

ON SATAN

# A BRIEF SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY ON SATAN

Creation



Angels



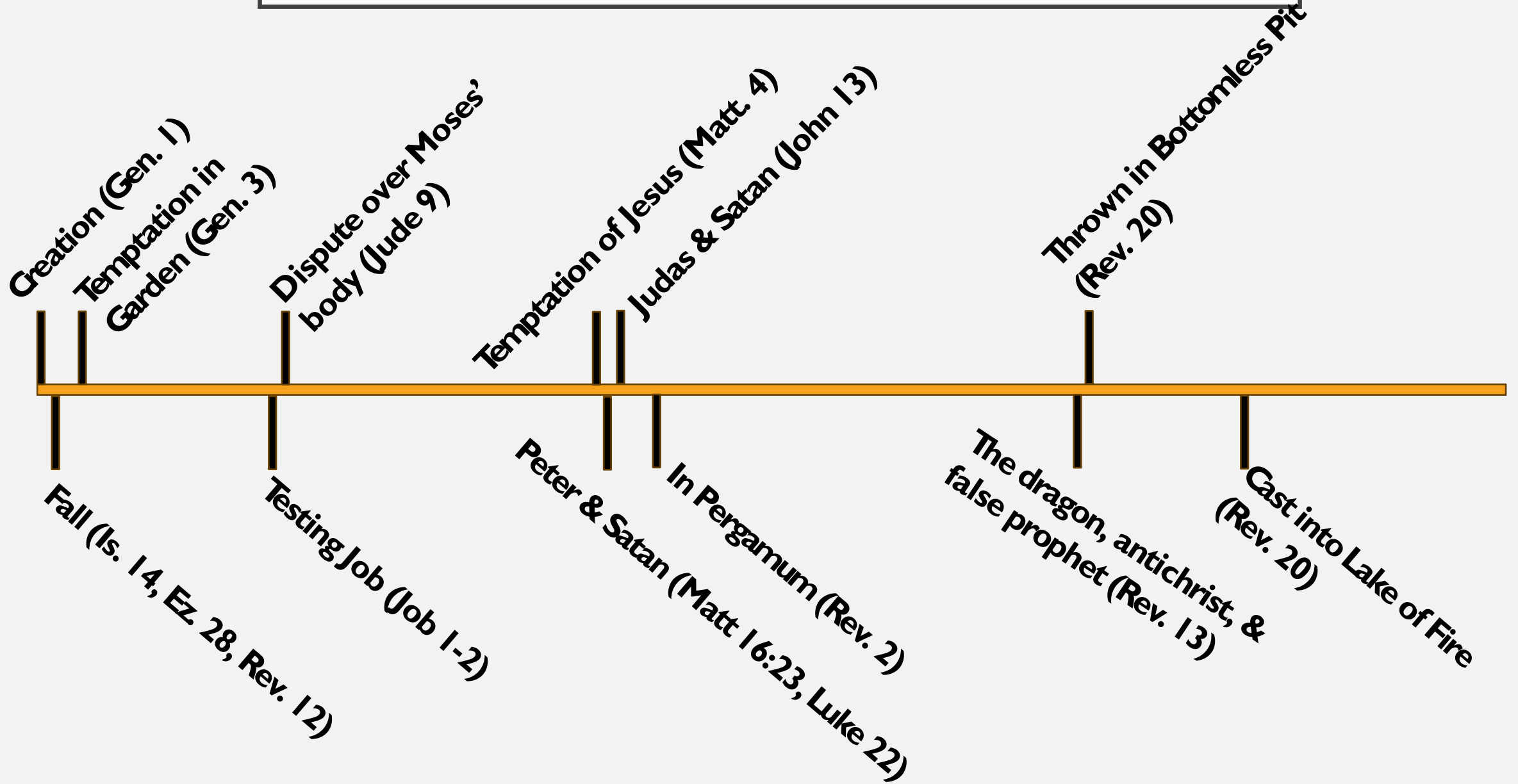
Demons



Satan

- Created things are everything not God.
- Created things have a definite beginning. They are finite in time & space. They are limited in knowledge & power. They are mutable.
- Angels in Scripture are spiritual beings tasked as messengers, warriors, and guardians of God's glory.
- There are types of angels such as cherubim, seraphim, and archangels.
- Demons in Scripture are fallen angels who oppose God, possess people, and twist God's Word.
- Satan is the leader of the demons who tempted them to fall.

