

Satan

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Beliefs About Satan

90% of American adults believe Satan is real and is active in the world.

73% of Church of Christ adults believe Satan is real and is active in the world.

2

What is Satan's Name?

Devil: From the Greek *Diablos* meaning “adversary” (Satan is specifically mentioned 33 times in the New Testament)

Satan: From the Hebrew word for “oppose” or “obstruct”

Beelzebub (god of Ekron), Belial (without profit), Azazel (impurity) are Hebrew names associated with Satan

Lucifer: From Latin translation of Isaiah 14:12 “morning star”

3

Where Do Our Depictions of the Devil Come From?

- Horns are an ancient symbol of power associated with gods and goddesses in the ancient Middle East and were linked with fertility cults.
- The tail and hooves represent the bestial nature.
- The color red comes from Egyptian associations with death



4

Where Did Satan Come From?

The Bible gives no clear explanation of Satan's origin; his existence is taken as a given.

Whatever Satan's origin, he is lesser than God.

5

Satan is Not Omnipotent

⁹ "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. ¹⁰ "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. ¹¹ But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

¹² The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger." (Job 1:9-12)

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Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— (Hebrews 2:14)

The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work. (1 John 3:8)

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7

Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)

“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. (Ephesians 4:26-27)

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8

Satan is Not Omnipresent

Omnipresence is an attribute limited to God.

But...Satan's ability to tempt seems to indicate some means of being in more than one place at once or having some power to extend temptation. (???)

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How is Satan Described?

Enemy

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. (1 Peter 5:8)

10

Schemer

¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (Ephesians 6:11-12)

(An Overseer) must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap. (1 Timothy 3:7)

11

Liar

You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies. (John 8:44)

12

Prince and Ruler of this World

Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. (John 12:31)

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. (Ephesians 2:2)

13

Tempter

For this reason, when I could stand it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith. I was afraid that in some way the tempter had tempted you and that our labors might have been in vain. (1 Thessalonians 3:5)

14

Blinds People to the Truth

The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. (2 Corinthians 4:4)

15

Engages in Spiritual Warfare Against Christians

¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (Ephesians 6:12)

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Masquerades as Christians

¹³ For such people are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. ¹⁵ It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. (2 Corinthians 11:13-14)

17

Creates False Miracles

The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, (2 Thessalonians 2:9)

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Satan's Ultimate End

¹⁰ And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Revelation 20:10)

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Cherubim and Seraphim

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What are Cherubim?

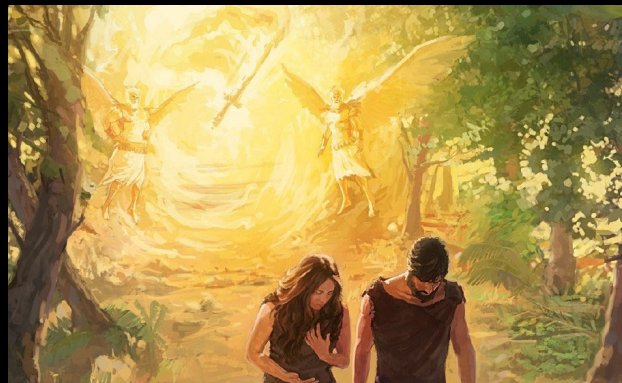
Cherubim are some sort of spiritual being distinct from God, Satan, angels, Seraphim and demons.

They are NOT angels.



21

After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life. (Genesis 3:24)



22

¹⁸ And make two cherubim out of hammered gold at the ends of the cover. ¹⁹ Make one cherub on one end and the second cherub on the other; make the cherubim of one piece with the cover, at the two ends. ²⁰ The cherubim are to have their wings spread upward, overshadowing the cover with them. The cherubim are to face each other, looking toward the cover. (Exodus 25:18-20)



23

They are indicated to be servants of God

He parted the heavens and came down; dark clouds were under his feet. ¹⁰ He mounted the cherubim and flew; he soared on the wings of the wind. (Psalm 18:9-10)

24

God is Enthroned Between Cherubim

*Hear us, Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock.
You who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth.
(Psalm 80:1)*

The LORD reigns, let the nations tremble; he sits
enthroned between the cherubim, let the earth shake.
(Psalm 99:1)

25

What are the Seraphim?

Seraphim are some sort of spiritual being distinct from God, Satan, angels, Cherubim and demons.

They are NOT angels.



26

*In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. ³ And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."
(Isaiah 6:1-3)*

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The End of the Matter...

Much more could be said about Spiritual Beings. Perhaps one day you can ask God...

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