

Great Controversy Series
The Master of Disaster
Chapter 29 - The Origin of Evil
 Bible Sermon Study Notes: Cary Rodgers, Jr., pastor

Luke 21:25-26

25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;

26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

After solar eclipse on August 21 it appears the natural disasters have become even more frequent and intense!

[Apocalyptic September? 27 Major Disasters Have Already Happened So Far This Month](https://www.charismanews.com/opinion/67287-apocalyptic-september-27-major-disasters-have-already-happened-so-far-this-month) **Charisma News**
September 15, 2017 <https://www.charismanews.com/opinion/67287-apocalyptic-september-27-major-disasters-have-already-happened-so-far-this-month>

“Two (actually three) major hurricanes [Harvey, Irma, and Maria (rebellion)], unprecedented earthquake swarms and wildfires roaring out of control all over the northwest United States—what else will go wrong next? When I originally pointed to the month of September [as a critical time](#), I had no idea we would see so many catastrophic natural disasters during this time frame as well.

Nearly 40,000 lightning strikes lit up the sky in southwest California September 11, 2017 **LA Times**

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-lightning-california-los-angeles-20170911-story.html>

Fermilab Scientist Warns Solar Flares Could Devastate Infrastructure [Evan Garcia](#) | September 19, 2017
 5:53 pm wttw pbs <http://chicagotonight.wttw.com/2017/09/19/fermilab-scientist-warns-solar-flares-could-devastate-infrastructure>

While recent hurricanes have been devastating parts of the Earth, some major activity has also been taking place at the center of our solar system.

[Earlier this month](#), the sun emitted several powerful bursts of radiation called solar flares, including one on Sept. 6 that was the most powerful on record in more than a decade.

A solar flare occurs when magnetic energy builds up in the solar atmosphere and is released as high-energy radiation, observable as a flash of light on the sun.

“As you get a mass of plasma hitting the Earth’s atmosphere, a whole bunch of charged particles push the magnetic fields of Earth that protect us,” Lincoln said. “If you change magnetic fields, it can generate electricity. If that happens, then it induces electrical currents in big circuits.”

That “big circuit” could include the nation’s power grid, causing a potentially catastrophic nationwide blackout, he said.

Lincoln recommends governments prepare infrastructure for future solar events that could cost \$2 trillion and take a decade to recover from, according to [the National Academy of Sciences](#).

And the question that many people are asking is why? Why? Why? Why are there so much pain, misery, and death on this earth? And why does so much evil exist in our world today? Who started sin and its destructive results anyway? These are very perplexing questions for millions of people that can only be answered from the Bible. We will clearly find out who is the master of disaster. We will clearly see who started sin. With the aid of the Bible, we are going to totally expose the master of disaster and his destructive character.

“Even now he (Satan) is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow. He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous.” GC 590

Now, before the Bible exposes the master of disaster or origin of evil/sin and destruction, we must first reemphasize the character of God. You know many people; even insurance companies have blamed God for many tragic or disastrous events. They have made Him responsible for natural disasters, calling them an “act of God.” When we understand the character of God we will clearly see that He is not at all responsible for evil, sin, misery, death, tragedy, and natural disasters that happen frequently on this earth. God hates tragedy, evil, misery, natural disasters, and death.

What does the Bible say about God’s character?

1 John 4:16

16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

John 3:16

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.

Jeremiah 29:11

11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

1 Corinthians 13:3 and 4 says that true love, God, is kind and thinks no evil

Exodus 34:6-7

6 And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,

7 Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children's children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.

These passages of scripture plus many more reveal the true character of God! God’s love does not have any evil or sinful intent. God’s love is not only seen in His character but it is also seen in the foundation of His government, His law, and His creation. Also God’s love is fair. His love does not force loyalty or obedience. Anything that opposes God’s love is evil or sin. According to **1 John 3:4**, sin is defined as the “transgression of the law” or the disobedience of God’s holy law. And **Romans 6:23** says that the consequences of sin is death. **God is the Master of Life, not disaster!**

Think about this, God did not originally create life for it to experience pain, disasters, misery and death. God did not create life to destroy life. At creation God said that He made this world and everything in it and around it perfect with no sin, death, and destruction. God originally created us to live forever in His glory, living in peace, joy, and happiness. So the Bible makes it very clear to us that God is NOT responsible for sin, evil, natural disasters, tragedy, or death. God is not the master of disaster. God is the master of creation and life.

