2 Corinthians 11:14 - No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

v. 15 - Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds.

The teachers described here are emissaries of Lucifer. Their false teachings are exposed by the light of Scripture and made evident through Bible study.

If such communicators are actually believers, but who have deeply flawed theology, they may well face the sin unto death and loss of escrow blessings for both time and eternity. They have rebound with which to recover.

3. The Davidic Covenant Realized:

Principle: All prophecies which have been fulfilled were each fulfilled literally.

The religious Jews of our Lord's day were the first century counterparts of many of today's confused theologians.

Most of the leaders and followers of the various religious factions, e.g., Pharisees, Sadducees, and Essenes (Ἐσσηνοί [essēnoί]) rejected Jesus as the literal fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant.

The Sadducees rejected the idea of a Messiah and did not believe in resurrection or the afterlife. They subscribed to an establishment interpretation of the Mosaic Law and thus were primarily politicians and expedient ones at that.

The Pharisees rejected Jesus as Messiah yet believed in the Old Testament's messianic prophecies. They also believed in the afterlife and resurrection body, but that they were attainable only by keeping the oral law, which is known today as the Talmud.

The Lord's exchange with the Pharisees in Matthew 22 addresses their inability to recognize Him as the Suffering Messiah:

Matthew 22:41 - Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question:

v. 42 - "What do you think about the Christ, whose son is He?" They said to Him, "The son of David."

The Lord poses a two-part question and the Pharisees only address the genetic half, David's Son, but ignore the divine half, God's Son.

Matthew 22:43 - He said to them, "Then how does David in the Spirit call Him 'Lord,' saying,

v. 44 - [Psalm 110:1] 'The Lord [Yahweh: God the Father] said to My Lord [אֲדֹנֶי ('Adonai): God the Son: Jesus the Messiah], "Sit at My right hand, until I put Your enemies beneath Your feet"?

v. 45 - "If David then calls Him 'Lord,' ['Adonai / Kúrios] how is He his son"?

Verse 44 is a quote of Psalm 110:1 in which the first use of "Lord" is a translation of *Yahweh* and refers to God the Father. The second use translates *Adonay* and refers to the Messiah. Therefore the translation could be structured to reveal this:

Matthew 22:44 - God the Father said to David's Lord, the Messiah, "Sit at My right hand, until I put Your enemies beneath your feet" [2d Advent]. (EXT)

The Lord ends His test with another question, "If David calls Him *Kurios*: Lord/Messiah, how is He David's son?"

VISUAL:
Hypostatic
Union

The test is on one subject, the hypostatic union, and requires a two-part answer. The Pharisees understood the true humanity of the Messiah, but did not comprehend that He would also be undiminished deity. As a result they failed the test:

Matthew 22:46 - No one was able to answer Him a word, nor did anyone dare from that day on to ask Him another question.

There were those who did comprehend the dual nature of Jesus, and Peter made an issue of it in his impromptu sermon on the Day of Pentecost:

Acts 2:29 - "Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.

- v. 30 "And so, because he was a prophet and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath to seat one of his descendants [genetic offspring] on his throne [2 Samuel 7:12, 16; Psalm 132:11: requires death and resurrection to be eternal],
- v. 31 he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that He was neither abandoned to <u>Hades</u> [Paradise compartment], <u>nor did His flesh suffer decay</u> [resurrection].
- v. 32 "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses.
- **v. 33** "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.
- v. 34 "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: 'The Lord said to My Lord, "Sit at My right hand,
- v. 35 until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet."
- v. 36 "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ—this Jesus whom you crucified."

Peter makes the case for the hypostatic union crystal clear and many responded to his sermon and believed in Jesus as both Lord—deity, and Christ—anointed humanity.

Many of the biblical titles of our Lord reflect the literal fulfillment of the Davidic Covenant in Him:

1. The Anointed One:

Psalm 132:17 - "There I will cause the horn of David to spring forth; I have prepared a lamp for Mine anointed [*Mashiach*: Messiah]."

2. The Branch of the root of Jesse:

Isaiah 11:1 - Then a shoot [1st Advent] will spring from the stem of Jesse [father of David], and a branch from his roots [Messiah] will bear fruit [salvation].

