



10 Different Names for Satan

AND WHAT THEY MEAN

In the Old Testament, there are many allusions to Satan, and even descriptions of his origins, but the New Testament clarifies a great deal about this being. Created with the other angels, Lucifer was one of the highest ranking –if not the highest ranking– beings of Heaven. At some point, he became prideful and set himself against God. He convinced one-third of the angels to join him, and he tried to supplant the Creator. (**Isaiah 14:13-14**)

As punishment, Satan and his minions were cast out of Heaven, and Hell was created for them to spend eternity. He tempted Adam and Eve to rebel against God, and by doing so brought humanity down into sin, brought death into the world, and was able to take control of it temporarily. Ultimately, Jesus' death and resurrection defeated Satan, and the Bible promises his final defeat. (**Rev. 20:10**)

1. **A Roaring Lion** 1 Peter 5:8; Malachi 3:11

Meaning: One who looks for prey; animalistic; predatory.

Satan is described as a roaring lion, because lions stalk quietly, trying to remain undetected by its prey, so it can strike, kill, and devour. Paul described Satan in these terms to let believers know that they were at risk of stumbling, sinning, and damaging their relationship with God. Satan sees people as prey, as his victims. He doesn't want them to be useful to their Savior, therefore, he stalks **ALL** people, looking for weaknesses to exploit.

2. **The Day Star** Isaiah 14:12; 2 Corinthians 11:14

Meaning: A lesser light; a lesser being; an inferior source of light.

Satan is described as the day star because he was an angelic being, bright and beautiful. However, he is not, nor has he ever been, the ultimate source of light. God spoke light into being, and the Book of Revelation says that in eternity in the new Heaven and the new Earth, the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. (**Revelation 21:23**) Lucifer sets himself up as a source of light, but it is a false light. The Day Star is a bright, star-like object in the heavens, but it will **NEVER** be as great as the true sun God created.

3. **The Tempter** Matthew 4:1-3; James 4:7

Meaning: The person or thing that puts a stern challenge before someone to disobey God.

Satan is described as the tempter partly because of how he keeps people in sin or causes rifts between believers and God. He does this by presenting things to man that are seemingly harmless but can lead people into sin and disobey God. When he tempted Jesus in the wilderness, he tempted him with food, with power and his right as ruler of the world. Everything that Satan presented as a temptation to Jesus was already in Jesus' authority and power, but it was not in God's divine will for it to be made manifest at that time. Satan tempts people in a similar way. He first finds your physical weakness and then presents you with things that appear good or desirable, but ultimately lead to sin, death and destruction.