

Revelation 20:10 - And the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulphur, where the Beast-Dictator and the false prophet are also, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. (EXT)

34. These passages reveal an interesting curiosity in the course of the angelic conflict. Following the original rebellion of Lucifer and the fallen angels, God created the lake of fire as a prison for their eternal incarceration.
35. This obviously occurred before the creation of the human race. We also know this incarceration does not occur until the very end of human history.
36. Therefore, human history is actually the playing out of a courtroom drama that is designed to accomplish two things: (1) resolve an obvious appeal submitted to the Supreme Court of Heaven by Lucifer and (2) the means by which God identifies witnesses for the Prosecution in this appeal.⁵
37. Also supporting the doctrine that human history is the playing out of this courtroom drama, Satan's strategy and tactics operate on two fronts: (1) recruiting witnesses for the defense and (2) accusing those who are witnesses for the Prosecution. (See Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7)
38. The Pharisees often sought evidence against Jesus by holding him to the requirements of the oral law:
Mark 3:2 - They were watching Him to see if He would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse [κατηγορέω (*katēgoréō*): legally] Him. (See Luke 6:7)
39. There are several instances in the New Testament when charges were leveled against believers, many against Paul in Acts and against Jesus in the Gospels.

⁵ In English and American jurisprudence, an appeal is "a request to a higher court to review and reverse the decision of a lower court. On appeal, no new evidence is introduced; the higher court is limited to considering whether the lower court erred on a question of law or gave a decision plainly contrary to the evidence presented during trial" (Steven H. Gifis, *Barron's Dictionary of Legal Terms*, 3d ed. [Huppauge, N.Y.: Barron's Educational Series, 1998], 24). Although this is not a perfect illustration, it does present the basic idea.

40. The one who sponsored these accusations is one who is called the “accuser” in:

Revelation 12:10 - Then I heard a voice in heaven [of the king of arms, commander of the angelic college of heralds, seraph rank with six wings] which said, “Now deliverance has come, also the power, even the kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ; because the accuser [κατήγορος (*katégoros*): another metonymy for Satan] of our brethren [against whom he systematically brings forth charges before the Supreme Court of Heaven⁶] has been cast down [banished from heaven at the midpoint of the Tribulation], the one accusing them [present active participle of the verb κατηγορέω (*katégoréō*)] before our God day and night.

41. From these passages and others to come, we are able to discern the vista of events that comprise the panorama of angelic and human history which may be seen as a chronology of Satan’s appeal and the divine response.
42. The key to understanding how this drama reaches its resolution is the divine decision to call forward new witnesses for the Prosecution.

3. Witnesses for the Prosecution

1. In Lucifer’s appeal before the Supreme Court of Heaven, he cited a violation of the divine attribute of love because of God’s verdict to imprison him in the lake of fire:

Satan’s appeal was grounded on the claim that God’s just decision to cast His own creatures into the lake of fire was incompatible with His divine love: “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?” He impugned the essence of God by seeking to elevate divine love above divine justice and righteousness.⁷

2. The introduction of Homo sapiens into world history was designed by God to present evidence for the Prosecution before the Supreme Court of Heaven.

⁶ Lucifer, the Accuser, never accuses unbelievers since they are his human advocates for the Dark Side, but he does accuse believers by demon influence and by demon-possessed unbelievers.

⁷ R. B. Thieme, Jr., *The Angelic Conflict* (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2012), 14.

3. The strategy for the Prosecution was to introduce witnesses to testify before the Court. At the beginning of the human race there were two people, one man and one woman, who formed the corporate relationship of marriage.
4. Beyond one negative mandate to refrain from eating the forbidden fruit, Adam and Ishah were under no other restrictions. Their volitions were free to do whatever they desired without any constraint or prohibition.
5. At their creation, our original parents possessed "Perfect Life." Their bodies were perfect, but their volitions were capable of making one bad decision.
6. Perfect people with perfect bodies in a perfect environment were capable of extending their Perfect Life indefinitely.
7. Since Adam and Ishah were created inferior to the angels, their maintenance of perfection would be evidence for the Prosecution that their free will remained loyal to the divine mandate to avoid the forbidden fruit.
8. Once Ishah was propagandized into eating the fruit and Adam followed her in the wrongdoing, they were guilty of the original sin while acquiring a sin nature. This event is referred to theologically as "the lapse" and otherwise known as "the fall."
9. This event required the Prosecution to put the first couple on trial to determine if they were willing to place their faith in God's solution for their lapse.
10. Sacrifice of an innocent substitute was present for consideration and we learn from Genesis 3:21 that they responded positively to the provision, "The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them."

11. The woman in the marriage is referred to by the Hebrew proper noun **אִשָּׁה ('Ishshah):**⁸ “woman, wife, child bearer,” but whose name was changed to **חַוְוָה (Chawwah):** “Eve.” or “life” in Genesis 3:20.
12. Adam and Eve were now tasked with the mission of providing witnesses for the Prosecution through procreation and accomplished within the institution of the corporate marriage.
13. In the corporation, the husband is the Chief Executive Officer in charge of policy, provisions, and protection while the wife is charged to assist her husband.
14. The husband is commanded to love his wife as Christ loved the church. The wife is to respect the husband as she respects the Lord.
15. Procreation potentially produces new witnesses for the Prosecution. When children are evangelized, they join the ever-growing number of believers who represent Jesus Christ in the Invisible War.
16. The Christian marriage represents the relationship between Christ and his church. When the marriage is enlarged to family status, then the successful evangelism of children provides more witnesses for the Prosecution.
17. Whereas the strategy of the Prosecution started with two, procreation increased the number to three, then four.
18. The First World War fought between Cain and Able reduced the population, by 25 percent, back to three, but later replaced by Seth through whom the Adamic line continued down to Shem.
19. The chart pedigree of the line of Christ proceeded from Adam to Shem, from Shem to Abraham, and from Abraham to David, each category enlarging the population of witnesses for the Prosecution.

