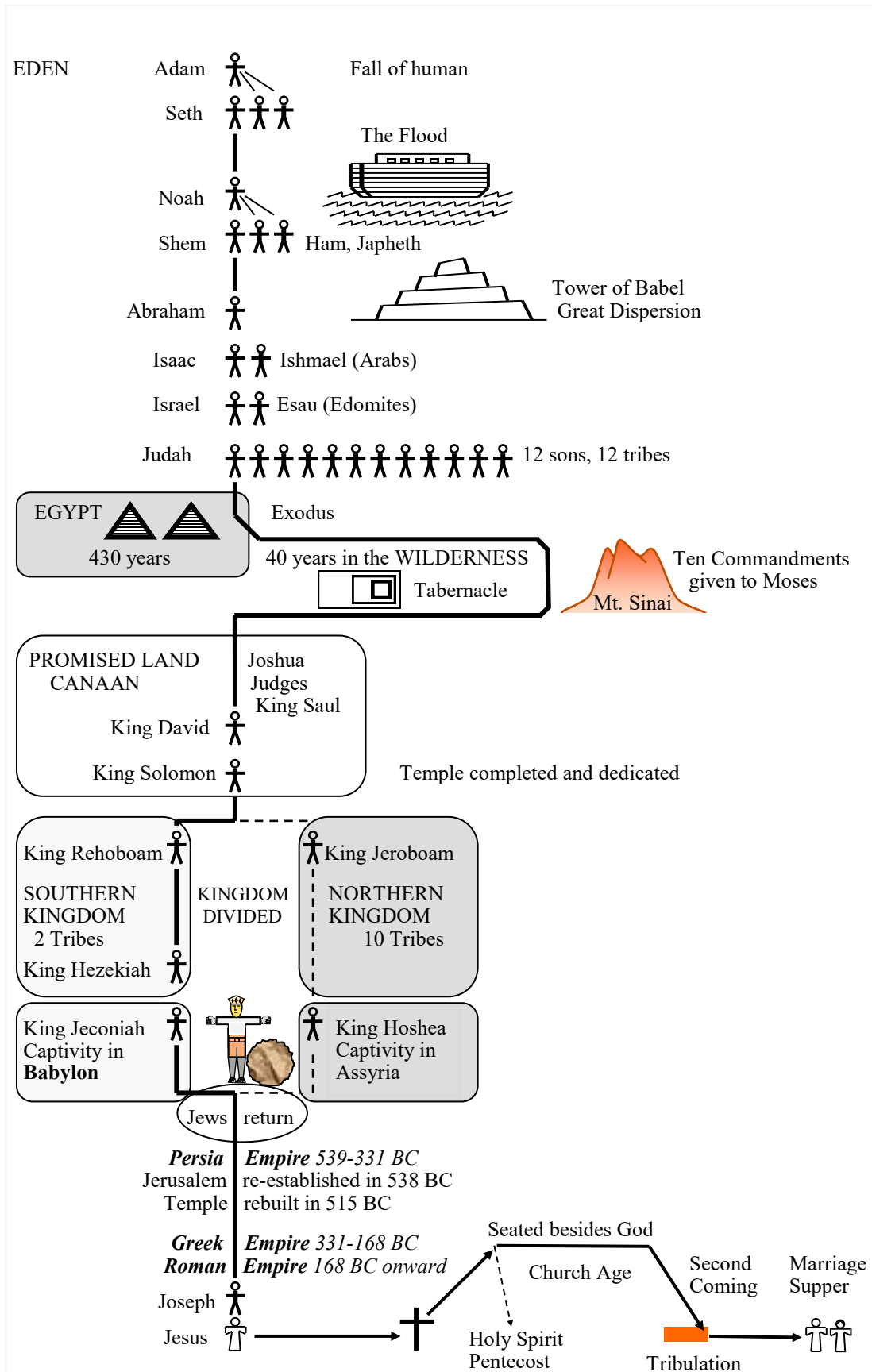


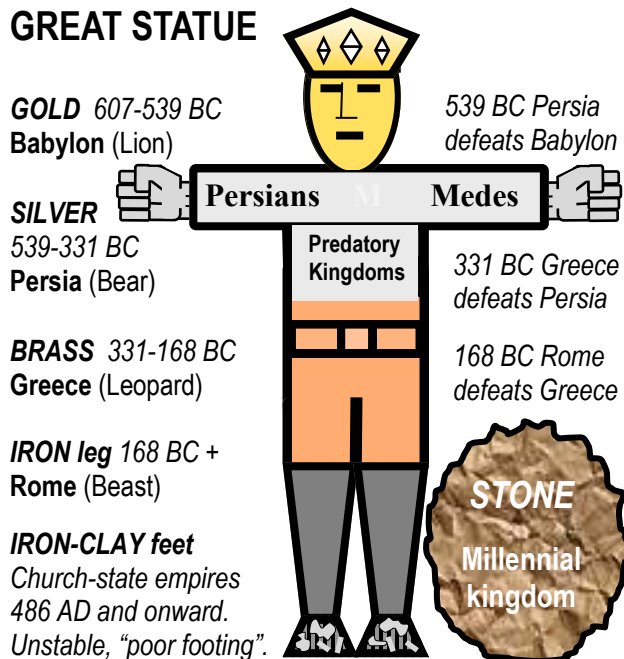
LINE OF REDEMPTION

Adam-Eve
 Seth
 Enosh
 Cainan
 Mahalalel
 Jared
 Enoch
 Methuselah
 Lamech
 Noah
 Shem
 Arphaxad
 Cainan
 Shelah
 Eber
 Peleg
 Reu
 Serug
 Nabor
 Terah
 Abraham-Sara
 Isaac
 Jacob (Israel)
 Judah-Tamar
 Perez
 Hezron
 Ram
 Amminadab
 Nahshon
 Salmon-Rahab
 Boaz-Ruth
 Obed
 Jesse
 King David
 King Solomon
 King Rehoboam
 King Abijah
 King Asa
 King Jehoshaphat
 King Jehoram
 King Uzziah
 King Jotham
 King Ahaz
 King Hezekiah
 King Manasseh
 King Amon
 King Josiah
 King Jeconiah
 Shealtiel
 Zerubbabel
 Abiud
 Eliakim
 Azor
 Zabok
 Achim
 Eliud
 Eleazar
 Matthan
 Jacob
 Joseph-Mary
 Jesus



Chapter 3: Physical Wars—Humans, Animals, Creatures

GREAT STATUE



Predatory WORLD KINGDOMS

The third chapter of our Bible study covers **physical war**. Most wars don't start accidentally. They are planned by someone somewhere.

As you see from the above statue (succession of predatory kingdoms), evil spirits had already planned, six centuries ahead, what each nation will have what goals, governments, inventions, progress, culture, weapons, and wars. Victories and defeats were already determined for them. The whole intention was Satan's premeditated schedule to harass and harm God's people.

God is omniscient. He knows and is aware of all. He easily overheard the conspiracy of fallen angels strategizing and actualizing the predatory world empires to torment the Hebrews. God knows the "game plan" of the devils. So, He passed these plots along to Daniel—centuries before they will happen—to notify, explain the vision, set in prophecy, and warn His people.

Scientists use the scientific method to verify and establish facts, but criticize religions for not proving its beliefs by evidence. The Bible does, e.g., the Lord revealed to Daniel the mystery of the Statue (world kingdoms to come): Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome. These historical events really came true, thus proving by factual, observable, and empirical evidence that God foresees future and interacts with humanity.

LUCIFER initiated VIOLENCE and WAR

Violence was a downfall for Satan. God says, "By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with **violence**, and **thou [Lucifer the Devil] hast sinned**" (Eze. 28:16).

