

28. At the conclusion of the trial, the Supreme Court of Heaven issued its opinion:

**The decision reached in regard to a cause tried or argued before them, expounding the law as applied to the case, and detailing reasons upon which the judgment was based.”<sup>8</sup>**

29. This opinion is recorded in:

**Matthew 25:41** “Then He will say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels.’

30. Prior to the Luciferian Rebellion, the universe and the earth were in status quo perfection. The time that elapsed from the creation noted in Genesis 1:1 to the time God instituted chaos in verse 2 is unknown.
31. The sentence for “the devil and his angels,” was incarceration in the “eternal fire.” However, this sentence has not been carried out. Lucifer apparently appealed the decision and asked for a delay of the sentence.
32. Up to this point, the universe had been functioning in total perfection. In other words, the time from its creation until Genesis 1:2 could have been myriads and myriads of millennia or a comparatively very short time.
33. Nevertheless, when Lucifer fell, the perfection of the universe was turned into absolute darkness or chaos. While the rebellion was being adjudicated in the third heaven, the universe and planet earth were encapsulated in total darkness. We know this from:

**Genesis 1:2** The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

### Summary of Events that Occurred in Genesis 1:2

1. The verse opens with the Qal perfect of הָיָה (*hayah*): the verb to be and translated “was.” The perfect tense indicates a completed action.

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<sup>8</sup> Henry Campbell Black, “Opinion,” in *Black’s Law Dictionary*, rev. 4th ed. (St. Paul: West Publishing Co., 1968), 1243–44.

2. This completed action resulted in a “formless and void” universe that replaced the perfection that existed in verse 1. The word “formless” is the noun **תֹהוּ (tohu)** and the word “void” is the noun **בֹהוּ (bohu)**: “chaos,” indicating a loss of order.
3. The idea here is universal geological upheaval. What was previously in a state of perfection is now in a state of disorder.
4. This situation is compounded by the absence of light. The word “darkness” is the noun **חֹשֶׁךְ (choshech)**: “darkness,” i.e., “absolute darkness.” The universe is frozen in an immovable state or minus 459.67°F.
5. This darkness encapsulated “the surface,” of the “deep.” The word “deep” is the noun, **תְהוֹם (tehom)**, which refers to the depths of the oceans.
6. The word “surface” is the plural noun **פְּנֵה (paneh)**. This is a good translation which indicated that the absolute darkness covered the waters and obviously the land masses.
7. At this point, the KJV ends the sentence with a period. The NET uses a comma followed by the conjunction “but,” while the NASB and NIV employ a comma and the conjunction “and.”
8. Because Genesis 1:3 begins with the restoration of light, the second half of verse 2 indicates what might be referred to as a meltdown administered by the Holy Spirit transforming the ice into water, or chaos changing to order.
9. Therefore, we are able to insert between Genesis verses 1 and 3 several events that took place in the three heavens: **(1)** Lucifer fomented his rebellion. **(2)** He convinced one-third of the angelic myriads to betray God and align themselves with him, the “anointed cherub.” **(3)** The conflict that emerged destroyed the harmony that previously existed among the angels. **(4)** How long this standoff lasted is not revealed. **(5)** At some point God put Lucifer and the fallen angels on trial that resulted in a guilty verdict. **(6)** The rebellious angels were sentenced to the lake of fire for all eternity. **(7)** Before incarceration occurred, Lucifer petitioned the Supreme Court of Heaven with an appeal. **(8)** It is presumed that his queries to the Court were, “How can a loving God pronounce such a horrific sentence on His own creatures? How can a loving God cast His angels into an eternal lake of fire? What kind of love is that?”<sup>9</sup> **(9)** In response, God allowed the appeal beginning with the six-day restoration of the earth. **(10)** The appeal process began with the creation of the first human couple, Adam and Ishah.

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<sup>9</sup> R. B. Thieme, Jr., *The Angelic Conflict* (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2012), 14.



10. The perfect couple was allowed to function in the garden of Eden with free access to its bounty. They were issued one significant exception, prohibition of eating the fruit from “the tree of the knowledge of good and evil” (Genesis 2:17).
11. How long the original couple avoided consumption of this fruit is unknown. However, the perfection of Eden was brought to a halt when Ishah was propagandized by “the serpent” to give it a try.
12. Ishah’s failure was because she did not apply principles the Lord taught her in Bible class. He gave them the produce of the entire garden with the lone exception of “the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”
13. The reason for the prohibition was to test volition. Grace abounded in paradise. Only one tree was prohibited. Loyalty to the Source only required that the fruit of one tree be avoided.
14. What were the advantages possessed by the angelic army? Divine blessings by loyalty to Jesus Christ: יהוה צבאות: *(Yehovah Sevaoth)*: The Lord of the Armies.
15. The same could be said at this point about the first couple’s freedom to take advantage of the bounties of Paradise.
16. Lucifer’s lust for power and Ishah’s lust for wisdom led to violations of divine mandates. The two set up the next stage of the appeal where human volition faces the option to matriculate in the Satanic Academy of Cosmic Didactics or the Divine Academy of Grace Didactics.
17. The Satanic Academy’s faculty is made up of a demon-possessed faculty whose strategy and tactics are to propagandize unbelievers and reversionistic believers into adopting the lifestyle of the devil’s world by subscribing to human viewpoint, human good, and evil.
18. The Divine Academy’s faculty is made up of spirit-filled believers who have grown in grace by the inculcation of truth from consistent study and application of principles, strategies, tactics, and doctrines producing divine viewpoint, divine good, and personal virtue.
19. This later category is made up of those who have become *Prómachoi* (πρόμαχοι): “front rankers” in the scrum of the Invisible War.