Who is the master of disaster? In other words, who is responsible of the beginning of sin, natural disasters, misery, tragedy, and death?

1 John 3:8

8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Revelation 12:9

9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

How was Satan, then known as Lucifer, created?

Isaiah 14:12

12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

Ezekiel 28:15

15 Thou **wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created**, till iniquity was found in thee.

Like all of God's creation, Lucifer was made PERFECT without sin.

Ezekiel 28:12-13

12 Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty.

13 Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created.

Lucifer was **created** by God with great wisdom, perfect character and perfect in beauty. He "sealest up the sum." In other words, he was the best and most idea angel that God has made. There was no other angel like Lucifer. He was the best of God's angelic creations. When Lucifer was kick out of heaven did God take away his beauty, angelic power, and musical abilities?

What position did Lucifer have while in Heaven?

Isaiah 14:12 says that Lucifer was the "son of the morning". Lucifer (Hebrew) = "light-bearer" (BDB Definition). He reflected not only the character of God, but also reflected the physical light of God. Why?

Ezekiel 28:14

14 Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

Lucifer was an anointed cherub that stood next to throne of God in His very presence and His radiant light. (See Psalm 99:1) Some of that radiant light was encapsulated in Lucifer. When he walked around heaven all the

angels knew that of Lucifer was in the very presence of God! Lucifer's position, stature, light, power, and musical abilities was a glory to God.

So how can such a beautiful created being with so many talents be responsible sin and become the originator of evil, tragedy, and death? Remember that God in His love created humans as well as angels with the freedom to choose to be loyal to Him and His law. God did not create us to be robots without the power to choose. God created Lucifer to be perfect. So the sinful course that Lucifer took was obviously, his choice and no one forced him in that choice.

So, why did Lucifer, now Satan chose to sin?

Ezekiel 28:17

17 Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

Proverbs 16:18

18 Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

PrIde leads to sIn. Sin leads to self-destruction.

Isaiah 14:12-14

12 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!

13 For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:

14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

Pride will mess up your mind! Pride can totally deceive you, like it did to Lucifer. Lucifer said in Isaiah 14:14 that he wanted to be above and like who? How can any created being be higher than its creator, God? It is impossible. God has always existed. Lucifer did not. Lucifer was so caught up in himself, he obviously disillusioned himself to the point that he really believed that he should be above God who created him. And instead of rejecting those destructive thoughts and feelings towards God, he held on to them and then acted upon them. Lucifer wanted all to worship him instead of God. Lucifer inwardly and outwardly rebelled against God. Lucifer felt he deserved all the worship because of his beauty, position, and wisdom that God gave him. Satan still feels the same way today. He wants your worship, he will do anything to get it from you, even deceive you into worshipping him. We must be careful and read and study the Word of God.

What was God's response to Lucifer's thoughts and feelings of pride in Heaven?

At first Lucifer's pride begin in his thoughts and feelings. It was not outwardly expressed at first. God knew Lucifer's thoughts. God lovingly and kindly, but with stern rebuke pleaded Lucifer to turn from his prideful thinking back into the unity of God. Lucifer lost his position as covering cherub, but would have been reinstated only if he repented and turn from his course of pride, but refused.

“The service and exaltation of self, contrary to the Creator's plan, awakened forebodings of evil in minds to whom God's glory was supreme. The heavenly councils pleaded with Lucifer. The Son of God presented before him the greatness, the goodness, and the justice of the Creator, and the sacred, unchanging nature of His law. God Himself had established the order of heaven; and in departing from it, Lucifer would dishonor his Maker, and bring ruin upon himself. But the warning, given in infinite love and mercy, only aroused a spirit of resistance.” GC 494

“God in His great mercy bore long with Lucifer. He was not immediately degraded from his exalted station when he first indulged the spirit of discontent, nor even when he began to present his false claims before the loyal angels. Long was he retained in heaven. Again and again he was offered pardon on condition of repentance and submission. Such efforts as only infinite love and wisdom could devise were made to convince him of his error.” GC 495

What kind of thoughts and feelings does pride produce towards others?