Like a businessman driven by greed for money, the Devil apparently got violent and harmed other angels while operating his merchandise business.

"For the love of money [and merchandise it buys] is the root of all evil: which some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows" (1 Tim. 6:10).

Evil people (and angels) love **violence**, such as in movies, sports, Roman gladiatorial combats, etc. Violence fuels war—pre-war, in war, post-war.

STATUE—"THE WORLD" KINGDOMS

The kingdoms of the Statue are characterized by **violence**, exploitation, and predation upon people. The body sections of the statue represents the succession of different world empires. Each one left its mark on ideology, economy, politic, culture, and technology. These become part of the next world power. All converge into one body—the "statue." Its conniving brain is really the "god of this world" (Satan). The "body" climaxes into the "beast with 7 heads and 10 horns" in the Book of Revelation.

"THE WORLD" SYSTEM

Biblically, "the world" means Earth, universe, or evil spiritual system among earthlings. The "world system" is used by Satan to pit sinful people (with the spirit of anti-Christ, anti-God) against Jews and Christians. "**Believe not every spirit, but try [test] the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world ... this is that spirit of antichrist ... and even now [first century] already is it in the world**" (1 John 4:1-5).

"**Do not love the world** [devilish sinful lifestyle] ... lust of the flesh ... lust of the eyes ... pride of life, is not of the Father but is of the world. The world passes away, and the lust of it ... This is the victory that has overcome **the world**—our faith ... The whole world [evil system] lies in the power of the evil one [the Devil]" (1 John 2:15; 5:4, 9). "**In the world** you will have tribulation ... I [sinless Jesus] have overcome **the world**" (John 16:33).

END of THE WORLD—the great HARVEST

Jesus said, "**The harvest is the end of the world**" (Rom. 12:2). The "end of the world" doesn't mean the Earth ends. Figuratively, it means **the harvest** of the antichrists (people against Christ and God).

