

## PATHWAY TO PEACE: BIBLE STUDY GUIDE – LESSON 4

### **Lesson 4: The Master of Disaster**

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.

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.

#### **1. What does the Bible say about God’s character?**

**Read ALL the following Bible texts:** 1 John 4:16; 1 Corinthians 13:4 – 8; Jeremiah 29:11; John 10:10

**Write Bible Answer:**

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It must reemphasized that God’s love is kind and it thinks no evil. In other words 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. 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.

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

**Read ALL the following Bible texts:** 1 John 3:8; Revelation 12:9

**Write Bible Answer:**

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This text basically sums up the whole lesson for us today. It is clear that the devil is the originator of sin. According to **Revelation 12:9** the devil is also known as Satan. The terrible consequence of sin is pain, misery,

tragedy, or death. But praise the Lord, Jesus, the Son of God was sent to this earth to destroy sin or get rid of it forever friend. Jesus came to save us from sin and sin's ugly results misery and death, and not leave us in it.

**3. Who was Satan known as before he sinned? And where was he living at that time?**

**Read the following Bible text:** Isaiah 14:12

**Write Bible Answer:**

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**4. Who does Jesus reveal who he saw fall from heaven?**

**Read the following Bible text:** Luke 10:18

**Write Bible Answer:**

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**5. How does book of Revelation clarify this?**

**Read the following Bible text:** Revelation 12:9; Revelation 12:4; Revelation 1:20; Isaiah 9:15;

**Write Bible Answer:**

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The lighting that fell from heaven is Satan. He was the same person who was the angelic being known as Lucifer in Heaven. In Revelation 12:9 it re-emphasizes this by indicating that Satan was cast out of heaven.

**6. Before Satan was cast out of Heaven what was his character-like, and also what was his angelic position in heaven?**

To find these answers you must go to *Isaiah chapter 14* and *Ezekiel chapter 28*. Both of these chapters reveal that Lucifer, now known as Satan, is the evil mastermind behind the kings of Babylon and Tyrus. They were wicked and sinful kingdoms.

Now let's revisit Isaiah 14:12 and then look at Ezekiel 28:12-15 to find out the character of Lucifer and his position before he was cast out of Heaven.

**Read the following Bible texts:** Isaiah 14:12; Ezekiel 28:12 – 15; Psalm 99:1

**Write Bible Answer:**

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In Ezekiel 28:2 God reveals that the king Tyrus was full of pride, so much so that he believed that he was a god. He said in his mind, “I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas.” Near the end of verse two, God reveals to king that he is just a “man” (human being). Note, God does not say here that the king of Tyrus is a created angel. According to **Hebrews 2:9**, humans were made a little lower than the angels. Angels excel in strength, power, and intelligence that supersede humans many times over.

In Ezekiel 28:12 God transitions his focus from the human, king of Tyrus, to the evil mastermind behind the kingdom of Tyrus and that is Lucifer, Satan himself. Ezekiel 28:12 – 14 is no longer describing a human king, but an angel excelling in strength, power, intellect, beauty, and music.

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. As the most beautiful angel ever known, Lucifer held a high angelic position in God's government as a “covering” cherub or angel. **Psalm 99:1** explains that a “covering” angel has one of two great angels that stand on the left side or right side of God's throne.

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.

### 7. So, why did Lucifer, now Satan chose to sin?

**Read the following Bible texts:** Ezekiel 28:17; Isaiah 14:13, 14; Proverbs 16:18

**Write Bible Answer:**

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Lucifer was up lifted up with pride because of the beauty and wisdom that God gave him. **Proverbs 16:18** says “<sup>18</sup>Pride *goeth* before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.” And that is exactly what happened to Lucifer. His pride of himself corrupted his God given wisdom and knowledge.

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.

### 8. What happened in heaven as a result of Lucifer's rebellion against God and God's love?

**Read the following Bible texts:** Revelation 12:7 - 9

**Write Bible Answer:**


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As a result of this open rebellion against God there was war in Heaven. This rebellious war caused havoc in the peaceful and loving environment of Heaven. Satan went head to head in the war in heaven with Michael, and his angels.

**9. Who is Michael?**

**Read the following Bible texts:** Jude 1:9; Daniel 12:1; Isaiah 9:6; 1 Thessalonians 4:16; John 5:25 - 29

**Write Bible Answer:**


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Michael in Hebrew means “who is like God” meaning identical to God, not a created being, but God. ***Jude 1:9*** refers to Michael as the archangel which means “the chief angel.” In ***1 Thessalonians 4:16*** it is this archangel, the voice of the Lord, Jesus, who raises the dead from their graves and in ***John 5:25-29*** it is only the voice of Jesus that raises the dead from their graves at His second coming. There is no doubt that Michael is not a created angel, but identified as Jesus Christ, the eternal “commander in chief” of all the holy angels He created.

Satan actually fought head to head with Jesus Christ in heaven. As a result of the war in heaven against Michael and his angels, Satan and all the angels that were persuaded and believe Satan’s lies and deceptions were cast out of heaven. In ***Revelation 12:4***, Satan is depicted as a dragon in which he deceived one-third of the angels of heaven also known as “stars” according to ***Job 38:7*** and ***Isaiah 14:13***.

It is evident here that this war had to be very intense to the point where ALL the angels in heaven were faced with a life changing decision to chose God’s established and proven government of love and freedom of worship or Lucifer’s “new” government mixed with pride, corruption, and destruction. So is evident in this war in heaven that Lucifer, now also known as the devil which means false accuser, accused God’s government falsely. Lucifer deceived one-third of the angels in heaven to make a fatal decision. Why were they deceived? Those angels, now known as demons, simply believed a lie. That’s right. The fallen angels also allowed pride, jealousy, and discontent to grow in their own hearts. We do not know how long the war in heaven lasted, but it is quite clear that Lucifer did not back down from his position causing him and those who believed him to be cast out of heaven.

From our study today we can confidently conclude that Satan is the author is sin, misery, death, and destruction. He is ruthless and relentless. Satan is the master of disaster. Not God. ***Revelation 12:12*** says “<sup>12</sup>Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.” And ***1 Peter 5:8*** says “<sup>8</sup>Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.” It is evident from these passages of scripture that Satan still brings about disaster, war, death and tragedy. Satan hates the human race with a passion. Why? He knows that he can not touch God. He knows that the human race was made in the image of God. The only way he figures he can hurt God is through the misery, death and sin of His creation. Satan literally wants to steal, kill, and destroy all people. But Satan still wants to be worshiped and have a kingdom. But only God, our Creator, and Saviour deserve our worship. Even though Satan is the master of disaster, Jesus is our master Saviour and friend.