1) **Pride produces thoughts and feelings of jealousy, envy, and hatred towards others** especially those who are holy and righteous bearing the true character of God. Lucifer had these feelings of jealousy, envy, and hatred towards the divinity of God and especially Jesus Christ. Jesus was the main object of attacks that revealed in the Bible.

2) **Pride produces thoughts and feeling of supremacy over others**

“Pride in his own glory nourished the desire for supremacy. ...He was beloved and revered by the heavenly host. Angels delighted to execute his commands, and he was clothed with wisdom and glory above them all. Yet the Son of God was the acknowledged Sovereign of heaven, one in power and authority with the Father. In all the councils of God, Christ was a participant, while Lucifer was not permitted thus to enter into the divine purposes. ‘Why,’ questioned this mighty angel, ‘should Christ have the supremacy? Why is He thus honored above Lucifer?’” GC 495

3) **Pride produces thoughts and feelings of discontentment**

Content: “satisfied with what one is or has; not wanting more or anything else” (dictionary.com)

Discontent: is the opposite of being content. It is dissatisfied with what one has been given.

God gave Lucifer an exultant position, beauty, and talent, but he became discontent with the gifts of God that he possessed because of PRIDE!

“Leaving his place in the immediate presence of God, Lucifer went forth to diffuse the spirit of discontent among the angels. Working with mysterious secrecy, and for a time concealing his real purpose under an appearance of reverence for God, he endeavored to excite dissatisfaction concerning the laws that governed heavenly beings, intimating that they imposed an unnecessary restraint.” GC 495

An attitude of discontentment is evidence that pride exist in a person’s life. God’s people should not have an ounce of discontentment. We should be satisfied and content in gifts, talents, and blessings that the Lord has bestowed upon us!

What is the Bible’s counsel on contentment?

Philippians 4:11

11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

1 Timothy 6:6-8

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.

7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out.

8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

Hebrews 13:5-6

5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.

There are many professed Christian's who are discontented because they are disconnected from the true Jesus of the Bible. Pride, selfishness, and worldliness still reigns supreme in their lives. In order to be humble in Christ we must not only abide in Him daily, but we must disconnect ourselves from worldliness and sin daily.

The longer that Lucifer held on to his pride with refusal to repent the deeper his hatred, jealousy, and supremacy over God and others gotten.

Lucifer's pride led him to hate and totally reject the law of God.

The law of God is the standard of His universal kingdom and love. The law of God creates a heavenly atmosphere of true happiness, peace, and freedom.

Romans 7:12

12 Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

James 1:25

25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Lucifer's pride lead him to hate the very thing that keep the peace, love, and unity of heaven, the law of God, His 10 commandments. Remember the law of God is spiritual and those who hold to pride and sin will naturally hate the law of God. They like Lucifer not only reject the law, but feel at liberty to tamper with the law of God to suit their own selfish interests.

Has the thoughts of pride, the spirit of discontentment, and supremacy get deeper and deeper in the mind of Lucifer, did he keep his thoughts to himself? No. He spread these feelings to the angels of heaven.

Did Lucifer make it appear that he was in rebellion against God and his law? No. Remember he thought that the course of his thinking was right and God was wrong. Remember, pride warps the thinking!

In order to persuade other angels to accept his way of thinking he had to use the **craft of deception**.

What are the steps of the deception that Satan used to deceive 1/3 of the angels and Eve? He uses these same tactics today to deceive billions of people.

1) **Appears to be an angel of light.**

2 Corinthians 11:14

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

Remember, Satan was Lucifer, the light bearer. In heaven Lucifer used his influence and credibility the "light bearer" to present his case. He made it appear that he was in favor of God and heaven. He only wanted to "improve" the heavenly atmosphere of heaven. Now think about it, how can anybody improve something that is already perfect! Satan had to make it appear that God is not really perfect.