BABYLON—GOLD HEAD

1-3 [King] Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him. Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to shew the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king. And the king said unto them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream.

27-29 Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king; but there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king **Nebuchadnezzar** what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions ... are these; As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass.

31-33 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image ... whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee. This image's head was of fine **gold**, his breast and his arms of **silver**, his belly and his thighs of **brass**, His legs of **iron**, his feet part of **iron** and part of **clay** ...

37-38 Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom ... Thou art this head of gold. (Dan. 2)

In 1750 BC, Hammurabi founded the Babylonian Empire. The road to the Ishtar Gate was bordered by high walls decorated by **lions** in glazed bricks. Inside was the famous "Hanging Gardens of Babylon." Esagila, the temple of the god Marduk, was embellished with **gold**.

1ST PREDATOR—LION (BABYLONIAN)

"Four great [spiritual] beasts [predatory kingdoms] came up from the sea [people] ... The first was like a **lion**" (Dan. 7:3-4).

In 701 BC, the northern 10 tribes of Hebrews were deported to Assyria. In 586 BC, **Babylon** (spiritual lion-like beast) defeated Jerusalem inhabitants. The two southern tribes of Judah and Benjamin were exiled to Babylon. After 70 years of captivity, the **Hebrews**, now known as **Jews**, returned to their land. King Cyrus permitted them to rebuild their temple and city.

PERSIA—SILVER CHEST and ARMS

"This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of **silver** ... After thee [Babylonian king] shall arise another kingdom [Persia] inferior to thee" (Dan. 2:32-39).

Daniel tells Nebuchadnezzar's **son** Belshazzar that his kingdom will succumb to Persia. God allows who has kingdom or not.

18-21 O thou king [**Belshazzar**], the most high God gave **Nebuchadnezzar** thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honour ... But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in **pride**, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him: He was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses: **they fed him with grass** like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the **most high God ruled in the kingdom of men**, and that he appointeth over it whomsoever he will.

22 O **Belshazzar**, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this.

24-25 Then was the part of the hand sent from him ... And this is the writing that was written, **mene, mene, tekel, upharsin**.

26 This is the interpretation of the thing:

MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it.

27 TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.

28 PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the **Medes** (weak arm) and **Persians** (strong arm of the great statue). (Dan. 5)

2ND PREDATOR—BEAR (PERSIAN)

"Behold another beast, a second, like to a bear ... The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of **Media** and **Persia** (Dan. 7:5, 8:20).

Like a bear, the Persian army overwhelmed and routed its enemies by brute force and sheer strength of their smothering numbers.

558 BC, Zoroaster begins prophetic work.

550 Zoroastrianism: official Persian religion.

550 Cyrus the Great defeats Medes.

539 Persian King Cyrus II defeats Babylon.

521 Persia, under Darius, rules Nile to Indus.

520 Darius I completes canal Nile to Red Sea.

494 Persians suppress Ionian revolt.

GREECE—BRASS BELLY / THIGHS

*"This image ... his belly and his thighs of brass ... third kingdom of **brass**, which shall bear rule over all the earth" (Dan. 2:32-39).*

Note: All the kingdoms, wars, and progresses were already in evil spirits' plan, millennia ago.

The **Greeks** excelled not only in military matters, but also in art, architecture, engineering, drama, medicine, sculpture, and philosophy.

2000 BC Minoan civilization in Crete.

1600 BC Mycenaean begins in Greece.

1200 BC Mycenaean in Greece collapses.

775 BC First Olympic Games held in Greece.

750 BC Homer's Iliad and Hesiod's poetry.

551 BC Cleisthenes, democracy in Athens.

550 BC Pythagoras, mathematician / mystic.

490-417 BC Phidias, sculpture.

486-429 BC Herodotus, history.

470-406 BC Hippocrates, medicine.

469-399 BC Socrates, philosophy.

450-404 BC Golden Age of Athens.

446-431 BC Parthenon, architecture.

427-347 BC Plato, philosophy.

384-322 BC Aristotle, philosophy.

3RD PREDATOR—LEOPARD (GRECIAN)

*"Lo another beast ... like a **leopard**, which had upon the back of it four wings [speed] of a fowl; the beast had also four heads [generals], and dominion was given to it" (Dan. 7:6).*

Alexander the Great led the Greek army to a rapid, leopard-like conquest of Persia (today's Iran). Greece expanded its empire from Macedonia to as far as India. When Alexander died, his **four generals** (heads) divided Macedonia, Egypt, Syria, and Thrace among themselves.

2000 BC Greeks invade, settle Peloponnese.

1450 BC Destruction of Minoan Crete.

750 BC "Tyrants" in Corinth, Greek cities.

490 BC Battle of Marathon: Athens vs. Persia.

480 BC Greece defeated Persian's attack.

431-404 Peloponnesian War: Sparta, Athens.

