

## Things are Not as We Were Taught - Part 1

After mastering whole numbers in school, I thought that I had learned all about Math. Then along came negative numbers. It stretched my comfort zone. I had just learned to take that in stride, and then along came fractions (groan!)...then Algebra...then Geometry...then Trigonometry...then Calculus. Each step was a stretch, a much needed paradigm shift to prepare me for my calling to become an Engineer. By God's grace I kept moving on. And though my thinking kept getting pulled out of my comfort zone, there were many times in the journey where I was thrilled by the increased understanding. As I kept moving on with the changes (painful as it was at times), it brought sharper vision to my insight. And it opened a doorway to my destiny.

It is the same with our walk in spiritual growth in Christ. We go from the fullness of the harvest of Passover on to the greater fullness of the harvest of Pentecost. But there is more! Then some of us see that the fullest harvest of all is Tabernacles..corn, grapes, olives, figs, and everything! Those who don't hear the call to enter into Tabernacles (the Feast of Trumpets message), may tell us that it is not for today. They are dead wrong. The final harvest of this age is exactly what God is doing today! The harvest is ripe. Don't let anyone hold you back. Time is short. Your destiny is just ahead.

Preparing for this harvest means that we must graduate into a deeper walk with Christ. His life must come forth in us more & more until we reach full stature. This will mean coming into greater light. To get there means that we must leave where we are. It is a radical change as we shift from the carnal mind to the mind of Christ. It raises many questions as our vision sharpens. It stretches us beyond our comfort zones. And this is the direction that the Lord is leading us in through this study.

We will see that some things are not as we were taught...nor are they as we thought. We come to see what really lines up with the Word and what needs to be left behind as we embrace more truth. Think of this walk as an adventure as we go along. Our journey takes us through a series of 3-truths (with more in Part 2), that build one upon another. As they build, the truths begin to unravel many convoluted religious traditions of men...and at the same time freeing us to move on upward in Christ.

1. We start out with an easy one to see in the Word.  
How many archangels are there?

There is only *one* in the Word. His name is Michael, which in Hebrew means, "Who is like God". There are no other archangels.

The definition of the two parts of the word “arch angel” in both Hebrew and Greek mean, *the first in power & rule...the head one*. In other words the one who is in charge of all of the angels. That would be the Captain of the hosts...the Lord of hosts, which is the one in charge above all of the others. So you see, there can only be one in charge. *By definition we can have only ONE archangel!* You can have more than one general of an army, but only one Commander-in-Chief. The archangel is the “Commander-in-Chief”.

What are the Bible references to “archangel”? Well, first we see that the word “archangel” is used no more than four times in the Word and in all cases it is singular. **Daniel 12:1** mentions Michael as *THE* archangel. Then we see that **1 Thessalonians 4:16** tells us that the Lord descends with the voice of *THE* archangel.

Some may point to **Daniel 10:13** in a few translations as Michael being one of the chief heads, but Young’s Literal Translation translates this verse correctly as:

*“...and lo, MICHAEL, FIRST OF THE CHIEF HEADS, [the “Commander-in-Chief”] hath come in to help me...” Daniel 10:13 Young’s Literal Translation (YLT)*

The last use of “archangel” is found in **Jude 1:9**, which also refers to Michael as *THE Archangel*. Panin’s Numeric New Testament uses “archangel” here, but not all do. Other translations (of those I examined), use “the chief messenger” or something similar instead. Either way, they indicate that there is only *ONE* archangel, and that his name is Michael. Michael the archangel is the Captain of the hosts of angels. He is the Lord of hosts. But isn’t Jesus Christ the Lord of hosts? Well, now the following verse comes to mind:

*“Don’t fear anything except the Lord of the armies of heaven! If you fear him, you need fear nothing else.” Isaiah 8:13 The Living Bible (TLB)*

We are to fear the Lord first & foremost. The Lord Jesus Christ is the Lord of hosts mentioned throughout Isaiah and elsewhere. We would conclude from this that Michael the archangel and the Lord Jesus Christ are one and the same.

Now some may say that Jesus is not an “angel”. However the definition for “angel” is “messenger”, not a winged spirit being. In the Word these “messengers” are people, spirit beings with wings, and also the Lord Himself. Below are a couple scriptures to remind us that the Lord is sometimes referred to as an angel.

*“15. THE ANGEL OF THE LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time  
16. AND SAID, “I SWEAR BY MYSELF, DECLARES THE LORD, that because you...  
have not withheld ...your only son,*

17. *I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies,*  
18. *and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”* **Genesis 22:15-18 New International Version (NIV)**

“11. *Then THE ANGEL OF GOD SPOKE TO ME in a dream, saying,...*  
12. *Lift your eyes now and see, all the rams which leap on the flocks are streaked, speckled, and gray-spotted; for I have seen all that Laban is doing to you.*  
13. *I AM THE GOD OF BETHEL, WHERE YOU ANOINTED THE PILLAR AND WHERE YOU MADE A VOW TO ME...”*  
**Genesis 31:11-13 New King James Version (NKJV)**

Now the following verse can be properly understood.