VISUAL #1:
Chart Pedigree of
Jesus Christ

⁸ The twenty-first letter in the Hebrew alphabet is the Šîn: **שׁ**. The dot at its upper right requires the translation “sh,” while the dot in the interior of the letter means it is doubled, thus Ish-shah. The difficulty in enunciating a double Šîn has caused the second one to usually be ignored, thus, 'Ishah.

20. Those placing their faith in Messiah were saved and became witnesses for the Prosecution.
21. Not so with the angelic population. One-third followed Lucifer in the rebellion while the other two-thirds remained with God. Each group made its decisions from status quo perfection. All the angels were created with eternal life.
22. Mankind's first two witness, although created in perfection, fell through sin, became corrupt, separated from God, and in need of the Savior.
23. Restoration of fellowship with God required atonement which is accomplished in three phases: (1) directed toward God under the doctrine of propitiation, (2) directed toward man under the doctrine of reconciliation, and (3) directed toward sin under the doctrine of redemption.
24. Atonement required a sacrifice and Jesus Christ provided that requirement on the cross, certified by His resurrection and subsequent session.
25. This required that He enter human history as true humanity in a perfect body and soul with eternal life imputed to His human spirit.
26. Just as the angels were tempted with the option of joining with Lucifer or remaining with God, Jesus faced that same challenge.
27. His first encounters with the Dark Side were the three temptations offered to Him by Lucifer recorded in Matthew 4:1-11 and Luke 4:1-13 which He successfully passed.
28. This and other challenges were met during the Incarnation which He was able to deflect with the application of the Word of God.
29. The environment in which the Lord functioned was inside the bubble, the perfect environment of the divine dynasphere.

VISUAL #2:
Div. Dynasphere:
Jesus Inside



30. Adam and Ishah acquired spiritual death by rejecting the divine prohibition against eating the forbidden fruit. Man is born spiritually dead and in need of the Savior.
31. All angels were created with perfect bodies with imputed Eternal Life. The fallen angels made their rebellious decision in perfect bodies while possessing Eternal Life.
32. Each of these categories remains in the status as they were originally created. The fallen angels were issued free will and they used it to rebel against God. They made their decision and they are stuck with it.
33. Possessing Eternal Life at creation and making the decisive decision to rebel against their Creator, the fallen angels will spend eternity in the lake of fire.
34. For mankind, the situations are much different. Man is born spiritually dead, totally depraved, and void of hope. Their bodies are mortal, infected by the sin nature, and separated from God.
35. Yet the grace of God has made it possible to escape this terminal sentence. Although the body will die, the soul may be delivered through faith in Christ.
36. Obviously, it is God's desire that mankind has options available to it so that whosoever will might acquire Eternal Life. By means of salvation, God not only adopts all believers into his Royal Family, in the process, He recruits new witnesses to provide testimony in the appeal of Satan.
37. The divine system for producing these witnesses is procreation in the environment of the corporate marriage of one man and one woman, an arrangement stipulated by divine decree in:

Genesis 2:7 - Then the Lord God formed man [**biological life**] of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of lives; and man became a living being.

NOTE: "Breath of lives" refers to the creation of a perfect soul accompanied by a human spirit.

Genesis 2:21 - The Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place.

v. 22 - The Lord God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man.

v. 23 - The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."

v. 24 - For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

38. The closing phrase has double meanings. In the context of the creation of man and woman, it refers to copulation, but it also is prophetic of procreation.
39. "Become" is the Qal perfect of the verb **הָיָה (hayah)**: "to become, to take place." It is followed by the numeral **אֶחָד ('echath)**: "one," and the singular noun **בָּשָׂר (basar)**: "flesh." Here's an analysis by Dr. Merrill F. Unger:

These are the inspired words of Moses as narrator, hence, the words of God Himself (Matthew 19:5) solemnly sanctioning marriage as a divine ordinance and establishing the home as the basic unit of the social order. He who at the beginning made them male and female (Matthew 19:4) declared that sexual union was God-ordained within the holy bonds of marriage. A man was to be monogamous. He was to cleave unto (hold fast to and cling to) his wife (*not* wives). Polygamy was never in the divine order for man. Adultery and fornication obviously were ruled out as violations of the Creator's holiness and the creature's dignity.

Sex was not regarded as evil, for sexual union was ordained before man fell (Genesis 1:28). Even after the Fall, sex was not regarded as evil, but as a God-given impulse to draw man and woman together in marriage, when by their sexual union they became one flesh. Such a union was not only for the purpose of the procreation of the race by establishing the family. It was also for the physical, emotional, and mental exhilaration of husband and wife, constituting one of the many joys of marriage and the godly home.⁹

⁹ Merrill F. Unger, *Unger's Commentary on the Old Testament: Genesis—Song of Solomon* (Chicago: Moody Press, 1981), 1:14–15.