

23. Here is a synopsis by Dr. Merrill F. Unger:

"When the morning stars sang together." Creation morning is especially associated with the "morning stars," including Lucifer, which are especially beautiful. The stars are figuratively said to sing God's praises (Psalm 19:1; 148:3) and here, in lofty poetry, are symbolic of the angels, answering to the sons of God or angels in the parallelism of this verse. The fall of Lucifer, and a great host of angels with him (Ezekiel 28:11–19), occurred subsequent to this blissful scene when all these jubilant, sinless creatures shouted for joy with the cornerstone (capstone), signaling completion of earth's creation, signalized the intense joy among all God's creatures (angels), as this scene evidently antedates the renovation of a chaotic earth for the late-comer man.

The laying of the foundation (Ezra 3:10–11), and especially the capstone (the crowning stone at the summit, marking the completion of the building), was an occasion of rejoicing and singing (Zechariah 4:7). This passage from the lips of the Creator Himself sweeps away the curtain of time and presents a vista of eternity past and the scene of sinless bliss that marked the creation of the earth ex nihilo, apparently for the habitation of the pristine holy angelic hosts.¹

24. Quite a number of things occurred prior to and during the context of Genesis 1:1:

The Prehistoric Period Prior to Genesis 1:1

1. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are eternal. What is eternal has no beginning or end. The triune nature of the Godhead is indicated by the word, 'Elohim, the nominative, masculine plural of the noun אֱלֹהִים ('Elohim).
2. At a certain point within the environment of eternity, the Godhead made the decision to create the species מלאך (*mal'ach*): "angel." The Greek word for this group is ἄγγελος (*ángelos*). Both words mean, "messenger, diplomat, or herald; one who announces, teaches, protects, defends, or disciplines."

¹ Merrill F. Unger, *Unger's Commentary on the Old Testament: Genesis—Song of Solomon* (Chicago: The Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, 1981), 1:733.

3. The population of this species is unknown since its number is so large it cannot be counted. We will note two New Testament passages that use several words to describe the angelic census.
4. First, the writer of Hebrews has a passage that includes the noun, **μυριάς (muriás)** to describe the presence of an innumerable population of angels:

Hebrews 12:22 You have come to Mount Zion [grace orientation²], even to the city of the living God [spiritual maturity], the heavenly Jerusalem [escrow awards (NA #10)], and to myriads of angels [μυριάσιν ἀγγέλων (muriásin angélōn): an innumerable assembly of angels] (NET)

5. The word, **μυριάς (muriás)**: “myriads,” means innumerable and is also used in the NASB translation. Other translations treat the word differently. The KJV uses, “innumerable,” which is fine, while the NIV selects “thousands upon thousands.”
6. The Greek noun *muriás* may be correctly translated by each of these terms. However, the Greek dictionary definitions include the phrases, “an indefinite, large number,”³ or “countless tens of thousands/myriads upon myriads”⁴:

Myriad. Greek: μυριάς: countless, infinite. Existing in myriads; of indefinitely great number; innumerable.⁵

7. This same circumstance occurs in John’s Revelation:

Revelation 5:11 Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number was myriads and myriads, and thousands of thousands. (NASB)

² As opposed to Mount Sinai which refers to legalism associated with the Law. Mount Zion is associated with the Nike Awards conveyed to mature believers.

³ Spiros Zodhiates, ed., “μυρίος,” in *The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament*, rev. ed (Chattanooga: AMG Publishers, 1993), 1000.

⁴ Horst Balz and Gerhard Schneider, eds., “μυριάς,” in *Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1991), 2:446.

⁵ *The Oxford English Dictionary* (1971), s.v. “myriad.”

8. This verse introduces a performance by the angelic choir made up of different ranks of angels that include “living creatures and elders.” Again, the numbers of angles assembled are described as “myriads and myriads and thousands of thousands.”
9. We have established the population of the angelic community as “countless, infinite, or innumerable.” They were each created simultaneously in eternity past and have eternal life.
10. We function in the environment of the “space-time continuum”:

Physics. The four-dimensional continuum of one temporal and three spatial coordinates in which any event or physical object is located.⁶

11. Therefore, to describe a sequence of events in the eternal state we must resort to this format.
12. We have established that God is eternal without a beginning or an ending, thus He in three Persons has always existed.
13. In eternity past, the Godhead made the decision to create a class of individuals that are called angels. How long this group existed before the universe was created is impossible to know.
14. We have established the fact that when the universe was created, these angels were extremely impressed. They “sang in chorus” and “shouted for joy” (Job 38:7).
15. After the creation of the universe in Genesis 1:1, these angels functioned as a unit under the authority of the Godhead for another unknown period of time.
16. The angels were created with one attribute common to the human race whose creation would not occur for some extended period of time later.
17. That common attribute is volition, the power to make personal choices that remain compatible with divine directives or not. The angels maintained positive volition for an unknown period.
18. During this period of compliance, planet earth functioned in its original status-quo perfection.
19. At some point, the Godhead chose to delegate some authority down to a class of angels called cherub, who were assigned four wings as an insignia of superior rank.