356 BC Philip II, king of Macedon.

338 BC Chaeronea Battle: control of Greece.

331 BC Alexander the Great conquers Persia.

168 BC Rome defeats Macedonia (Greeks).

Intellect and ingenuity of human armies can't solely claim all victories. Wars are physical and spiritual. Evil spirits pick victors and losers. They determine military victories and defeats.

ROME—IRON LEGS, IRON/CLAY FEET

*"This image ... His **legs of iron**, his feet part of iron and part of clay ... fourth kingdom shall be **strong as iron**: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things ... the kingdom shall be divided [western and eastern empires]" (Dan. 2:32-41).*

During the reign of Augustus (27 BC-14 AD) Jesus was born. Christ conducted His ministry during the reign of Tiberius (14-37 AD). Jesus had to interact with the statue (world system).

At Christ's first coming, he came as a non-violent servant, not as a physical warrior. The Jews expected the Messiah to conquer Rome. But **Christ** came to **conquer** spiritual **sin** and **death**, which was fought on a spiritual level by the spirits. Jesus conquered **sin** by living a sinless human life. He defeated mortal **death** by being resurrected after crucifixion.

Christ lost the physical war by being crucified, but won the spiritual war by taking away the Keys of Hell and of Death from the evil spirits. Then He was resurrected victoriously.

4TH PREDATOR—BEAST (ROMAN)

*"I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth **beast** ... it had ten horns. The ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise" (Dan. 7:7, 24).*

753 BC Foundation of Rome.

510 BC Foundation of Roman Republic.

290 BC Rome completes conquest of Italy.

241 BC Punic War I: Rome controls Sicily.

219 BC Punic War II: Hannibal invades Italy.

168 BC Rome defeats Macedonia (Greeks).

89 BC All Italy receives Roman citizenship.

49 BC Julius Caesar conquers Gaul (France).

47-45 Civil war in Rome: Caesar sole ruler.

31 BC Battle of Actium: Octavian over Rome.

27 BC Collapse of Republic, start of Empire.

43 AD Roman invasion of Britain.

70 AD Titus destroys Jerusalem Holy Temple.

116 AD Roman Trajan conquers Mesopotamia.

117 AD Roman Empire at its greatest extent.

In 27 BC, Octavian became the first emperor of Rome and took the name Augustus Caesar. He became pontifex maximus—religious high priest and **political** head of state. Successive emperors were Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, Nero, Vespasian, Titus, Domitian, and others.

Predatory (animalistic, wolfish) governments

EMPERORS—WOLFISH LEADERS

Some Roman leaders genuinely considered the well-being of the people they governed. Some emperors were irrational, murderous, or insane. Their minds got corrupted, like **Satan**.

“Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You [Lucifer] corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor” (Eze. 28:17).

Legend of Rome: King Numitor’s daughter Rhea Silvia bore twins Romulus and Remus. The boys were thrown into the river, but they were found by a **she-wolf** who suckled them. Later Romulus killed his brother Remus and became king—a model of Rome’s wolfish leadership. Real wolf leaders have control over their pack with their firm vicious bites. Killing, to them, is a natural part of leadership and life.

Rome, named after Romulus, was founded in 753 BC and first ruled by kings. Later, the senate had input. Dictators ruled during the wars. Finally emperors reigned over the vast empire. Rome became the most powerful and technologically advanced civilization up to that point.

FAMOUS ROMAN EMPERORS

31 BC-14 AD Augustus. Aqueducts built.
14-37 Tiberius. Indecisive. Ministry of Christ.
37-41 Caligula. “Little Sandal.” Irrational.
41-54 Claudius. Conquest of Britain. Irrational.
54-68 Nero. On throne at 17. Fire in Rome.
69-79 Vespasian. Not royal blood. Coliseum.
79-81 Titus. Burned Jewish temple.
81-96 Domitian. Tyrannical.
96-98 Nerva. Former lawyer. Responsible.
98-117 Trajan. Conquer Dacia. Forum-Market
117-138 Hadrian. Britain. Hadrian’s Wall.
138-161 Antoninus. Relative peace in empire.
161-180 Marcus Aurelius. Many uprisings.
180-192 Commodus. Throne at 19. Like Nero.
283 Diocletian divided the empire into western and eastern empires (**legs of statue**).
286-305 Maximian (**West**). Diocletian (**East**).
313 Constantine, first **Christian** emperor, issued Edict of Milan to protect Christians.
337-340 Constantine reunited the empire. .
363-364 Jovian. Empire splits again.
475-476 Romulus Augustus. Fall of Rome.
518-578 Justinian. “Justinian Code.” Last “great” emperor. Built church Santa Sophia.

PREDATION came from ANGELS

Angels existed eons before the arrival of man. Sinning, lying, stealing, and killing were well established before Adam and Eve. Don’t blame humanity sins on the inexperienced first couple.