# SATAN'S TIMELINE



## BIBLE STUDY TIP

A couple of ideas for topical Bible studies:

- **The Law of First Mention** – The first time a word is mentioned plants the seed for how it is used throughout the rest of Scripture
  - Gen. 15:6 “Faith” by believing God and it being accounted as righteousness
  - Issue #1 – Job written before Genesis
  - Issue #2 – Using the English version of the Bible forgetting the original language
- **The Clear to Obscure Method** (Scripture interpreting Scripture) – Start with the easiest to interpret passages and move to the more difficult since Scripture is inerrant.

## CLEAR TO OBSCURE

- **NT**
  - Gospels
    - Matt. 4:1-11

Satan's Actions	Reference(s)	Resist the Devil	Reference(s)
Accuses (Satan)		Blood of Christ	
Deceives (Devil)		Word	Matt. 4:1-11
Tempts	Matt. 4:1-11	Armor of God	
Seeks Destruction		Prayer and Vigilance	
		Christ's Rebuke	
Exalts himself		Not loving life unto death	

## MISCONCEPTION #1 – TEMPTATION VS TESTING

- Satan tempts us to produce sin and death
  - Jesus teaches us to watch & pray to prevent temptation (Matt. 6:13, 26:41)
  - Some sin is caused by ourselves, the world, or the flesh! (Eph. 2:1-3)
- God tests us to produce faith and righteousness
  - God does not tempt us (James 1:13-14)
  - Think of God's test with Abraham and Isaac on Mt. Moriah
- Hanlon's Razor *“Never attribute to malice that which can be adequately explained by incompetence.”*

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    - Luke 22:31-32



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## EVANGELISM TIP

Know the Gospels well in order to pivot from difficult questions back to Jesus. 2 Timothy 3:7

- “There is no literal devil” – Jesus believes in the Devil and talks with him.
- “The Bible is unreliable” – Jesus says that though heaven and earth will pass away, every Word of God will be fulfilled.
- “Jonah could not have been swallowed by a fish” – Jesus believes Jonah was in the fish for 3 days and uses it as an illustration for the resurrection.
- “Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people?” – Jesus addresses this in John 9 regarding a blind man

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  - 1 Peter 5:8-9
  - Revelation 12:3-17 (serpent/stars)

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## MISCONCEPTION #2 – SATAN IS NOT THE ANTAGONIST OF SCRIPTURE

- Satan does not separate humans from God, sin and death do
- Luke 10:17-20

*“Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.”*

- 1 Cor. 15:26

*“The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.”*

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- Job 1:6-12, 2:1-7

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- King Illustrations
  - Isaiah 14:12-15

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  - Isaiah 14:12-15
- Genesis 3:1-15



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## MORE PASSAGES TO CONSIDER

- 2 Cor. 11:14 - Satan as an angel of life (Deceiver)
- Matt. 16:23 – Get behind me Satan (Accuser)
- John 8:44 – You are of your father the devil a murderer from the beginning... the father of lies (Deceiver)
- Revelation 2:13 – Satan's throne in Pergamum (Finite)
- Ezekiel 28:11-19 – King of Tyre as a Cherubim in Eden (Pride)

# CONCLUSION

- **What does Satan do?**
  - Be aware of the tricks the devil uses
  - Do not do anything the Devil does
- **How do you resist the Devil?**
  - Christ, the Word, prayer, and humility
- **Who does Satan oppose?**
  - Adam, Job, Moses, Jesus, Peter, Judas, and Pergamum
- **Why study Satan?**
  - Ephesians 6:12 – We wrestle against principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.