3. He is called the "Lion of the tribe of Judah" and the "Root of David" in:

Revelation 5:5 - Then one of the angelic staff officers commanded John, "Stop crying! Look, the Lion of the tribe of Judah [title as King of the Jews], the root of David [Messiah], has prevailed and won the victory and is qualified to begin opening the doomsday book and break its seven seals." (EXT)

4. He is identified as the "offspring of David" and the "Bright Morning Star" in:

Revelation 22:16 - "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to declare these things to you for the benefit of the churches. I am the <u>root and the descendant of David</u>, the <u>bright morning star</u>." (EXT)

- 5. This latter title references the prophecy found in;
- Numbers 24:17a "I see Him [Christ], but not now; I behold Him, but not near; a star shall come forth from Jacob, and a scepter shall rise from Israel."
- 6. The Lord is also said to be the "Seed of David" in:
- **2 Timothy 2:8** Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant [**Seed**] of David, according to my gospel.
- 7. The Lord was recognized during the Incarnation as the "Son of David":

Matthew 12:23 - All the crowds were <u>amazed</u> [at the Lord's out-casting of the demon from the blind and mute man whom He also healed, v. 22] and were saying, "Could this Man be the Son of David?"

This was a rhetorical question; some believed He was Messiah while some did not.

8. The initial prophecy of Jesus as the Christ was given by the Lord Himself to Lucifer in the garden of Eden:

Genesis 3:15 - "I will put enmity between <u>you</u> [Lucifer] and the <u>woman</u> [humanity], and between <u>your seed</u> [unbelievers] and <u>her seed</u> [Messiah]; <u>He</u> [Messiah], shall <u>bruise you on the head</u> [2d Advent], and you shall <u>bruise Him on the heel</u> [spiritual death at Calvary]."

9. The "Favored One": Mary's Qualifications:

The last title of Messiah that we noted is "the Seed" and it is the first title of Him mentioned in Scripture. This is a prophecy that immediately follows the introduction of sin into the human race.

Up to this point Adam and Ishah enjoyed sex as the ritual commemorating their marital union, but there was no resultant procreation. Prior to the fall the purpose of the human species was to allow positive volition the opportunity to maintain perfect lives in perfect bodies, however they did not possess eternal life or resurrection bodies.

Since human volition is the key to resolving the angelic conflict, our original parents' rejection of temptation regarding the tree of life upheld the divine experiment. Lucifer and his angelic followers used their free will to rebel against God. Adam and Ishah initially used their free will to remain loyal to the divine will.

VISUAL:
Integrity of God:
Function of
Attributes

The perfection of Eden was maintained as long as the First Couple maintained perfection. But once they violated divine policy, they fell from fellowship with God and their point of contact with divine essence ceased to be His love, but became instead His justice.

Divine righteousness demands perfection and rejects unrighteousness. What righteousness rejects, justice must condemn. The condemnation was eternal separation from God and incarceration into the lake of fire.

However, when the Lord entered the garden beginning in Genesis 3:8, he confronted His antagonists: (1) the Serpent, or Lucifer, in 3:14–15, (2) Ishah in verse 16, and (3) Adam in verses 17–19.

The issue before the Lord was to deal justly with the violations. The serpent was banished and isolated from the rest of the animal kingdom and Lucifer was made the subject of several prophecies:

- 1. Hostility between serpent and the woman.
- 2. Hostility between Lucifer and his followers, and Jesus Christ and His followers.
- The Seed of the woman shall crush the head of Lucifer, at the Second Advent.
- 4. Lucifer will crush the Seed's heel on the cross in the sense that he is the one who offered the successful challenge to the sinlessness of the woman which resulted in her fall and the subsequent fall of Adam.

What is interesting is that Jesus Christ, the revealed Person of the Trinity, is the one who issues the prophecy. He speaks of His true humanity when He references the woman's "seed."

The "Seed" is Messiah, who will be born of a woman. We will later discover, from the prophet Isaiah, that the Messiah will have no human father and thus have the title, the "Son of God."

The Messiah will appear in human history and will fulfill the salvation plan of God. The sin of Adam and Ishah and those of the rest of the human race must be dealt with but only in a manner that appearses the integrity of God.

Since man is fallen, he is incapable of resolving his own imperfection. Only God can do this and He developed a plan where the Second Person of the Trinity would become united with true humanity and become a qualified mediator between the two parties in dispute:

- (1) God, represented by His undiminished deity, and
- (2) mankind, represented by His true humanity.

The latter requires a human body and this is prophesied to occur through the pregnancy of a woman.

The question arises as to what woman would qualify for this duty? It turned out to be Mary, the espoused fiancée of Joseph of the Galilean city of Nazareth.

Luke 1:26 - Now in the sixth month [of Elizabeth's pregnancy] the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth,

Luke 1:27 - to a <u>virgin</u> [π αρθένος, *parthénos*] engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin's name was Mary.

v. 28 - And coming in he said to her, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."

Why was Mary "favored" to be the incubator for the biological life of the Messiah and not someone else?