Wickedness arrived on Earth along with the evil spirits, who were cast out from Heaven. Sin came with the devils. How do we know this?

Well, in the eternal past there was **NO sin**. The choice of sinning began with spiritual creatures.

Scientific data shows evolution of predation:

13.7 billion years ago: “Big bang”—creation.

4.5 billion years ago: Formation of Earth.

1.0 billion years ago: Multicellular life, algae.

550 million years ago: **Carnivorous** creatures.

200 million years ago: **Carnivorous** dinosaurs.

200,000 years ago: Primitive *Homo sapiens*.

During the Carribrian explosion, many diverse life forms and creatures were eating plants and each other. Obviously they’re **carnivorous** and **predatory**. Evil spirits already infected earthly creatures with bloodthirsty habits by 550 million years ago. According to scientists, man evolved only 200,000 years ago. Evil spirits existed with predatory traits long before earthly life, organism, bacteria, fish, dinosaur, bird, animal, and man ever appeared, for perhaps billions of years.

PREDATORY CREATURES

Originally, God made animals’ initial instincts to eat plants and vegetation. Since our Creator is holy, it’s illogical for Him to make creatures with loveless, cruel, murderous attributes—predators that kill and eat flesh of **other** creatures. **Sin** hurts others; **love** cares for others.

When the nefarious spirits were cast to Earth, **sin** affected and infected every creature and plant. Evil permeated to every organism, from the tiniest to the largest, so that creatures don’t act like their Creator designed them to behave.

Viruses became parasitic predators to other microorganisms. Sharks, hawks, and wolves ate their fellow beasts. **Violent** Satan (“Dragon”) is the apex of the entire predatory chain. Violent trait, in humans and animals, provokes anger, combativeness, pillaging, merciless killing, etc.

In the Garden of Eden, creatures were benign and non-predatory. So will they be again in the Millennial Kingdom and beyond.

Dominated by Creatures (animals, beasts, fish, birds)

DOMINION over FISH, BIRDS, EARTH

Originally, humans were given **dominion** over life on Earth, before the Devil cheated them out of it. We're made the stewards of this planet, i.e., we're made the managers over the physical objects, air, waters, oceans, lands, minerals, plants, fish, birds, and animals.

*"God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them [humans] have **dominion** over the **fish** of the sea, over the **birds** of the air ... over the **cattle**, over all the **earth** and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them ... 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have **dominion** over the fish ... birds ... over every living thing that moves on the earth.'*

God said, 'See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food'; and it was so. Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good" (Gen.1:26-31).

Today we see that, by the deceit of Satan, mankind's dominion over life on Earth has reversed. We are slaves to physical objects (idols and money), plants (alcohol, cocaine, and heroin), fish (whale worship), birds (eagle worship), and animals (elephant, monkey, and buffalo worship). The beast has become the **head**; mankind is now its **tail**. The **beast** wags the pagan **mankind**. In the future, the "**beast** (666)" will wag the "worldly" people.

The Lord warned us not to worship anything or any creature. That disobedience is now the source of many of our problems and troubles. We must respect what God says, He knows that our decision can have certain unwanted, unintentional consequences.

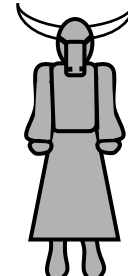
We shouldn't listen to any demoniac spirit behind an animal, nor a beast (**serpent**, 666) that speaks on behalf of the Devil.

DOMINATED by ANIMALS, BEASTS

"Since the creation ... [Creator God's] invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse ... although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God ... but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of ... God into an image made like corruptible [mortal] man and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things ... God gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator" (Rom. 1:20-25).



Centaur



Minotaur



Pan

The Greek and Roman civilizations were esteemed as wise and advanced. *"The Greeks seek after wisdom"* (1 Cor. 1:22). Yet, for all their intellect, they foolishly worshiped weird creatures. If your "**god**" is the womanizing, lustful Zeus, who had sex with women disguised as a **beast** (bull, eagle, etc.); then it's not surprising that his subjects would be involved in **bestiality** (**perversion**), birthing grotesque children.

*"Do not practice **homosexuality**, having sex with another man as with a woman. It is a detestable sin. A man must not defile himself by having sex with an animal. A woman must not offer herself to a male animal [like beastly Zeus] to have intercourse with it. This is a **perverse act** [**bestiality**]" (Lev. 18:22-23 NLT).*

*"As Sodom and Gomorrah ... given themselves over to sexual immorality [**homosexuality**] and gone after strange flesh [**perversion**], are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire [**Hell**]" (Jude 1:7).*

Dominated by creations (Sun, stars, idols, money, things)

CREATOR and CREATURES

The **Creator** made man in His own image that thinks, reasons, chooses, and creates. Conversely, **humans** created a “false god (like Zeus)” in their own image who is sinful *like a human*.

