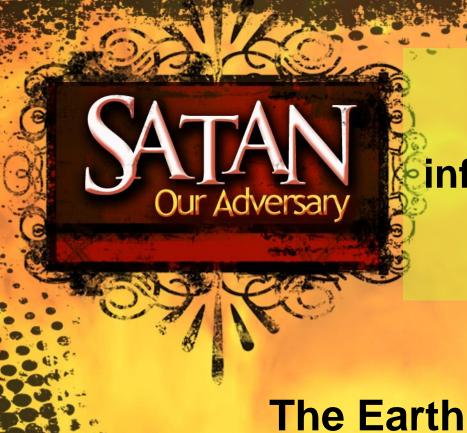




Early in the Bible, an indication of some influence in opposition to God and all that God loves.

The Garden – Gen. 3

- Questioned God's law vs. 1.
- Questioned God's veracity vs. 4.
- Questioned God's goodness vs. 5.



Early in the Bible, an indication of some influence in opposition to God and all that God loves.

The Earth – Gen. 6:5

- Wickedness was great.
- Men's hearts on evil continually.



Early in the Bible, an indication of some influence in opposition to God and all that God loves.

After the flood

- > Tower of Babel.
- > Descent into idolatry.
- > Israel's difficulty in remaining faithful.



Job 1 and 2

First indication that this influence against God was actually a spiritual being.

Satan

- Capable of presence at a particular place and time, but not omnipresent.
- Capable of being seen, in his person, by God.
- Capable of rational thought.



Job 1 and 2

First indication that this influence against God was actually a spiritual being.

Important Points:

- > Satan is a relentless adversary.
- > Satan is a fallible adversary.
- > Satan is a *limited* adversary.



Job 1 and 2

First indication that this influence against God was actually a spiritual being.

Other Mentions of Satan in OT:

- 1 Chron. 21:1 Moved David to number Israel.
- Zech. 3:1-2 Rebuked by the Lord for opposing the high priest Joshua.



In NT:

First introduction is thru his behind-the-scenes influence on a physical being.

King Herod – Mat. 2

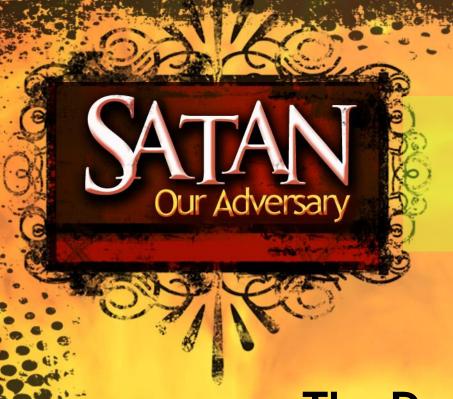
- Counterpart to the serpent in Gen. 3.
- Working stealthily to ruin God's plan.
- > Pretending an interest in good.



Then, identification of Satan as the influence behind evil

The Devil - Mat.4

- Counterpart to Job 1 and 2.
- > Capable of being seen by Jesus.
- > Rational being, capable of conversation.



Then, identification of Satan as the influence behind evil

The Devil - Mat.4

- > A relentless adversary.
- > A fallible adversary.
- > A *limited* adversary.



Remainder of NT

- "Satan" 37 times in 34 verses, 12 books.
- > "Devil" 34 times in 32 verses, 14 books.



Remainder of NT

- NATURE: Beelzebub "lord of filth."
- > CHARACTER: "the evil one."
- DOMAIN: "the god of this world (age)"; "ruler of this world"; "prince of the power of the air."



Remainder of NT

- MINIONS: "ruler of demons."
- ➢ INFLUENCE: blinded the minds of those who do not believe.
- WORK: "the tempter"; "walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."



Bad and Scary?

The Bible's Assurances:

- > Satan is not God.
- ➢ Satan is not irresistible 1 Pet. 5:9; Jas. 4:7.
- ➤ Satan is not a winner Rev. 12;
 His future Mat. 25:41; Rev. 20:10.



Be afraid of Satan?

Trust Jesus!

"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."
1 Cor. 15:57

