

"From the cowardice that shrinks from new truth, from the laziness that is content with half-truths, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, O, God of Truth, deliver us."



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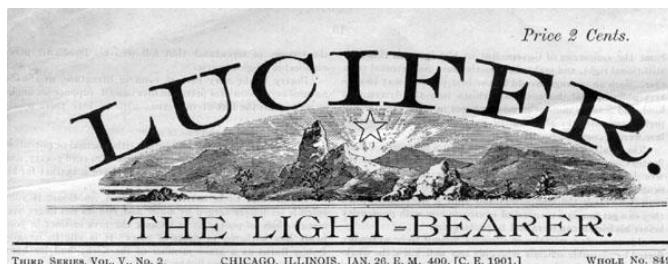
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Just Who Is Lucifer?



A text out of context becomes a pretext.

There are four good rules to keep this from happening when we study a passage of Scripture. Take the text of **Isaiah 14:12**, where someone is called "Lucifer". It is a good example of the value of using these four necessary hermeneutical principles.

These four questions are invaluable in Bible study:

1 - Who is speaking?

God is speaking in this passage.

2 - To whom is He speaking?

He is speaking to the nation of Israel.

3 - For what purpose is He speaking?

God has several purposes we will show for His command to take up a parable against the King of Babylon.

4 - In what period of time is he speaking?

This is during the captivity of Israel in bondage to Babylon's kings.

First - He wishes to encourage Israel by promising they will have rest and not always be captives in bondage; but some day they would rule over their oppressors and Babylon's city of gold would cease and be destroyed.

Second - He wants them to take up a parable or taunting speech against the king of Babylon because God will break the staff of the wicked and the scepter of their rulers.

The king, who smote his people in wrath and ruled the nations in anger, will be persecuted. The world will be at rest from Babylon's King, and God's people will be singing because of what God will do to this tyrant. In fact, the trees used for war purposes will rejoice that no feller of trees will be cutting them down with intentions for war by Babylon.

Third - The grave is preparing for the King of Babylon's coming and the other kings and leaders who have already died will wonder at the King of Babylon's coming to where they are in Hades.

Fourth - The dead kings will mock and ask the King of Babylon, "Are you as weak as we are? Have you the same fate as we? You have lost your pomp, your music, and the worms will crawl all over and under you".

Fifth - They mock him and say "How are you fallen from Heaven oh day star or morning star?" (Jerome put the Latin word in his translation and called him "Lucifer", "light bringer", or "light bearer".)

How could you fall down to the ground which did weaken the nations? (In other words, you who thought you were the highest and greatest star, how could you fall to the ground like an ordinary man?)

Sixth - They repeat back to him his boasting arrogance. You used to say in your heart these five great boasts:

1 - I will ascend into heaven.

2 - I will exalt my throne above the stars of God.

3 - I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation.

4 - I will ascend above the clouds.

5 - I will be like the most high.

"But the truth is, you shall be brought down to hell to the sides of the pit like a mortal. People will see you and say, 'is this the man that made the earth to tremble, and did shake Kingdoms? Didn't he make the world a wilderness and destroy cities and never set his captives free?' You will not have a burial memorial of glory of your own. You are cast out of a grave like a worthless branch, or the soiled garment of one murdered by a sword. You are in a pit of stones, a mere despised carcass trodden underfoot without the burial of a king and you will never be renowned. Your family will be slaughtered nor will they succeed you. Your land will be destroyed." (This is paraphrased for brevity)

It is this taunting parable of the king of Babylon that has been perverted to teach that Satan is Lucifer. It is the King of Babylon that is addressed here and he is the one to whom these words refer. He thought he was the morning star or the day star. So how did such a great star fall as the parable goes ahead and shows his terrible end? This was the dead king's question to the King of Babylon. He

thought the sun rose and fell upon him. Yet he is delivered to blackness of the pit.

Let me make sure you understand a taunting parable. Suppose there was a proud and arrogant General who was "getting too big for his britches", as men used to say. His name is General Smith, but I say to him "General Napoleon, you may think that God is always on the side of the largest battalion but one of these days you're going to meet your Waterloo." What is true of Napoleon's speech and attitude is the thinking of General Smith and so I tell him his fate. I call him Napoleon, yet he is not Napoleon but only imagines himself to be like the great general. My taunting, mocking parable should warn him of his pride lest he share his hero's fate.

This mocking, taunting parable shows the thinking, dreaming, imagining, goals and the self-assuming pride of the King of Babylon. It is the same as Satan's, yet neither the King nor Satan are the morning star or day star. The kings in Hades only mocked him calling him the name of morning star or day star, the names he assumed himself to be. Remember how Jesus said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan...?" Peter was not Satan, he was just acting like him.

They remembered how the King had boasted of himself. The five "I wills" that he "boasted" became the one reality, "You shall be brought down to hell." It is true the King and Satan shall share the same fate but neither one are the great personage they imagined themselves to be.

Now keep in mind the word "Lucifer" is not a Hebrew word and only used once in the KJV Bible. It is a Latin word used by Jerome that ended up years later in our English Bible. It has caused the great confusion along with the fact that men never understood that this was a taunting parable.

The Hebrew word is "*heylel*" (Strong's 01966), which means "brightness or morning star or day star". "*Heylel*" is used only once in the KJV Bible. The Latin word "Lucifer" means "light bearer" or "light bringer". This poor translation exposes two great errors.

First – That Lucifer is not the name of Satan. He is never called Lucifer in the Bible. He is certainly not a light giver or light bearer. He passes himself off as an angel of light but is a deceiver as are his angels. **2 Corinthians 11:13-15**, "13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14 And no marvel; **for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light**. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."

He certainly deceived Eve with his lie, not truth.

But looking at the Scriptures will show you that Jesus is the light, not Satan. Feast on these Scriptures:

Revelation 22:16, "I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. **I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.**"

2 Peter 1:19, "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, **and the day star arise in your hearts.**"

Revelation 2:28, "And I will give him **the morning star.**" (Who would want the devil?)

John 1:7-9, "7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all *men* through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was *sent* to bear witness of that Light. 9 *That* was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world."

Isaiah 9:2, "The people that walked in darkness **have seen a great light:** they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, **upon them hath the light shined.**"

Isaiah 60:1-2, "1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. 2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: **but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.**"

John 8:12, "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.**"

Matthew 4:16, "The people which sat in darkness **saw great light;** and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death **light is sprung up.**"

Satan, on the other hand, is the prince of darkness and demons. His kind are called "...wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever." **Jude 13**

Second - This translation has not only caused the devil to be called by one of the Holy names of Christ (day star or morning star), but has caused some to teach the blasphemous doctrine that Jesus and Satan are the same identity. If you do not believe this is true, I suggest you do a little reading on your internet. There are over a dozen sites claiming this lie. Since they know both Jesus and Satan are called the "morning star", "day star", or "light bringer", it has caused some to worship Satan. Cults, atheists, and lodges have fallen into Satan's subtle attempt to be pictured as the morning star or light bringer.

So who is Lucifer? The Latin word, "Lucifer", should not have been substituted for "morning star" or "day star". It is an illegitimate word and since it only appears once in Scripture, and does not refer to Satan but the supposed aspiration of the King of Babylon, it would be better forgotten.

Jesus is the true day star or morning star, He says so. He is the light of the world and the true light giver. Don't flatter Satan by calling him "Lucifer"; he is no "light bringer".