20. Believers who buy into the divine principle of truth—**ἀλήθεια** (*alētheia*)—found in Scripture and deploy it in their personal lives are not only honoring God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit, they also demonstrate they ardently subscribe to the veracity of the Word of God.
21. These are the invisible heroes in every generation of the Church Age who produce maximum historical impact in the Invisible War. These are the ones the Lord calls “winners” in the conveyance of the thirteen Nike Awards at the evaluation tribunal of Christ, the millennial kingdom, and the eternal state.
22. Finally, these are the ones who advance to spiritual maturity in the sophisticated spiritual life. Their spiritual advance has brought them to Cognitive Invincibility.
23. This level of the spiritual advance qualifies them for the ultimate challenge of evidence testing.

**Evidence Testing:** Whereas the first stage of maximum glorification of God in spiritual maturity is escrow blessings, the second stage is evidence testing. This level of the spiritual advance is enhanced by the availability of and application of divine power.

### Principles Leading Up to and Concluding Lucifer’s Appeal

1. Human suffering is associated with a sequence of events related to the prehistoric creation of angels each to whom God gave volition, the ability to make choices.
2. God did not desire to create automatons programmed to mindlessly accommodate His standards, but creatures who could independently make their own choices.
3. This freedom of volition resulted in the possibility that some would willingly follow His leadership and obey His standards, but also with the freedom to rebel and disobey.
4. The angelic community was organized into two ranks, cherubs, with four wings as their insignia of rank, and pursuivant,<sup>10</sup> who were rank and file with no insignia of rank.

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<sup>10</sup> “Pursuivant, a follower; an attendant. In the British College of Heralds, an officer ranking below a herald [cherub in our illustration]. There are four pursuivants attached to the British College of Arms: Rouge Croix [red cross], Blue Mantle [blue robe], Rouge Dragon [red dragon], and Portcullis [fortress gate]” (Noah Webster, *Webster’s New Twentieth Century Dictionary of the English Language: Unabridged* [Cleveland: The World Publishing Co., 1962], s.v. “pursuivant”).



5. We have noted that Lucifer is a cherub, whose insignia of rank is “four wings,” but he is also chief of the angels, referred to by the Lord as the “anointed Cherub” in Ezekiel 28:14.
6. In the appeal that took place before the Supreme Court of Heaven, Lucifer functioned as his own defence attorney, which has earned him two sobriquets, “Satan” and “the devil” which identify him as “accuser,” and “adversary.”
7. Since the ultimate incarceration of Lucifer and the fallen angels into the lake of fire does not actually take place until after human history is completed, we must conclude that the human race is being called before the court to testify for both the Prosecution and the defense.
8. In order for there to be an environment in which these individuals may testify before the court, the renovation of planet earth had to occur as the courtroom for testimonies presented by men and angels.
9. The first event to occur in Lucifer’s appeal was the divine restoration of planet earth to its pristine perfection. The restoration began in Genesis 1:2*b* and proceeded over the next six days, the latter event being the creation of mankind, a male and a female, Genesis 1:3–2:25.
10. Two people, Adam and Ishah, were introduced as the first Homo sapiens and appeared as the hearing’s first witnesses for the Prosecution.
11. This appeal has and will continue to progress over the course of human history as witnesses are called forward to provide evidence for both the Prosecution and the defense.
12. Their arguments occur as follows: **A. The Formal Appeal:** (1) witnesses for the Prosecution: from the creation of man to his fall and (2) witnesses for the defense: from the fall of man to the First Advent of Christ. **B. Rebuttal:** (3) witnesses for the Prosecution: from the First Advent of Christ to the Rapture of the Church and (4) witnesses for the defense: the Tribulation, Daniel’s seventieth heptad, to the Second Advent of Christ. **C. Closing Arguments:** (5) witnesses for the Prosecution: the Second Advent of Christ to Lucifer’s release from the Abyss and (6) witnesses for the defense: the Og-Magog Rebellion to Satan’s incarceration in the lake of fire.

(End JAS3-09. See JAS3-10 for continuation of study at p. 91.)



13. Obviously the appeal was permitted and transpired over the course of human history. Within this appeal, Church Age believers are challenged to be witnesses for the Prosecution.
14. In each generation of the Church Age, each believer may pursue the advance to maturity, or not. The ultimate challenge is only presented to believers who have advanced to the sophisticated spiritual life.
15. In spiritual maturity, this challenge is defined by the term, evidence testing. The details about what this entails is the subject of our next category:

### **Evidence Testing**

1. First of all, the elect angels are watching believers. They see them fail and they see them flop; they grow in grace or they regress into reversionism; they witness for the Prosecution or do so for the defense.
2. This situation is consistently ongoing in the scrum of the Angelic Conflict.

**1 Timothy 4:1** But the Holy Spirit explicitly says that I the later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons.
3. The Lord commented on the elect angels' response to believers involved in the advance:

**1 Timothy 5:21** I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of His chosen angels, to maintain these principles, without bias, doing nothing in the spirit of partiality.
4. During the Church Age, Lucifer has observed that believers have a difficult time adjusting to undeserved suffering. Because they are saved, some assume that God would never allow them to suffer without cause.
5. This is not rational. This is the hostile environment of the devil's world and the Dark Side is on a mission seeking whom they might devour.