CREATION—NOT WORSHIPED

Elohim God created **all things** for His glory. So, glorify Him, not material things. Idols are merely inanimate objects, but it's Satan's deceit behind the objects that we must fear. God is infinite. He can't be “bottled” in a statue or Eucharist wafer. An **idol** is a **creation** made by a human creature. It (man's handiwork) must not be worship as God. It's illogical for a creature to create his Creator. A bottled genie can't magically get what you desire.

Get spiritual! “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must **worship in spirit and truth**” (John 4:24). Communion is for “remembrance” of Christ. Mary's physical statues and other motifs themselves shouldn't be the center of our worship. We must spiritually pray to our **spiritual** Father, not to **physical** craved images. “*Beware! You did not see the [physical] form of [spiritual] God that day as he spoke to you from the fire at Mount Horeb, so **do not** defile yourselves by trying to make a statue of God—an idol in any form [not even in the form of Virgin Mary]*” (Deut. 4:15-16 TLB).

“Thus says the Lord: ... A wooden **idol** [lifeless] is a **worthless doctrine** ... But **the Lord is the true God; He is the living God**” (Jer. 10:2-10).

EASTER ISLAND TRAGEDY

Easter Island is a Polynesian island in the south-eastern Pacific Ocean. It's famous for its **887** large stone statues (some 13 feet, 14 tons) called **moai**, craved and erected by the early **Rapa Nui** people.

The tragedy is that the inhabitants of the island used up their trees and wood to move and erect these huge moai stones, so archaeologists tell us. The extreme deforestation caused an unbalanced ecosystem. People could not build boats to fish or to escape the island. The loss of forest led to famine, hunger, conflicts, and even cannibalism.

Idols are only mindless objects. Worshipers must beware that behind the **idols** are deceptive evil spirits, who deceive and harm people.

“You shall not make **idols** for yourselves ... nor shall you **set up an engraved stone** in your land, to bow down to it; for I am the Lord” (Lev. 26:1).

WORSHIPING STARS and PLANETS

God has no creator and no beginning. But all physical objects have beginnings, which disqualifies star, Sun, planet, and moon objects from being worshiped. The celestial objects fascinated ancient people, i.e., Egyptians, Hebrews, Greeks, Chinese, and Mayans. It led many into idolatry.

“They [Jews] left all the commandments of the Lord their God ... **worshipped all the host of heaven** [angels], and served Baal” (2 Kings 17:16). The “host of heaven” not only refers to outer space objects: planets and stars, but to angelic spirits.

“In time past ye walked according to the course of this [evil] world, according to the prince of the power of the air [Satan], the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience” (Eph. 2:2).

Hebrews even worshiped the Sun god in their holy temple. “So He [Lord] brought me into the inner court of the Lord's house; and there, at the door of the **temple of the Lord**, between the porch and the altar ... they [Hebrews] were **worshipping the sun** toward the east” (Ezek. 8:16).

ASTROLOGY—PSEUDOSCIENCE

Astrology is based on the premise that celestial phenomena affect human events. Zodiac (circle of stars) decides human fate. It's popular with New Age philosophy, spiritualism, and newspaper horoscopes.

ASTRONOMY—VALID SCIENCE

Astronomy is a scientific study of celestial objects. Its validity is verified by astronauts traveling in outer space, landing, and walking on the moon. Rocks were brought back to be studied. Scientific facts in physics and astronomy disagree with astrology.



Giant moais

Dominated by trees, plants, extracted drugs

KNOWLEDGE of GOOD-EVIL TREE

Isn't it strange that a tree would initiate the downward spiral of misery for all mankind? Naive Adam and Eve opened the door for the sin-hardened Devil to release **SIN** upon us.

*"The **serpent** [Devil-possessed **animal**] ... said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? The woman said ... We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it ... **lest ye die**. The serpent said [**lied**] ... Ye shall **not surely die**: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods [**evil angels**], knowing [and **doing**] good and evil. When the woman saw that the tree was good for food ... pleasant to the eyes ... make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave unto her husband with her; and he did eat. The eyes of them both were opened" (Gen. 3:1-7).*

The first couple regrettably sinned and started to **know** and **do** good and evil. What the original sinners (fallen angels) were doing for million of years has now infected humans. Freedom to do whatever you choose often can have a regrettable price and bad result.

TREE of REDEMPTION—THE CROSS

Another tree (cross) reversed our curse of sin. *"Yet **the law** is **not of faith**, but the man who does them shall live by them. Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, '**Cursed** is everyone who hangs on a **tree** [Deut. 21:22-23]') that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith" (Gal. 3:12-14).*

TREE of LIFE—in the FUTURE

*"He shewed me [John] a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the **tree of life**, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations" (Rev. 22:1-2).*

DOMINATED by PLANTS and DRUGS

Humans were masters over plants, not slaves. Due to sin, addictive chemicals extracted from plants have turned the master-slave relationship, between people and plants, upside down.