“*For THE LORD HIMSELF will come down from heaven, WITH A LOUD COMMAND, WITH THE VOICE OF THE ARCHANGEL and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.*” **1 Thessalonians 4:16 (NIV)**

Note that it is the Lord’s command and that it is the Lord’s voice shouting the command which is also associated with the message (trumpet call) for that moment. The “dead in Christ” are the first to respond to hearing the Lord’s voice/command/message. We see later who they are.

2. Does all scripture line up with Michael being the Lord Jesus Christ?  
Yes. We’ll examine more.

“Michael” in the Hebrew means, “Who is like God”. And who is like God other than the Son of God, Jesus Christ?...and those who are found in Christ. For it is only in Christ coming forth within us that we can come into the perfect maturity of His life.

“*And God, the giver of all grace, who HAS CALLED YOU TO SHARE HIS ETERNAL GLORY, THROUGH CHRIST, after you have suffered for a short time, WILL HIMSELF MAKE YOU PERFECT, firm, and strong.*”  
**1 Peter 5:10 Weymouth Translation (WEY)**

Some may say that Michael cannot be Jesus Christ because the following verse seems to imply that Michael is inferior to the Devil, perhaps even cowering somewhat before him. But that is not what it is saying, and it is not what it is implying either. Let’s look at it closely in context.

*“8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities.*

*9 Yet MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.”* **Jude 1:8,9 King James Version (KJV)**

This scripture is making a comparison between the way of the flesh nature (Adam), and the way of the archangel, (Christ). It is the way of the flesh nature to bring railing accusations against anybody or anything regardless of who they are or what they stand for, (even taking the Lord’s name in vain). Christ sees this way of giving railing accusations as something reprehensible, for it is not the character of God. And this is confirmed in the following:

*“20. That, however, is not the way of life you learned...*

*22. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to PUT OFF YOUR OLD SELF, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;*

[Those who separate from the old self are “dead to the Adam flesh nature”]

*23. to be made new in the attitude of your minds;*

*24. and to PUT ON THE NEW SELF, CREATED TO BE LIKE GOD in true righteousness and holiness...*

[Those who do this are the dead in verse 22 who rise in Christ...they are the “dead in Christ”. Others do not have him come forth for they don’t hear Him]

*26. “In your anger do not sin”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry,*

*27. and DO NOT GIVE THE DEVIL A FOOTHOLD...*

*29. DO NOT LET ANY UNWHOLESOME TALK COME OUT OF YOUR MOUTHS, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.*

*30. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God,...*

*31. GET RID OF ALL BITTERNESS, RAGE AND ANGER, BRAWLING AND SLANDER, ALONG WITH EVERY FORM OF MALICE*

[notice that most of this verse 31 falls under “railing accusations”].

*32. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.”*

**Ephesians 4:20-32 (NIV)**

So here we see is what Jude is really conveying:

*“8 Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities [since they are acting in the flesh nature of Adam].*

*9 Yet Michael the archangel [being Christ and therefore of divine nature], when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him [the devil] a railing accusation,*

[since Christ has nothing in Him of that fallen nature and neither did Christ respect it nor desire to stoop so low as to imitate it]

*but said, [I, Myself] The Lord rebuke thee.”*

**Jude 1:8,9 (KJV)**

Note that it was not much of a dispute. The Lord simply put the Devil in his place.

The scriptural conclusion so far is clearly that there is only one archangel, his name is “Michael”, he is in command of all other messengers, and Michael is another name for Jesus Christ, the one in charge of all.

3. This next truth is also fairly direct and easy to see.  
Is “Lucifer” another name for Satan?

No. “Lucifer” is used only once in the Word, (**Isaiah 14:12**). In the Hebrew it is *NOT* a proper noun, which means that it is *NOT* a name of anyone or any being or any thing.

“Lucifer” was put there by Jerome when he was working on making an improved Latin version for the Catholic Church. The translation was called the “Latin Vulgate”. The King James Bible translators carried over many of the words from the Latin Vulgate. The King James Bible provided a tremendous light in its day nearly 500 years ago, but compared to today’s light it has lost its glow as a foremost serious study Bible. Many other “mistranslations” have also become apparent in the King James Version, some of which seriously tilt understanding in the wrong direction. (For more detail see our blog on “Bible Translations” at [www.bibleconcepts.com](http://www.bibleconcepts.com).)

So what is the correct translation for the Hebrew word from which “Lucifer” was mistranslated? It means “shining one”, “morning star”, “bright star”, or “splendid star”, depending upon which concordance or Hebrew dictionary you look in. It is a description, (*not a name*). So who is it describing? It is interesting that this is how Jesus describes Himself below when the verse below is translated from the corresponding Greek word:

*“I, JESUS did send my messenger to testify to you these things concerning the assemblies; I AM The Root And The Offspring Of David, THE BRIGHT AND MORNING STAR! “*  
**Revelation 22:16 (YLT)**

That is also how Peter refers to Christ rising within us:

*“...we have even greater confidence in the message proclaimed by the prophets. You must pay close attention to what they wrote, for their words are like a lamp shining in a dark place—until the Day dawns, and CHRIST THE MORNING STAR shines in your hearts.”*  
**2 Peter 1:19 (NLT)**

The description in **Isaiah 14** below is clearly of Christ, or one of great glory like Christ, but who then falls into death. The reference of this “shining one” in **Isaiah 14** is easily seen in verse 4 to be the description of a *MAN (who dies, verse 9)*. *It is not a reference to any spiritual angelic being.* The context is clearly to the man who was the King of Babylon at the time, as identified in verse 4. Let’s see the scripture in context, using a fairly accurate translation, and then continue to see what is really being said.