“Satan had, at first, concealed his work under a specious profession of loyalty to God. He claimed to be seeking to promote the honor of God, the stability of His government, and the good of all the inhabitants of heaven.” GC 497

“Satan had made it appear that he himself was seeking to promote the good of the universe. The true character of the usurper, and his real object, must be understood by all. He must have time to manifest himself by his wicked works.” GC 498

2) Create a bond of sympathy

Sympathy: harmony of or agreement in feeling, as between persons or on the part of one person with respect to another. (dictionary.com)

Think about it. What influences feeling? Thinking. If a person can get you to sympathize emotionally with their feelings you will be in agreement with their thinking and behavior.

“Since their natures were holy, he urged that the angels should obey the dictates of their own will. He sought to create sympathy for himself by representing that God had dealt unjustly with him in bestowing supreme honor upon Christ. He claimed that in aspiring to greater power and honor he was not aiming at self-exaltation, but was seeking to secure liberty for all the inhabitants of heaven, that by this means they might attain to a higher state of existence.” GC 495

“All the powers of his master mind were now bent to the work of deception, to secure the sympathy of the angels that had been under his command.” GC 496

God’s people should in no way sympathize with sin! We should hate it! For example the movie tour “Seventh Day Adventist” that was shown in many SDA churches created a sympathy toward the abomination of homosexuality.

3) Create a spirit of discontentment

“While instilling discontent into the minds of the angels under him, he had artfully made it appear that he was seeking to remove dissatisfaction. When he urged that changes be made in the order and laws of God’s government, it was under the pretense that these were necessary in order to preserve harmony in heaven.” GC 498

4) Open rebellion against God

After Lucifer successfully appeared as an angel light, create a bond of sympathy and discontentment there were 1/3 of the angels that were persuaded by his lies and joined in the open rebellion against God in heaven.

Revelation 12:7

7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

This WAS NOT a war with weapons, nor were they fighting each other with swords in heaven. No created being can fight God physically and win. **The war in heaven was a dispute, strife, quarrel between Lucifer lies and God’s truth. Lucifer made open accusation and lies against God not only before the heaven but entire universal kingdom of God made up of other worlds.**

Lucifer's Investigative Judgment in Heaven

Lucifer and 1/3 of the angels continued in their rebellion. God gave them opportunity to repent but they refused. God investigated their case and was found guilty for rebelling against the government of God! The wages of sin is death. **Once God pronounces the judgment of guilt there is no retrials nor appeals! Their fate is sealed!**

Revelation 22:11

11 He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still.

The final step in Lucifer's judgment was the executive judgment – His punishment.

What did God have to do to Lucifer and the 1/3 of the angels after that have rejected the plead of mercy to repent?

Revelation 12:8-9

8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.

9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

Casting Lucifer and the 1/3 of the angels of heaven was the first phase of their punishment. The last phase of their punishment is eternal death!

What did God promise that He will do to Satan and 1/3 of his angels, now known as demons?

Ezekiel 28:16, 18

16 By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire.

18 Thou hast defiled thy sanctuaries by the multitude of thine iniquities, by the iniquity of thy traffick; therefore will I bring forth a fire from the midst of thee, it shall devour thee, and I will bring thee to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all them that behold thee.

2 Peter 2:4

4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;

All those who join Satan in his rebellion against God and his law will be destroyed!

Matthew 25:41

41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.

Satan and his demons know that their judgment and punishment is sealed! They are lost and will be destroyed. They have no hope. They already rejected truth!

Since Lucifer and his angels rejected the mercy of God and was sentenced to eternal death why did God not destroy them immediately?

The results of sin and death was not fully understood in Heaven. Death was never seen nor experienced. Sin was not fully exposed in all of its ugliness. Rebellion and sin was still new and not fully displayed.

False accusations against God

Lucifer's name change to Satan reflects his rebellious character that was displayed in Heaven. In **Revelation 12:9**, Satan means "adversary" in Greek. Satan also known as the Devil means "false accuser."

Seeing how Satan accused Christ here on earth, it is evident that in the war in heaven that Satan openly and falsely accused God and His government of many false things such as God is not love, He is a God of force, and very restrictive. These are all bold face lies and Bible makes this clear, but Satan tried to tarnish God's lovingly reputation before the angels and all the other created worlds.