HEROIN and MORPHINE

The flowering plant opium poppy, *papaver somniferum*, produces heroin and morphine. Both are addictive. Heroin (illegal) is three times stronger than morphine (legal). During the Civil War, morphine was used as a pain killer for soldiers. Heroin comes at different strengths. Ignorance of it is the most frequent cause of a fatal overdose. An addict uses more drug to get the same euphoria as his first "high."

COCAINE

Cocaine (stimulant) is a drug extracted from the dried leaves of the coca plant, *erythroxylon coca*, that creates euphoria. Smuggler's cocaine arrives nearly 100% pure, but drug-pushers dilute it with powdered milk. Heavy users suffer deep depression when the drug's effect wanes. More cocaine is sniffed to relieve the pain, creating a vicious cycle of "ups" and "downs."

PLANTS made into ALCOHOLIC DRINKS

- Agave—pulque (Mexico), tequila.
- Apple—cider.
- Barley—ale, porter, stout, kvass (Russia).
- Corn—whiskey, gin.
- Grapes—wine, brandy.
- Hops—ale, stout, weiss (Germany).
- Potato—vodka, aquavit (Scandinavia).
- Rice—sake (Japan), oke (Hawaii).
- Rye—kvass, whiskey.
- Sugarcane—rum, oke.
- Wheat—weiss, vodka.
- Wormwood—absinthe.

ALCOHOLISM PROBLEM

Prohibition of alcoholic drinking (1920-1933) should not have been cancelled. People all over the world have difficulty with alcoholic drinks. Alcohol deadens one's conscience to refrain from doing wrong. A drink starts a wino off in the sinful direction of a **careless** lifestyle. The **devil-may-care** attitude, produced by liquor, leads many drunks into all sorts of wickedness, financial troubles, "DTs," and deaths. In Hell, where there's no water, there's also **NO** beer.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS—ARMS of WAR

We learned that spirits can be near, with, or in a person from chapter 2 of our study. The Holy Spirit dwells in a saved forgiven person.

A demon possesses an unrepentant sinner. If a demon (“driver”) is in a sinner (“avatar”), then the man will think, reason, and behave like a demon, who deceives and controls him.

The Holy Spirit is sinless, so He influences a Christian He dwells in to be likewise. A Child of God, filled with the Spirit of God, will grow up to become like the Son of God.

The Holy Spirit grants spiritual gifts to those that ask for and receive His salvation. These gifts are also used as “instruments of war,” for we “fight” evil on a spiritual level.

RECEIVE POWER for SERVICE

The Spirit anoints believers with power to serve believers and help save unbelievers:

“**SAYING**” gifts—Power to say:

- Speaking in diverse tongues.
- Interpreting heavenly languages.
- Prophesying: speak on behalf of God.

“**KNOWING**” gifts—Power to know:

- Word of knowledge. Know the truth.
- Word of wisdom. Wise use of knowledge.
- Discerning of spirits (good or evil).

“**DOING**” gifts—Power to do:

- Faith. Believe in spirits and spirituality.
- Healing. Let the Spirit heal through you.
- Working of miracles. God does for you.

USING SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Physical moves physical. Spiritual moves spiritual. A physical human can’t materialize spiritual things into physical action. The Holy Spirit Himself makes spiritual gifts workable.

Use the “saying” gifts for communication between “Christian soldiers” and between the Lord and us. Speaking in and interpreting tongues functions like “code-talking” in war.

Use the “knowing” gifts to know your **enemy** and know **yourself**—a child of God. The “word of knowledge” is vital information. “Word of wisdom” help us make wise decisions and choices. “Discerning the spirits” is necessary to “see” unseen spirits and foes.

Use the “doing” gift to help those wounded in action in combat with the fallen angels. Use your faith to allow the power of God to heal and work miracles on those that are hurt.

FRUIT of the SPIRIT (CHARACTER)

If a Christian is filled with the **Holy Spirit**, he is filled with all of His **Spirit**, i.e., he’ll be filled with all spiritual gifts and “Fruit of the Spirit.”

All means all “fruit” and gifts. Each **gift** or **fruit** is **amplified** as your situation demands and by your faith in Christ. Let God enact your gifts.

The Holy Spirit produces Christ-like attitudes in believers. The nine slices of “the Fruit” are:

Attitude toward **God**:

- Joy.
- Peace.
- Faithfulness.

Attitude toward **neighbors**:

- Love.
- Gentleness.
- Kindness.

Attitude within **self**:

- Self-control.
- Goodness.
- Patience.



MORE EXCELLENT WAY—LOVE

Living a **life of love** is the best way to live.

The **fruit of the Spirit** is more vital than **gifts**.

Fruit (love) is permanent; gifts are temporary.