⁶ *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*, 5th ed. (2016), s.v. “space-time.”

20. The cherub who was appointed senior-ranking officer and given the rank, “anointed cherub,” is the subject of Ezekiel 28:14. He and the entirety of the angelic population had access to the universe including planet earth both enjoying the perfection of their original creations.
21. The Anointed Cherub obtained a moniker from the text of his rebellious Five Assertions recorded in Isaiah 14:12–14.

NOTE: A parallel passage on the fall of Satan is found in Ezekiel 28:1–19. Isaiah 14:12–17 presents the judgment of Satan in its *logical* order. Ezekiel 28:1–19 does the same but does so in its *chronological* order. Here is an expanded translation of the passage containing Lucifer’s Five Assertions (**1st–5th**):

Isaiah 14:12a “How you have fallen from heaven [the third], O star of the morning, son of the dawn [i.e., “Lucifer”]!

In **Isaiah 14:12 (KJV)**, the proper noun, Lucifer, is the Latin word for “light-bearer,” and is used to translate the Hebrew word **חֵילָל** (*Helel*), which means “radiant star.” The **New American Standard Bible** translates *Helel* “Star of the Morning.” The Hebrew text continues with the phrase **בֶן־שָׁחָר** (*ben-Shachar*), translated “son of the dawn” in all the major English versions. Star of the Morning, Son of the Dawn refers to the superior officer of the Dark Side, the cherub-ranked fallen angel known by the monikers, Satan or the devil, but whose real name is *Helel ben-Shachar*. Employing the Latin noun, Lucifer, conveniently summarizes all of these translations.⁷

Isaiah 14:12b You have been cut down to the earth [banished from the 3d heaven], you who have weakened the nations [Satanic Academy of Cosmic Didactics]!

22. This verse looks forward to the banishment of Lucifer into the Abyss of Hades at the 2d Advent following the Tribulation. What follows is the account of Lucifer’s Five Assertions:

⁷ Joe Griffin, *One Day at a Time: Overview of Christian Doctrines*, ed. John Cameron Smith (St. Charles: Joe Griffin Media Ministries, 2013), 161n124.

Isaiah 14:13

“But you thought [a look back retrospectively to the time of his prehistoric rebellion in eternity past] and then said from your stream of consciousness, [1st] ‘I will ascend to the third heaven [the lust to overthrow God]; [2nd] I will raise my throne above the stars of God [become commander-in-chief of the angelic armies], [3d] and I will sit [on the throne] on the mount of assembly in the recesses of the north [rulership over the angelic population].

v. 14 [4th] ‘I will ascend above the heights of the clouds [establish his dominance in the 3d heaven]; [5th] I will make myself like the Most High [replace ‘Elohim].’”

23. It is clear from the accounts of Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 that the rebellion took place in eternity past, yet the universe was up and running in its original created status of absolute perfection including planet earth.
24. Lucifer was able to recruit one-third of the angelic population to join him in his rebellion against God. We learn about this division in:

Revelation 12:4a Now the dragon’s [Lucifer’s] tail swept away a third of the stars in heaven [$\frac{1}{3}$ of those referred to as “myriad”] and hurled them to the earth. (NET)

25. Arrogant #1 solicited Arrogant #2. Lucifer had put in play his Five Assertions, but first he had to go through the gauntlet of divine jurisprudence. A trial was convened, witnesses were called, and testimonies were given.
26. The jurisprudence that underwrites the laws of God are founded on attributes of divine integrity that include his perfect righteousness, justice, and omniscience under the policy of grace.
27. This system means that the trial was carried out under the aegis of the love of God.

28. At the conclusion of the trial, the Supreme Court of Heaven issued its opinion:

“The decision reached in regard to a cause tried or argued before them, expounding the law as applied to the case, and detailing reasons upon which the judgment was based.”⁸

29. This opinion is recorded in:

Matthew 25:42 “Then He will say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels.