*“3. In that wonderful day when the LORD gives his people rest from sorrow and fear, from slavery and chains, 4. you will taunt the KING OF BABYLON. You will say, “The mighty man has been destroyed. Yes, your insolence is ended.”... 9. “In the place of the dead there is excitement over your arrival. The spirits of world leaders and mighty kings long dead stand up to see you.*

[the King of Babylon]

*10. With one voice they all cry out, ‘Now you are as weak as we are!’*

*11. Your might and power were buried with you. The sound of the harp in your palace has ceased. Now maggots are your sheet, and worms your blanket.’*

*12. “How you are fallen from heaven [a higher realm], O shining star, son of the morning! [You who once had power & glory to be compared to that of God] You have been thrown down to the earth, [a lower realm] you who destroyed the nations of the world.*

[Now this next passage identifies the root cause of the King of Babylon’s fall as pride...the way of Adam].

*13. For you said to yourself, ‘I will ascend to heaven [a higher spiritual level] and set my throne [authority] above God’s stars*

[those raised to the highest positions by God].

*I will preside on the mountain [kingdom] of the gods far away in the north.*

*14. I will climb to the highest heavens [realms] and be like the Most High.’*

[I will do whatever I want. I will be my own God. I will build bigger barns.]

It was the man Adam that moved to become as God...ruling apart from God. This way of Adam was found in the King of Babylon. And that was his downfall, for pride always leads to a fall.

*15. Instead, you [Adam, and all found in him such as the King of Babylon] will be brought down to the place of the dead, down to its lowest depths.*

*16. Everyone there will stare at you and ask, ‘Can this be the one who shook the earth and made the kingdoms of the world tremble?’*

*17. Is this the one who destroyed the world and made it into a wasteland?*

[We see this happening today as men in power continue with the way of Adam]. *Is this the king who demolished the world’s greatest cities and had no mercy on his prisoners?’ “*

**Isaiah 14 (NLT)**

Now yes, as with so many scriptures, there is more to this than can be seen with just a literal understanding. By the Spirit we see that Adam's nature is earthy, naturally focused on the things of the earth. This is because he is a being formed of the dust of the earth. Satan was given to feed on the dust...the nature of Adam. The carnal mind of Adam and all of us from Adam have a mindset of deciding what is good and what is evil...from our thrones. We like to decide what we want.

Satan steers that along to keep man immersed in vanity...away from truth. And also steers that weakness along in a way to develop contrary views. Because of this, man has no hope apart from Christ. Apart from the mind of Christ the brightest of men are like the blind leading the blind. And so we take sides regarding governments, economics, education, religions, and within religions. Relationships dissolve. Disputes are settled by violence & bloodshed. Those of Adam tend to become very indignant toward those who would question their decisions, (authority/throne). Satan builds his corporate body using this flaw within men to his advantage. From these men working together come systems of men....governments, religions. Satan gains more control and power as he builds up systems of men. He started as a little serpent, but now at the time of the harvest of the age we see him as a fierce dragon with legs and wings and seven heads!

So in summary the "shining one", this "bright morning star" is referring to the King of Babylon in the natural, but to Adam in the spiritual sense. It was Adam who was created in the image of God, but then formed (lowered) into the dust realm of the flesh nature, split into male & female, subjected to the entrance of pride, vanity & death. There is a divine purpose to it all, and it does have a bright ending...not for the old Adam nature, but for making a habitation fit for God...the last Adam, Christ Jesus, Head & Body. As for the devil?...his name is Satan, (**Revelation 12 & 20**).

This passage from Isaiah uses the King of Babylon as an example for a specific reason. Babylon with its king represented the statue of man in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, for all of the other kingdoms of man flowed from this one. That statue of man represented the kingdoms of men under Adam. Babylon means "confusion". That is what comes of the mixture of good & evil. That is a good summary of the nature of Adam...double-minded, unstable, and headed for disaster. This passage of Isaiah is clearly a warning to men to not go in the way of Adam...the way of ruling apart from God.

In the next study we will continue to expose other religious myths that are intertwined with the ones that were presented here in this "Part One". Ironing these wrinkles out will pave the way for the Word of God to become effective. Many pieces of the puzzle will begin to fall into place as we remove the ones that don't belong there.

In Part Two we'll look at the following:

Was (and/or) is Satan an angel of light?  
Is Satan the anointed cherub of Ezekiel 28?  
What are the "stones of fire" of Ezekiel 28?  
What happened when Jesus saw Satan fall as lightning from heaven?  
How does all of this tie together for us today?

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