*“God has appointed these in the church: ... apostles ... prophets ... teachers ... miracles ... healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. Are all apostles ... prophets ... teachers ... workers of miracles ... healings ... speak with tongues ... interpret? But earnestly desire the best gifts. Yet I [Paul] show you a more **excellent way** [Love]” (1 Cor. 12:28).*

First, CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

The “**character first**” is God’s method of granting higher powers. If you can gain God’s trust with a talent, then He’ll entrust you with 5 talents, then 10, and so on. If the Lord can rely on you to rule a city, then you’re reliable to govern 5 cities. *Read Luke 19.* Developing a holy character first is very important. It ensures only the ones with the best virtues get the most power. Public servants with good character improve and strengthen our society. On the contrary, a tyrant rules to benefit only himself.

After the Spirit infilling, we’re transformed to a new way of thinking, reasoning, and behaving. We become more compassionate and considerate toward others. Our Savior epitomizes what our behavior should be like. Be Christ-like.

CHARACTER of the DEVIL

A good goal is to copy God as a role model. Lucifer said, *“I will be like the most High.”* But Satan sought only God’s power and glory, not His character (love). A man or angel can **never be** God. A finite **creature** can’t be an infinite **Creator**. Since it’s impossible for a creature to obtain the Omnipotent God’s title, the Devil resorted to living a **lie** of godhood.

DECEPTION

In the spiritual war, beware of deception. *“Satan himself is transformed into an [false, deceiving] angel of light”* (2 Cor. 11:14).

All warfare is based upon deception. —Sun Tzu

Jesus said of deceivers: you know **them by their fruits** (deeds). Good angels don’t do evil. The devils don’t love you, and can kill you.

Lucifer was one of the most beautiful and intelligent creature ever created. He had it all, yet he **coveted** more. He got **greedy**, a trait that is an igniter of a chain of multiple sins.

In sinful humans and in evil spirits, desire enters their mind. When coveting is actualized, it is sin. Lustful desire for pleasure leads many debauchees into sin and death.

FRUIT of SIN—PREDATORIAL DEEDS

Predators take advantage of others. Predatory character started with the Devil, then infected other angels. Finally, when the fallen angels were casted to the Earth, predation spread to organisms, species, and mankind.

Today, there is a great increase of sin and evil in the world. Criminals are expressing the spiritual wickedness of evil spirits of eons ago. Human felons are pawns of their counterpart spiritual thugs. The devils will amplify sin:

“In the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, proud, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God” (2 Tim. 3:1-5).

The future apostasy: *“Brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord ... that Day will not come unless the **falling away** [apostasy, great increase of sin] **comes first**”* (2 Thes. 2:1-3).

PHYSICAL EVIL WEAPONS

People made war against each other. First with rocks, spears, and arrows. The progression of sophisticated weapons escalated to swords, trebuchets, cannons, guns, grenades, tanks, planes, missiles, and atomic / nuclear bombs.

Estimate by *Status of World Nuclear Forces 3-31-2023*: Countries have 12,512 nuclear warheads: Russia 5,889, U.S. 5,244, China 410, France 290, UK 225, Pakistan 170, India 164, Israel 90, and North Korea 30. These nations have so far shown restraint and responsibility. Unstable North Korea and Iran might terrorize militarily weak nations and people with nukes.

FUTURE SUPERWEAPONS

The *Star Wars* movies give us a glimpse of the future destruction of life we’re capable of. Some **imagined** superweapons of Star Wars:

- Electro-proton bomb: A bomb designed to emit an electromagnetic field that disables droids (robots). Like a super EMP bomb.
- World Devastator: Steals planet’s resource.
- Galaxy Gun: A portable superweapon that can **destroy** a **planet** across a galaxy.
- Death Star: moon-shaped deep space battle station designed to fire a super-laser that **destroys** an entire **planet** (like Alderaan).
- Starkiller Base: a 400 miles sphere (size of Montana) space battle station with a weapon that **destroys** a **star system**.
- Sun Crusher: makes any star go supernova and **destroys** a **solar system**.

Science-fiction lovers like to say, “Today’s science **fiction** is tomorrow’s science **fact**.” Man is capable of nearly anything he imagines.

*“The Lord said ... they are one people ... have the same language. This is only the beginning of what they will do [in rebellion against Me], and now no evil thing they **imagine** they can do will be impossible for them”* (Gen.11:6 AMP).

A warning about what man is capable of doing:

- If good, like **Christ**, he’ll do utmost good.
- If bad, like **Antichrist**, he’ll do terrific evil.

WAR is CRUELTY—SHERMAN MARCH

*“War is **cruelty** ... the crueller it is, the sooner it will be over,”* said William Sherman. During the Civil War, his **“scorched-earth”** march from Atlanta to Savannah, Georgia, **destroyed** railroads, farms, crops, food, supplies, Southern economy in general, and Confederate’s morale.