

God and Satan in Job

The verb form of Satan (סָטָן)

- Psalm 38:20 They *oppose* me
- Psalm 71:13 *adversaries* of my soul
- Psalm 109:4 my *accusers*
- Psalm 109:20 my *accusers*
- Psalm 109:29 my *accusers*
- Zechariah 3:1 to *accuse*
- The Hebrew variant form *Satam* is identical in meaning and is used in 16:9 and 30:21 (also Gen. 27:41; 49:23; Psalm 55:3)

The noun form of Satan

- Numbers 22:22,32 angel of the Lord is an *adversary* in Balaam's way
- I Samuel 29:4 David will be an *adversary*
- II Samuel 19:22 Abishai- *adversary*
- I Kings 5:4 neither *adversary* nor misfortune in Solomon's day
- I Kings 11:14, 23, 25 The Lord raised up *adversaries* to punish Solomon
- Psalm 109:6 Let an *accuser* stand at his right hand

The noun form transliterated

- Once in I Chronicles 21:1 *Satan* moved David to number Israel
- Three times in Zechariah 3:1-2 *Satan* standing at Joshua's right hand to accuse him
- Thirteen times in Job 1-2 (1:6, 7, 7, 8, 9, 12; 2:1, 2, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7)
- Greek term *satanos* is transliterated *Satan* 36 times in the NT
- Most of what we know about Satan from the OT comes from Job

Is the picture of Satan consistent with the NT?

- In the NT he accuses man to God (Rev. 12:9)
- In NT he acts by God's permission and must abide by His limitations (Luke 22:31-32; Revelation 13:5-7) and accomplishes His purpose (Revelation 17:17)
- While there is not a full-blown picture of Satan in the OT (or the NT), it is not inconsistent with the New Testament

Satan's Role in Man's Suffering

- Job 1:12 "all he has is in your (Satan's) power" (2:6)
- Job 2:7 "Satan...and smote Job with sore boils"
- Luke 13:16 Satan has bound 18 years
- Acts 10:38 healing oppressed by the devil
- II Corinthians 12:7 Paul's thorn "a messenger of Satan"
- Revelation 2:10 devil will cast some of you into prison

Is that all there is to it?

- "But what was not in God's creation on the sixth day? Well, you'll never find a Scripture that says, 'on such and such a day, God created sickness and disease.' You'll never read, "And God said, 'Let there be cancer! Let there be pneumonia.'" "Sickness doesn't come from God. Satan is the father of diseases." Mark Brazee
- This is not limited to "health and wealth" advocates- Huchabee

God: the key character of Job

- "The book of Job is arguably the most theological book of the Old Testament. Whatever else it is about, it is about God." Hooks, 36
- "The book of Job is a 'God-book' from cover to cover. God is the subject or the subject behind the subject in every chapter. Through its compelling plot and exalted speeches the book of Job explores the mystery of God's ways to a depth and with an intensity that is unsurpassed in all of ancient religious literature" Hooks cover

The names of God

- LORD is used 18 times in the prologue (1-2) and 13 times in the epilogue (38-42) and only once (12:9) between chapter 3-37.
- God is called **El Shaddai** appears 31 times in the book and only 17 other times in the OT (Pope, 44; Alden, 95). This name appears in Genesis 17:1; 28:3; 35:11; Exodus 6:3. The best translation of this term is disputed (*Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament*, volume 1, 255-57) but it is generally translated Almighty (NASB, NIV, NKJV)

God's Hand in Suffering

- 1:21 Lord gave and has taken away
- 2:10 Good and adversity are both from God
- 16:11 God hands me over to ruffians and tosses me into the hands of the wicked
- 19:8-12 God attacks Job in military style
- 30:11 God had loosed his bowstring and afflicted Job

God's Hand in Suffering

- 2:3 God: You incited me against him without cause (1:9; 9:17; 22:6)
- 5:11-13, 17-18 Eliphaz: He inflicts pain and gives relief; He wounds and His hands also heal
- 42:11 Author: All the adversities that the Lord brought on Job
- This is consistent with the rest of Scripture Isaiah 45:7; Lamentations 3:37-38; Amos 3:6

God's Hand in the Weather

- Snow (37:6; 38:22-24; Psalm 148:8)
- Rain (5:10; 12:15; 36:26-28; 37:6, 9, 11-12; 38:25-28, 34-38)
- Lightning (36:32; 38:35; Psalm 29; Jeremiah 10:13)
- Cold and ice (37:9-10; Psalm 147:15-18)
- Hail (38:22-24; Psalm 148:8)
- Commands the sun not to shine (Job 9:7; Matthew 5:45)

If it is not He, then who is it? 9:24

- "The phrase reveals the problem that undeserved suffering poses for the monotheist. An atheist can look at life's injustices and declare, 'There is no God.' A polytheist can view the same and explain, 'The bad gods are doing this.' But the monotheist has a more difficult time. If there is but one God who made all things and who rules all things, what is the origin of life's cruel absurdities?" Hooks, 149.

Satan and God in our trials

- The temptations of Jesus Matthew 4:1; Hebrews 2:17-18; 4:14-16
- The death of Jesus John 13:2; Acts 2:23-24; 4:27-28
- Paul's thorn in the flesh II Corinthians 12:7-10
- Satan wants us to curse God and God seeks to draw us nearer to Him
- Job 42:5-6

Trusting God

- Psalm 119:66-67, 71-72, 75
- Habakkuk 2:4; 3:16-19
- Romans 8:28
- II Corinthians 1:3-11
- The cross as an answer to the problem of suffering