

Chapter four

THE ACCUSER OF GOD'S FAITHFUL

God is always proud of his faithful ones

Our Father in heaven is always pleased with his faithful children. Those who are hungry and thirsty for righteousness (Matthew 5:6). God is always mentioning the names of such people before the heavens. In the book of Job, as soon as Satan appeared in heaven, the Lord mentioned to him the name of a blameless person. God told Satan that he was proud of Job because he lived a blameless life, was a faithful servant, and no one on earth was like him. This continues even today as our Father always mentions the names of faithful Christians to the heavens, and to the devil.

Satan, the accuser of God's faithful.

Whereas God's purpose today is to see that no more souls are condemned to the pit of eternal fire, where the devil and his fallen angels are destined to go, Satan's aim is to tarnish the names of God's faithful, so that he is permitted by God to tempt them. Why does Satan continuously go into God's presence in heaven and talk to him? Part of the answer is found within the name Satan. According to the written Word of God the name Satan means "accuser" (see footnotes for Job 1:6 NIV). Is Satan really an accuser? Yes he is. This is the reason he goes to our Father in heaven. Because he is an enemy of Christians, Satan continually tells God that they have done wrong. The devil continually makes these accusations as a means of seeking permission from God to go and tempt God's saints.

The first proof presented by the Word of God showing that Satan is an accuser is found in the book of Job. God was pleased with his servant and he proudly told Satan that no one in the whole earth was like Job. Job was blameless, upright, he feared God, and shunned evil. Satan was looking for a way to tarnish Job's image and to tempt him into sin. He started making false accusations against this blameless man. Hear what Satan told God.

So Satan answered the Lord and said "Does Job fear God for nothing? Have you not made a hedge around him, his household, and around all that he has on every side?"

You have blessed the work of his hands and his possessions have increased in the land.

Job 1:9-10 NKJV

[This was the fourth, out of the seven Scriptures the Lord presented in this vision]

I had read these two verses many times before, but I was not aware that Satan was making an accusation, until the Holy Spirit emphasized it in this vision. Satan was accusing Job of not being faithful as God depicted him. Satan told God that Job was only faithful because God had protected and blessed him with riches. A simple way of putting this accusation is as follows:

“Job does not really love you from the bottom of his heart. He only loves you because of the protection and riches you have given him”

Satan wanted to secure permission from God to go and tempt Job by destroying his riches and bringing other calamities upon his life. God knew Job’s heart. He was sure Job was a very faithful servant. God wanted to prove this to Satan so he offered to remove His protection from Job. God wanted Satan to prove for himself that Job was a faithful man. He went ahead and permitted Satan to tempt Job. Listen to what God told Satan:

“Very well, then everything he has is in your hands, but on the man himself do not lay a finger” Job 1:12

God gave Satan authority over Job’s belongings and the devil went ahead to destroy them. Today, every time Satan presents himself in heaven, he accuses Christians of not being faithful to God. Satan’s accusations are not always false especially concerning those Christians who are not faithful in their walk with Jesus Christ. Satan makes accusations against faithful believers wanting God to permit him trap them with acts of sinful nature.

Satan continues to accuse believers today.

The second proof the Word of God presents to show that Satan continues to accuse believers today is found in the Book of Revelation:

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And I heard a loud voice in heaven saying, “Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our

brothers and sisters has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night”

Revelation 12:10 ESV

[This was the fifth, out of the seven Scriptures, the Lord presented in this vision]

This is a very important Scripture for all Christians. Five observations can be made about this verse:

Observation No. 1

This Scripture talks about events that will take place in future. Just like much of the book of Revelation, it is a prophecy of what will take place soon. It foretells what will happen in the End Time.

Observation No. 2

This is not the Scripture that refers to the downfall of Lucifer when he was serving God in heaven. Satan fell before man was created (Job 38: 4-7). Isaiah 14: 12-17 and Ezekiel 28: 12-19 give us a clue to Lucifer’s downfall.

Observation No. 3

Until this Scripture is fulfilled in the End Time, Satan will continually be accusing Christians before God in heaven. According to this Scripture, the devil does not only accuse us **during day** when most believers are awake, **but also at night** when most of them are asleep.

Observation No. 4

Until this prophecy is fulfilled in the end time, the holy inhabitants in heaven will always look on with grief every time they see Satan accusing their brothers and sisters on earth before our Father in heaven. This is why all the heavens and all that dwell in them will rejoice after this prophecy is fulfilled (see Revelation 12:12).

Observation No. 5

When the appointed time comes, God will command his angels in heaven headed by Michael, to bundle Satan out of the heavens and cast him on earth. This will take place in Revelation 12:7-10. From then on Satan will be denied any more access to the heavens. He will no longer be accusing Christians before God.

Don't take Satan's accusations lightly.

Our Lord Jesus is telling all his faithful followers not to take Satan's accusations lightly. Here are four reasons why.

1. Through these accusations Satan may succeed to incite God against you, even when you have been living a blameless life. This is exactly what happened in the life of Job. He was righteous and blameless. God honored him more than any other person on earth. But Satan accused Job and succeeded to incite God against this innocent man. When God is incited against any person that means he may withhold his mercy temporarily from that individual (Psalm 40:11)

2. Because of Satan's accusations, God may temporarily withdraw his protection from you.

When this happens then you are left at the mercy of Satan and your enemies. God withheld his protection from Job and, as a result, all his wealth was destroyed and other calamities followed. Similarly God withdrew temporarily this protection from our Lord Jesus Christ. God ordered the angels that had been guarding Jesus to withdraw for a moment. They only returned after Jesus had triumphed over Satan's temptations. As a result, the devil found it easy to tempt Jesus. Today, after Satan's accusations, God has sometimes removed his protection from some powerfully anointed ministers and the enemy has done shocking things to their lives and ministries.

3. Because of Satan's accusations God may even send his own terror against you (Job 13:20-21).

During the temptation of Job, God sent his own fire to burn all Job's Seven thousand sheep (Job 1:16).

4. Through these accusations Satan may convince God to permit him to tempt you.

After accusing Job the second time God told Satan:

Very well, then he is in your hands; but you must spare his life.

Job 2:6

As he makes these accusations Satan's aim is to bring dishonor, disgrace, shame, humiliation, scandals, reproach, torment, and disrespect to God's faithful servants. Satan's aim is to weaken and demoralize men and women of God who are seeking

God with all their hearts. Servants of God who have lived blameless lives. Men and women who have brought many souls into God's Kingdom.