The Fall of Lucifer

Isaiah 14:3-17
4-24-2023

Introduction: We are not alone . . .
There is more to life than what you see with your eyes, hear with your ears, or touch with your hands.
If God was to open our eyes as to what is going on in the spirit world, we would be amazed!
2 Kings 6:15

Isaiah 14 describes God's Judgment against the **King of Babylon** (context [13:19-22] indicates that this is an end-time Babylon as Revelation 17-18 describes)
Though describing the "king of Babylon" God is speaking of the ruler behind the ruler; **See Daniel 10:8-19**

Isaiah 14:11 – Pomp = Pride
"Lucifer" – Shining One; Light bearer; 2Co 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.
"how art thou cut down to the ground" – This is the question which the Lord will answer. How did Satan fall?

Satan's downfall was PRIDE!

Note the 5 "I Wills" of Lucifer:

I. *Lucifer's Pride is marked by a Pursuit of* Pre-eminence (v.13)

II. *Lucifer's Pride is marked by a Desire to* be Like God (v.14)

The Shock of the doomed at Lucifer's fall (v.15-20)

Note: The AntiChrist will be the king of Babylon in the Last Days and will be under the direct control of Lucifer.

Pride is our biggest problem!

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Introduction:

We are not alone . . .

"The Bible contains more than a series of alleged "angelic sightings." It offers an evaluative look into a world beyond the reach of scientific examination. When we study what it says about angels, we learn that: 1) We are not alone, 2) We are helped by unseen friends, 3) We are opposed by invisible foes, 4) Choice determines destiny, 5) Nearness to God produces worship, 6) Worship of God inspires service, and 7) Serving God brings joy.

"The Bible repeatedly maintains that human beings are not the only intelligent, moral creatures in the universe. The words "angel" and "angels" occur about 300 times. The Bible speaks often of Satan and demons, and refers to them as real, though not flesh-and-blood, earthbound creatures like we are (Eph. 6:12). It names two angels - Michael (Dan. 12:1; Jude 9; Rev. 12:7) and Gabriel (Dan. 8:16; Luke 1:19). It gives us graphic portrayals of heavenly beings called "seraphim" (Is. 6:2, 3), "cherubim" (Ezek. 10:1-20), and "living creatures" (Ezek. 1:5-22; Rev. 4:6-11)." --("What Can We Learn From Angels?" - Radio Bible Class Discovery Series)

There is more to life than what you see with your eyes, hear with your ears, or touch with your hands.

If God was to open our eyes as to what is going on in the spirit world, we would be amazed!

For example in 2 Kings 6:15, the Syrian Army had surrounded a city in Israel; The servant of Elisha said: "how shall we do?" Elisha answered "fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them…open his eyes"

Isaiah 14 describes God's Judgment against the **King of Babylon** (context [13:19-22] indicates that this is an end-time Babylon as Revelation 17-18 describes)

Though describing the "king of Babylon" God is speaking of the ruler behind the ruler; The spiritual entity who works in and through the human leader. There is a reality that exists behind the scenes; in back of the visible and tangible; Where Demons under the oversight of Satan having a jurisdiction of power - often direct human Kings and control them; **See Daniel 10:8-19**

For example, DANIEL RECEIVED HELP FROM THE SPIRIT WORLD (Daniel 10:8-19)

(Daniel is touched three times by a Heavenly Messenger)

Gabriel "touched" Daniel two times previously (8:18; 9:21).

God has commissioned good angels to minister to those who are heirs of salvation (Heb. 1:14).

They cannot be seen when they carry the soul of a dying believer to heaven as they did Lazarus (lk. 16:22), or when they protect God's children from harm (ps. 91:11), when the watch us in our worship (I Cor. 11:1-10), or when they observe us living out our salvation (I Tim. 5:21), or when they superintend over the "little ones" who believe (Mt. 18:10). (R.B.C. - "What Can We Learn From Angels", p. 9)

NOTE: the angelic creature did not lift Daniel all the way up to his feet, but simply takes him from a prostrate, helpless, immobile position to learning on his hands and knees.

The angel then beckons Daniel to "stand up" (v. 11) by himself.

NOTE: In our lives, God will send his angels to do for us what we cannot do, and to encourage us to do what we are able to do (by ourselves).

V. 11-12

To encourage Daniel, the Heavenly messenger gives words of comfort:

--"Beloved" (v. 11)
--"Unto thee am I now sent" (v. 11)
--"Fear not" (v. 12)

V. 12-13

Five truths about prayer:

1. God hears prayer ("thy words were heard")

2. God (often) responds immediately

   "from the first day" - God responded to Daniel's prayer immediately, although the answer did not arrive till 3 weeks later (cp. Dan. 9:21, 23).