30. Prior to the Luciferian Rebellion, the universe and the earth were in status quo perfection. The time that elapsed from the creation noted in Genesis 1:1 to the time God instituted chaos in verse 2 is unknown.
31. The sentence for “the devil and his angels,” was incarceration in the “eternal fire.” However, this sentence has not been carried out. Lucifer apparently appealed the decision and asked for a delay of the sentence.
32. Up to this point, the universe had been functioning in total perfection. In other words, the time from its creation until Genesis 1:2 could have been myriads and myriads of millennia or a comparatively very short time.
33. Nevertheless, when Lucifer fell, the perfection of the universe was turned into absolute darkness or chaos. While the rebellion was being adjudicated in the third heaven, the universe and planet earth were encapsulated in total darkness. We know this from:

Genesis 1:2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

Summary of Events that Occurred in Genesis 1:2

1. The verse opens with the Qal perfect of **הָיָה** (*hayah*): the verb to be and translated “was.” The perfect tense indicates a completed action.

⁸ Henry Campbell Black, “Opinion,” in *Black’s Law Dictionary*, rev. 4th ed. (St. Paul: West Publishing Co., 1968), 1243–44.

2. This completed action resulted in a “formless and void” universe that replaced the perfection that existed in verse 1. The word “formless” is the noun **תֹהוּ (tohu)** and the word “void” is the noun **בֹהוּ (bohu)**: “chaos,” indicating a loss of order.
3. The idea here is universal geological upheaval. What was previously in a state of perfection is now in a state of disorder.
4. This situation is compounded by the absence of light. The word “darkness” is the noun **ךַשְׁךָ (choshech)**: “darkness,” i.e., “absolute darkness.” The universe is frozen in an immovable state or minus 459.67°F.
5. This darkness encapsulated “the surface,” of the “deep.” The word “deep” is the noun, **תְהוּמָה (tehom)**, which refers to the depths of the oceans.
6. The word “surface” is the plural noun **פָנֶה (paneh)**. This is a good translation which indicated that the absolute darkness covered the waters and obviously the land masses.
7. At this point, the KJV ends the sentence with a period. The NET uses a comma followed by the conjunction “but,” while the NASB and NIV employ a comma and the conjunction “and.”
8. Because Genesis 1:3 begins with the restoration of light, the second half of verse 2 indicates what might be referred to as a meltdown administered by the Holy Spirit transforming the ice into water, or chaos changing to order.
9. Therefore, we are able to insert between Genesis verses 1 and 3 several events that took place in the three heavens: (1) Lucifer fomented his rebellion. (2) He convinced one-third of the angelic myriads to betray God and align themselves with him, the “anointed cherub.” (3) The conflict that emerged destroyed the harmony that previously existed among the angels. (4) How long this standoff lasted is not revealed. (5) At some point God put Lucifer and the fallen angels on trial that resulted in a guilty verdict. (6) The rebellious angels were sentenced to the lake of fire for all eternity. (7) Before incarceration occurred, Lucifer petitioned the Supreme Court of Heaven with an appeal. (8) It is presumed that his queries to the Court were, “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?”⁹ (9) In response, God allowed the appeal beginning with the six-day restoration of the earth. (10) The appeal process began with the creation of the first human couple, Adam and Ishah.

⁹ R. B. Thieme, Jr., *The Angelic Conflict* (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2012), 14.

10. The perfect couple was allowed to function in the garden of Eden with free access to its bounty. They were issued one significant exception, prohibition of eating the fruit from “the tree of the knowledge of good and evil” (Genesis 2:17).
11. How long the original couple avoided consumption of this fruit is unknown. However, the perfection of Eden was brought to a halt when Ishah was propagandized by “the serpent” to give it a try.
12. Ishah’s failure was because she did not apply principles the Lord taught her in Bible class. He gave them the produce of the entire garden with the lone exception of “the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”
13. The reason for the prohibition was to test volition. Grace abounded in paradise. Only one tree was prohibited. Loyalty to the Source only required that the fruit of one tree be avoided.
14. What were the advantages possessed by the angelic army? Divine blessings by loyalty to Jesus Christ: **יהָנָה צְבָאֹת** (*Yehovah Sevaoth*): The Lord of the Armies.
15. The same could be said at this point about the first couple’s freedom to take advantage of the bounties of Paradise.
16. Lucifer’s lust for power and Ishah’s lust for wisdom led to violations of divine mandates. The two set up the next stage of the appeal where human volition faces the option to matriculate in the Satanic Academy of Cosmic Didactics or the Divine Academy of Grace Didactics.
17. The Satanic Academy’s faculty is made up of a demon-possessed faculty whose strategy and tactics are to propagandize unbelievers and reversionistic believers into adopting the lifestyle of the devil’s world by subscribing to human viewpoint, human good, and evil.
18. The Divine Academy’s faculty is made up of spirit-filled believers who have grown in grace by the inculcation of truth from consistent study and application of principles, strategies, tactics, and doctrines producing divine viewpoint, divine good, and personal virtue.
19. This latter category is made up of those who have become **Prómachoi** (*πρόμαχοι*): “front rankers” in the scrum of the Invisible War.