So think about it if God killed Satan and all of the fallen angels immediately, what do you think the angels and other worlds would have thought of God? They probably would have thought that Satan was right in his many accusations, for example that God did not love them and forced them to worship Him not by choice. So it is evident that God put Satan's accusations to the test in order to totally redeem His reputation and character to all His created beings throughout all the worlds including heaven.

"Even when it was decided that he could no longer remain in heaven, Infinite Wisdom did not destroy Satan. Since the service of love can alone be acceptable to God, the allegiance of His creatures must rest upon a conviction of His justice and benevolence. The inhabitants of heaven and of other worlds, being unprepared to comprehend the nature or consequences of sin, could not then have seen the justice and mercy of God in the destruction of Satan. Had he been immediately blotted from existence, they would have served God from fear rather than from love. The influence of the deceiver would not have been fully destroyed, nor would the spirit of rebellion have been utterly eradicated. Evil must be permitted to come to maturity." GC 498

When did the loyal angels and others throughout the universe fully understand the results of sin and Satan's rebellion?

"In the contest between Christ and Satan, during the Saviour's earthly ministry, the character of the great deceiver was unmasked. Nothing could so effectually have uprooted Satan from the affections of the heavenly angels and the whole loyal universe as did his cruel warfare upon the world's Redeemer." GC 501

Sin and Satan's cruelty at the cross of Christ was totally exposed!

What were two main reasons why Jesus came to this world?

Matthew 1:21

21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.

Isaiah 42:21

21 The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will magnify the law, and make it honourable.

Matthew 5:17-18

17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Jesus came to save us from sin and magnify the law of God!

“But it was not merely to accomplish the redemption of man that Christ came to the earth to suffer and to die. He came to "magnify the law" and to "make it honorable." Not alone that the inhabitants of this world might regard the law as it should be regarded; but it was to demonstrate to all the worlds of the universe that God's law is unchangeable. Could its claims have been set aside, then the Son of God need not have yielded up His life to atone for its transgression. The death of Christ proves it immutable.” GC 503

Did Satan lose the war against God when he was kick out of heaven? No.

When did Satan totally lose the war when he continued it here on this earth?

At the cross of Calvary through the blood of Jesus Christ.

“In the Saviour's expiring cry, "It is finished," the death knell of Satan was rung. The great controversy which had been so long in progress was then decided, and the final eradication of evil was made certain.” GC 503

Don't excuse SIN! There is NO EXCUSE! Let it going through the blood of Jesus and then leave it alone! There is NO EXCUSE.

“In the final execution of the judgment it will be seen that no cause for sin exists. When the Judge of all the earth shall demand of Satan, "Why hast thou rebelled against Me, and robbed Me of the subjects of My kingdom?" the originator of evil can render no excuse. Every mouth will be stopped, and all the hosts of rebellion will be speechless.” GC 503

Appeal

“The same spirit that prompted rebellion in heaven still inspires rebellion on earth. Satan has continued with men the same policy which he pursued with the angels. His spirit now reigns in the children of disobedience. Like him they seek to break down the restraints of the law of God and promise men liberty through transgression of its precepts. Reproof of sin still arouses the spirit of hatred and resistance. When God's messages of warning are brought home to the conscience, Satan leads men to justify themselves and to seek the sympathy of others in their course of sin. Instead of correcting their errors, they excite indignation against the reprover, as if he were the sole cause of difficulty. From the days of righteous Abel to our own time such is the spirit which has been displayed toward those who dare to condemn sin.” GC 500

Satan is the master of disaster. He is a loser! Stay faithful to the one who won the victory at the cross of Calvary, Jesus Christ! Remember Jesus not only came to save us from sin, but He came to magnify the law of God. Those who reject God's law suffer from the same type of pride that lead Lucifer to reject and try to change the law of God.

Jesus is coming is extremely soon. The winds of strife are blowing harder and harder. We are in the sealing time. Jesus is sealing the foreheads of His faithful with the seal of the living God. Those who have the character of the Father and keep all the law of God, His ten commandments, including the seventh day sabbath.

Choose you this DAY who you are going to serve....