3. God responds to the "effectual fervent prayers of righteous man" (cp. Ja. 5:16). Daniel had set his "heart to understand. . . He chastened (humbled) himself before God."

4. God often uses angelic messengers to do His bidding in response to prayer ("unto thee am I now sent" - v. 11).

5. The demonic forces of evil vainly attempt to thwart God's answers to prayer.

"But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days"

Question: Who is this Prince?

--Someone supernatural (he had power on par with Michael)

--Someone opposed to God's will

Biblical deduction: A messenger of Satan who was put in charge of the Persian kingdom by Satan.

NOTE: Satan ("lucifer") is described as "the king of Babylon" (Is. 14:4-15).

Satan is also depicted as the "king of Tyre" (Ezek. 28:12-17).

Satan is called "the god of this world" (II Cor. 4:4) and the prince and power of the air."

V. 14

"The latter days" - Dan. 11 - 12 has eschatological significance.

V. 15

"I became dumb" = my tongue was tied (lit. bound). Daniel could not speak; was unable to utter a sound.

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Isaiah 14:11 – Pomp = Pride

"viols" – Music
"worm" – even spirit beings in Hell have worms covering them which die not

Fallen from Heaven - Here God describes (as Jesus did) Satan fall from Heaven.

Luke 10:18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

"Lucifer" – Shining One; Light bearer; 2Co 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

"how art thou cut down to the ground" – This is the question which the Lord will answer.

How did Satan fall?

Satan's downfall was PRIDE!

Note the 5 "I Wills" of Lucifer:

I. ***Lucifer's Pride is marked by a Pursuit of*** **Pre-eminence (v.13)**

The middle letter in the word pride is "I"!

It is theologically correct to say that the essence of all sin is selfishness (and pride is a manifestation of selfishness; Pride is selfishness showing itself off).

--I am worthy of honor; therefore I want it"
--I deserve the credit; therefore I want it"
--I deserve attention; therefore I want it"
--I deserve praise; therefore I want it"

ILLUS: Giving money so others notice
Acting intelligent so others notice
Acting wrongly/goofing off so others notice
Acting right so others notice

Both of the last two are wrong if you just want someone else (other than God) to notice.

Pride is stealing glory which belongs to God
(Ex: Herod Agrippa - Acts 12:23)

"A man was so humble, he wrong a book about it, called: Humility and How I Attained It

"Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory."

II. ***Lucifer's Pride is marked by a Desire to*** **be Like God (v.14)**

Not in a good sense!

But to be our own God; We become the measure of all things.

The Examples of Pride are numerous

--The desire to draw attention to ourselves
Obsession with fitness
Our hair styles (purple hair)
Markings on the flesh (tattoos and body piercings)

--Showing off
Our body
Our intelligence
Our "spirituality"/self-righteousness (praying/giving so others notice; showing off how much you know of the Bible)
Our possessions (Ex: King Hezekiah) (our homes, cars, status, money; our ministry & church)

A proud person seeks the acclamation of men for their work
(Eph. 6:5-8 – "eye-service, as men-pleasers").

A proud person is in love with his own opinions
(he is not a good listener, but loves to talk) (Ja. 1:19).

--Seeking to be a "big shot" (the greatest) (Lk. 9:46) instead of a humble servant (Mt. 20:26-28)

--Atheism ("Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind. . . . It is pride which has been the chief cause of misery in every nation and every family since the world began. Make no mistake about it: pride. . . is the Devil's most e3ffective and destructive tool." (C.S. Lewis, quoted in Not I But Christ, p. 27)

--Always having to be right (can't be corrected)

Pride keeps us from:

1. Admitting wrong, error (apologizing)
2. Learning from others (accepting constructive criticism)

--Always having to win (flesh-driving competition) (Prov. 13:10)
(ex. bragging rights in sports)

--Advancing our own agenda/"It's all about me"

--Consumed with comparison (Lk. 9:49-50) (Measuring themselves by themselves – 2 Cor. 10:12)

> The subtle and insidious pride of holiness ("Let all teachers of holiness, whether in the pulpit or on the platform, and all seekers after holiness, whether in the closet or the convention, take warning. There is no pride so dangerous, because none so subtle and insidious, as the pride of holiness. There grows up, all unconsciously, a hidden habit of soul, which feels complacency in its attainments, and cannot help seeing how far it is in advance of others. It can be recognized, not always in any special self-assertion or self-laudation, but simply in the absence of of that deep self-abasement which cannot but be the mark of the soul that has seen the glory of God (Job 42:5-6; Isaiah 6:5). It reveals itself, not only in words or thoughts, but in a tone, a way of speaking of others, in which those who have the gift of spiritual discernment cannot but recognize the power of self. Even the world with its keen eyes notices it, and points to it as a proof that the profession of a heavenly life does not bear any specially heavenly fruits. O brethren! Let us beware." (Andrew Murray, quoted in Not I But Christ, p. 42).