20. Believers who buy into the divine principle of truth—**ἀλήθεια** (**alétheia**)—found in Scripture and deploy it in their personal lives are not only honoring God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit, they also demonstrate they ardently subscribe to the veracity of the Word of God.
21. These are the invisible heroes in every generation of the Church Age who produce maximum historical impact in the Invisible War. These are the ones the Lord calls “winners” in the conveyance of the twelve Nike Awards at the evaluation tribunal of Christ, the millennial kingdom, and the eternal state.
22. Finally, these are the ones who advance to spiritual maturity in the sophisticated spiritual life. Their spiritual advance has brought them to Cognitive Invincibility.
23. This level of the spiritual advance qualifies them for the ultimate challenge of evidence testing.

Evidence Testing: Whereas the first stage of maximum glorification of God in spiritual maturity is escrow blessings, the second stage is evidence testing. This level of the spiritual advance is enhanced by the availability of and application of divine power.

Principles Leading Up to and Concluding Lucifer’s Appeal

1. Human suffering is associated with a sequence of events related to the prehistoric creation of angels each to whom God gave volition, the ability to make choices.
2. God did not desire to create automatons programmed to mindlessly accommodate His standards, but creatures who could independently make their own choices.
3. This freedom of volition resulted in the possibility that some would willingly follow His leadership and obey His standards, but also with the freedom to rebel and disobey.
4. The angelic community is organized into three ranks: **(1)** seraphs with six-wing and **(2)** cherubs with four-wing designation of ranks, and **(3)** pursuivant,¹⁰ who were rank and file with no insignia of rank.

¹⁰ “Pursuivant, a follower; an attendant. In the British College of Heralds, an officer ranking below a herald [cherub in our illustration]. There are four pursuivants attached to the British College of Arms: Rouge Croix [red cross], Blue Mantle [blue robe], Rouge Dragon [red dragon], and Portcullis [fortress gate]” (Noah Webster, *Webster’s New Twentieth Century Dictionary of the English Language: Unabridged* [Cleveland: The World Publishing Co., 1962], s.v. “pursuivant”).

5. We have noted that Lucifer is a cherub, whose insignia of rank is “four wings,” but he is also chief of the angels, referred to by the Lord as the “anointed Cherub” in Ezekiel 28:14.
6. In the appeal that took place before the Supreme Court of Heaven, Lucifer functioned as his own defence attorney, which has earned him two sobriquets, “Satan” and “the devil” which identify him as “accuser,” and “adversary.”
7. Since the ultimate incarceration of Lucifer and the fallen angels into the lake of fire does not actually take place until after human history is completed, we must conclude that the human race is being called before the court to testify for both the Prosecution and the defense.
8. In order for there to be an environment in which these individuals may testify before the court, the renovation of planet earth had to occur as the courtroom for testimonies presented by men and angels.
9. The first event to occur in Lucifer’s appeal was the divine restoration of planet earth to its pristine perfection. The restoration began in Genesis 1:2b and proceeded over the next six days, the latter event being the creation of mankind, a male and a female, Genesis 1:3–2:25.
10. Two people, Adam and Ishah, were introduced as the first Homo sapiens and appeared as the hearing’s first witnesses for the Prosecution.
11. This appeal has and will continue to progress over the course of human history as witnesses are called forward to provide evidence for both the Prosecution and the defense.
12. Their arguments occur as follows:
A. The Formal Appeal: (1) witnesses for the Prosecution: from the creation of man to his fall and (2) witnesses for the defense: from the fall of man to the First Advent of Christ. **B. Rebuttal:** (3) witnesses for the Prosecution: from the First Advent of Christ to the Rapture of the Church and (4) witnesses for the defense: the Tribulation, Daniel’s seventieth heptad, to the Second Advent of Christ.
C. Closing Arguments: (5) witnesses for the Prosecution: the Second Advent of Christ to Lucifer’s release from the Abyss and (6) witnesses for the defense: the Og-Magog Rebellion to Satan’s incarceration in the lake of fire.

(End JAS3-63-Review. See JAS3-64-Review for continuation of study at p. 91.)