society to taint that innocence, would that give him a sense of right and wrong since there would be nothing to compare that inner conscience to?”* Life itself gives us the sense of what’s right and what’s wrong through the consequences of trial and error. Because of the sin that Satan introduced to the world, a conscience, the knowledge of good and evil, is passed on to each of us at birth. As we mature that knowledge of good and evil causes us to chose between the two.

Rom 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: *(Born innocent, once we mature to know good and evil, we sin. Everyone born dies. But we need to die in innocence. As a child of God!)*

Rom 5:18 Therefore as by the offence of one *judgment came* upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of One *the free gift came* upon all men unto justification of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of One shall many be made righteous.

The Plan and Ransom

Before giving the choice of whether to love Him or not, God had a plan through which man's obedience accesses him to Divine forgiveness once we are disobedient. This plan was/is not available to the hosts of Heaven since **faith** is necessary to obtain it. They didn't need faith since they were in the presence of God all along. We need faith because we've never seen God, personally, but through the cross of Christ.

Joh 14:7 If ye had known Me, ye should have known My Father also: and from henceforth ye know Him, and have seen Him. *(Those of faith see God through our relationship to Christ.)*

Heb 11:1 Now faith is the substance of **things hoped for**, the **evidence** of **things not seen**. *(Emp. Added)*

Jud 1:6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, He hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

Angels never had a "probationary" period. We do. Ours begins the moment we discover the difference between good and evil and ends at death. We will have made our choice in the life. In Heaven, evil won't exist because Satan won't be there. In Hell, righteousness won't exist because God won't be there. Choosing to do evil here we make the choice to be in Hell in the first place.

1Co 13:12 For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known. 13 And **now abideth faith, hope, charity**, these three; but the greatest of these is **charity** *(which will follow us into eternity)*.

But how was that plan implemented and how was the ransom paid to redeem mankind from his slavery to sin? What did God have that could be given as payment for the ransom since sin requires an ultimate sacrifice? Man's intellect had to be prepared to accept what God would ultimately offer for his ransom. Thus the sacrificial system which required the very best, purest and most prized blood sacrifice for a "*sweet smelling savor*" unto the Lord. It began at the expulsion of Adam and Eve from the garden and ended when He gave that One sacrifice that would end all sacrifices.

Gen 4:4 And Abel, he also brought of the **firstlings** of his flock and of the **fat** *(Heb.2459- richest or choice part)* thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: *(Emp. Added)*

Lev 4:27 And if any one of the common people sin through ignorance, while he doeth *somewhat against* any of the commandments of the LORD *concerning things* which ought not to be done, and be guilty; 28 Or if his sin, which he hath sinned, come to his knowledge: then he shall bring his offering, a kid of the goats, a female **without blemish**, for his sin which he hath sinned. 29 And he shall lay his hand upon the head of the sin offering, and slay the sin offering in the place of the burnt offering. 30 And the priest shall take of the blood thereof with his finger, and put it upon the horns of the altar of burnt offering, and shall pour out all the blood thereof at the bottom of the altar. 31 And he shall take away all the fat thereof, as

the fat is taken away from off the sacrifice of peace offerings; and the priest shall burn *it* upon the altar **for a sweet savour unto the LORD**; and the priest shall make an atonement for him, and it shall be forgiven . (*Emp. Added*)

So, again, what did God have that He could give as ransom to redeem man back to Him? What could He surrender as an atoning blood sacrifice since nothing He possessed contained blood? Remember, that's what He required as a sweet smelling savor before He could accept the repentance of any Israelite. Since in order for a sacrifice to be valid for the removal of sins it couldn't belong to someone else either.

It can be said that God owns everything, which He does. But everything physical once offered cannot continue to remove sin.

Heb 10:3 But in those *sacrifices there is* a remembrance again *made* of sins every year.

1Sa 15:21 But the people took of the spoil, sheep and oxen, the chief of the things which should have been utterly destroyed, to sacrifice unto the LORD thy God in Gilgal. 22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD *as great* delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, *and* to hearken than the fat of rams.

The sacrifice had to come from God. But nothing of God, because of His eternal nature, can die! An angel couldn't become flesh and blood for God to sacrifice since angels are created beings and thus not eternal. So God had to become flesh (*through Jesus*) in order to sacrifice the best, purest and most prized possession He could offer for ransom to purchase man back to Himself!

Heb 2:14 Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of **flesh and blood**, He also Himself likewise **took part of the same**; that **through death** He might **destroy him** that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. (*Emp. Added*)

Isa 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a Man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were *our* faces from Him; He was despised, and we esteemed Him not. 4 Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. 5 But He *was* **wounded for our transgressions**, *He was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath **laid on Him the iniquity of us all**. 17 He was oppressed, and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth: He is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so He openeth not His mouth. (*Emp. Added*)

Isa 53:10 Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He hath put *Him* to grief: when *H*hou shalt make His soul an offering for sin, He shall see *His* seed, He shall prolong *His* days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in His hand.

Joh 3:16 For God so loved the world, that **He gave** His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17 For God

sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved. *(Emp. Added)*

Act 20:28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, **which He hath purchased with His own blood.** *(Emp. Added)*

Col 2:13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath He quickened together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 14 **Blotting out** the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, **nailing it to His cross;** *(Emp. Added)*

Because of his becoming the first sinner through his own pride in convincing Eve to sin through his subtility, Satan brought death upon all mankind. He has had the power of death since and through convincing man to continue that road to destruction Someone had to stop him. That Someone had to have a plan to redeem man from the fear of death but through sacrificing His best, His pure and only begotten Son.

1Jn 4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation *(Gk.2434- atonement)* for our sins.

Our salvation is based on our own choice as to whether we serve Him through our obedience to His will and receive life or serve Satan by being disobedient to the simple Gospel plan of salvation and receive death. God offers life, Satan offers death.

Rom 6:16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?

The simple Gospel plan of salvation.

Hear: Rom 10:14 ...”how shall they believe in Him Whom they have not heard?”

Believe: Heb 11:6 ...”for he that commeth to God must believe that He is...”

Repent: Act 3:19 ...”Repent... be converted, that your sins may be blotted out...”

Confess: Rom 10:9... “if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe in thine heart that God raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.”

Be baptized: 1 Pet 3:21... “baptism doth also now save us...”

Remain faithful: 1 Cor 6:20... “For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify Gos in your body, and in your spirit, which are God’s.”

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