Because of the pride of self-strength, many young pastors start off with a bang and end up being shot down without a ministry. This is why God warns the pastor not to be "a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil" (I Tim. 3:6).

A proud person has a critical spirit (he can see the speck of dust in someone else's eye, but not the beam in his own eye – Mt. 7:1-5).

A proud person is generally divisive and shatters unity (Prov. 28:25)

A proud person never or rarely prays. If he does pray in public, he prayers long, elaborate prayers (Lk. 20:47) with fancy words and no sincerity from the heart. "They honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me."

A proud person does not express gratitutde (to God or others) He considers himself ultra-worthy of what he is given.

Pride keeps us <u>from</u>:

Seeking help from God (prayer) and others

A sign of pride is prayerlessness - You are saying I can handle my own life.

God can't use a person who is confident that he is sufficient in his own strength! ***"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against powers and principalities and rulers of darkness in high places."

Turn to Jeremiah 9:23 - 24.

In Daniel 4, Nebuchadnezzar finally saw himself as he really was!

Job – "I abhor myself in dust and ashes"
Isaiah - "Woe is me"
Peter - "Depart from me"
John - "Fell down as dead"

When we see God as He is, we see ourselves as we really are, and we have nothing in and of ourselves to boast about.

I Cor. 4:7 - "For who maketh thee to differ from another" <u>All</u> we have we have received of God!

This is <u>not</u> to say that we can walk about with the false appearance of humility, like a Pharisee. Or put ourselves down. One is not proud just because he has abilities or talents; one is proud when his <u>attitude</u> toward those abilities is <u>self-centered</u>.

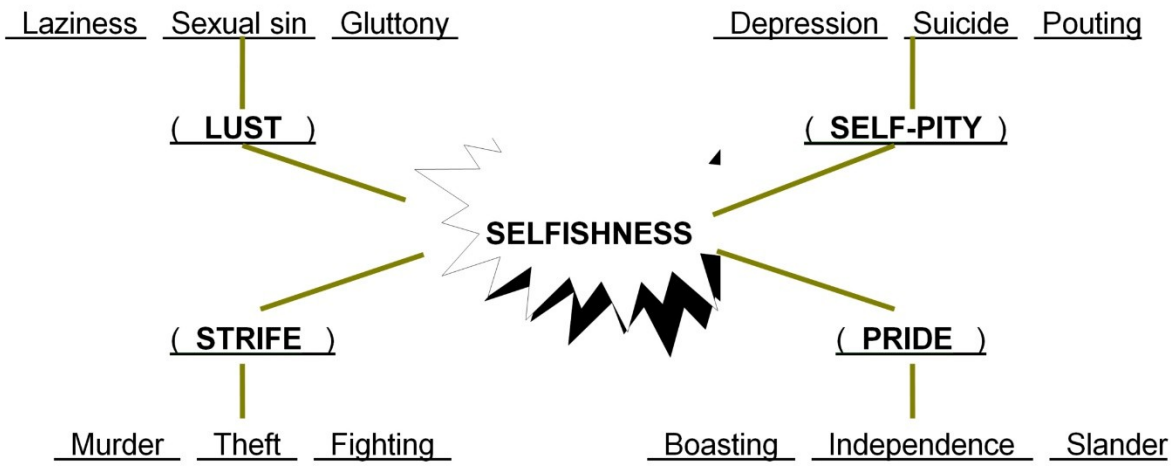
"Humility is not thinking less of yourself, but thinking of yourself less."
(C.S. Lewis)

"He must increase, I must decrease" (Jn. 3:30)

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Pride is our biggest problem!



Prov. 8:13 - "The fear of the Lord is to hate evil, pride and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate."

Christ: The ultimate example of humility (Philippians 2:5-10)

During William Carey's last illness in 1834, he was visited by the Scottish missionary Dr. Alexander Duff, who, in prayer with him, referred to him as "Dr. Carey." As Dr. Duff was leaving, the aged missionary said, "Dr. Duff, you have been speaking of 'Dr. Carey.' When I am gone, say nothing of 'Dr. Carey'; speak only about Dr. Carey's Savior."

Is that your request?

Christian - Have you been too proud to:

--Take a stand for Christ (at school or job)
--Get involved in your youth group at church
--Admit you were wrong
--Ask forgiveness
--Pray

Non-Christian - Have you been too proud to:

--Trust Christ as Savior (you think you are "good enough" because you think too much about yourself - you are proud)
(Pride sends more people to Hell than any other vice!)