

# What Missionary Baptists Believe About...

## The Doctrine of the Devil

1. Is there such a creature?
  - a. Some claim him to be a myth.
2. We believe in the reality of his existence.
  - a. To deny his reality is to deny the truth of God's Word.
  - b. His work is found in every book in the Bible.
  - c. Job 1:6-8 – The Lord talked with him in the OT
  - d. Luke 4:3,4 – Jesus talked with him in the NT.
3. Since the Bible shows him as the archenemy of God, it is vital that we know all we can about him if we plan to follow God.

### I. THE REALITY OF SATAN

1. We believe he exists because the Bible tells to be ready and on guard for his attacks. I Pet 5:8
  - a. God's people have been given armour as protection against his attacks. Eph 6:11
2. The Scriptures refer to Satan by many names.
  - a. He is called "Adversary". I Peter 5:8
  - b. He is called "Devil". Matt 4:1
  - c. He is called "Beelzebub" – prince of demons. Mt 12:24,27
  - d. He is called "Satan". Zec 3:1
  - e. He is called the "god of this world". II Cor 4:4
  - f. He is called "liar & murderer". John 8:44
  - g. He is called "Prince of this world". John 12:31

### II. THE ORIGIN OF SATAN

1. We do not believe that Satan is Divine, as God is Divine, but he is a creation of God. Ez 28:11-19
  - a. Full of wisdom, perfect in beauty. vs 12
  - b. Was in the Garden of Eden, the Garden of God. vs 13
  - c. He was the Anointed Cherub. vs 14
  - d. He was created sinless. vs 15
  - e. His wisdom and beauty were his downfall. vs 16

### III. THE FALL OF SATAN

1. Missionary Baptists do not believe that God created evil.
  - a. Isaiah 45:7 – Create (Strong's 1254 – to cut down, dispatch)
  - b. When God created the angels and all that had originally been created, there was no sin or evil in the universe.
  - c. Angels were created with a choice; to either follow God or their own will.
  - d. When Satan chose to follow his own will, he fell and introduced sin into the universe.
2. Satan sought to dethrone and destroy God. Is 14:13
3. The scriptures declare that the cause was pride. Ez 28:17; Is 14:12-14; Proverbs 16:18; I Cor 10:12

#### IV. THE RESULTS OF SATAN'S FALL

1. Satan introduced sin into the universe and the earth. Is 14:13,14; Gen 3:1-6
2. Satan introduced death to the world. Heb 2:14
  - a. But God gave life. John 3:16; Rom 6:23
3. Satan introduced both confusion and strife, but God brought peace and order. I Cor 14:33; James 3:16,17
4. Satan ruined the earth. Gen 1:1,2; Jer 4:23-28
  - a. But God will make a new one. Rev 21:1

#### V. SATAN'S PRESENT POSITION

1. He is in a position of ruler-ship and authority.
  - a. He has a kingdom, indicating his authority & power. Mt 12:26
  - b. He is called the "Prince of the power of the air". Eph 2:2
  - c. He is called the "Prince of this world". John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11
  - d. He is called the "god of this world". II Cor 4:3,4
2. Satan uses his influence to corrupt & destroy.
  - a. He ensnares people. I Tim 3:7
  - b. He influences people to wicked acts. John 13:2; Acts 5:3
  - c. He blinds men's hearts. II Cor 4:3,4
  - d. He takes away the good seed of the Word. Mk 4:15
  - e. He sows tares among the wheat. Mt 13:25
  - f. He will give power to the anti-Christ. II Thes 2:9
  - g. He harasses the servants of God. II Cor 12:7; Job 1:13-19; II Tim 3:12
  - h. He sifts the servants of God. Luke 22:31
3. There are limitations placed upon Satan.
  - a. Satan is supernatural, but he is finite
    1. He is wiser & stronger than man
    2. Through his demons, his influence is in all places at all times
  - b. Satan only has the power that God allows him to have. Job 1:10-12; 2:6

#### VI. THE DOOM OF SATAN

1. The wages of sin is death; Satan has it coming to him. Rom 6:23
2. The fact of his doom is prophesied in Eden. Gen 3:15
3. The place of his doom is prophesied. Is 14:15
4. The nature of his doom is foretold by Christ. Mt 25:41
5. The time of his doom is after the millennial reign of Christ. Rev 20:7-10
6. The duration of his doom is eternal. Rev 20:10
7. His doom is certain because of the work that was fulfilled by Jesus Christ. Heb 2:14, Rev 20:15; Rev 21:4

Conclusion: We believe that the devil should be taken seriously. The Christian should be sober, vigilant and watchful of the wiles of the devil (I Pet 5:8). We should take on, learn and use the armour that God has given use (Eph 6:10-19). We praise God that through the work of Christ, Satan's doom is certain, and that our end can be changed.