

### 3.

## God's Trial

### 3.1

#### How Sin Started

God has given all intelligent beings on this planet and others (the Bible alludes to the fact that earth is not the only nation outside of heaven.) the freedom of choice to live God's way or to live their own way. By giving this freedom, God knew that one day some one would challenge Him. He knew that there would have to be a trial because by His own nature He does not want to *force* anyone to live by His rules. God is *patient and kind*. His nature can never change to force.

*1 John 4:16*            *God is Love*  
*1 Cor. 13:4*           *Love is patient and kind.*  
*Mal.3:6*                *I the Lord do not change.*

God knew (*Isa.14 & Eze.28*) that eventually one of His children would rebel. Lucifer, one of the top angels, later known as the King of Tyre (earth, *Eze. 28*), was the first one who didn't want to live God's way. Lucifer became proud and greedy. He wanted to be like God, to take over as a god. God said no, impossible. Lucifer then accused the Father of being unfair and this resulted in the first conflict in God's family, (*Eze. 28*) the first sin, the first struggle for power.

How did disobedience, conflict, evil, sin, start? It started in heaven with God's family of angels. Lucifer developed sin in himself and became Satan, the father of sin, the leader of the Devils.

*Isa. 14: 12*        *How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, (Lucifer) son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!* (Possible evidence that there are other planets with inhabitants with free choice because on earth there were no "nations", only 2 people, Adam & Eve, before sin.) *13) You said in your heart, "I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. (Replace God; take His place as Ruler of the universe. Maybe Lucifer didn't think of murdering God then, but over time his jealousy became hatred, which led to him to crucify Jesus using the Roman army.) 14) I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High. (God's character is love, in the original, agape love, a love that perfectly denies self. That divine self-denial found ultimate expression at the cross, where Satan's hatred also found ultimate expression.)*

*Eze.28:1*        *The word of the Lord came to me: 2) "Son of man, say to the King of Tyre, (Another name for Lucifer - Satan) 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says: "In the pride of your heart you say, "I am god." 12) "You were the model of perfection full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. 13) You were in Eden the garden of God. (As the serpent, Gen. 3.) 14) You were anointed as a guardian cherub, (one of the the top angels) for so I ordained you. 15) You were blameless (sinless) in your ways from the day you were created (in heaven) till wickedness was found in you. 16) You were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and expelled you, O guardian cherub. 17) Your heart became proud (first sin in heaven) on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth.*

*Rev. 12: 1 The Woman and the Dragon A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. 3) Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon (Lucifer, Satan) ... 4) His tail swept (convinced) a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. (Here fallen angels are called stars.) 9) The great dragon was hurled down, that ancient serpent called the devil or Satan, (leader of the stars) who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth and his angles (stars) with him. 10) Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser (Satan, plaintiff) of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down.*

*Rev. 9:1 I saw a star (Lucifer, Satan) that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star (Lucifer, Satan) was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss.*

Satan and 1/3 of the angels (*Rev. 12: 4*) who believed in him had to leave heaven. The rest of the angels (2/3), *the Never Sinned*, remained in heaven. In every conflict you will have different opinions and I believe that some of the angels that remained in heaven had some questions or doubts. They may have thought that Satan was right about something's but were not sure. I believe God knew that they may have these doubts and so He had to let Satan live and prove to everyone that once you start sinning and you don't want to repent and obey your Heavenly Father, the result will be that you will continue to sin more and more.

How can this first conflict of Satan wanting to be a god; disagreeing with God's governing laws, be settled without God's character being changed?

If God had destroyed, killed or even disciplined Lucifer and eliminated sin, then all the rest of His family would fear Him. They would obey because of fear and not out of love. Do good earthly fathers and mothers want their children to obey out of fear or love? Out of love of course! God wants us to obey because we trust Him.

*John 14:15 If you love me, you will obey what I command.*  
*12:50 I know that His command leads to eternal life.*  
*1 John 5:3 This is love for God: to obey his commands. And his commands are not burdensome.*

We can only trust Him if we love Him.  
 We can only love Him if we know Him.  
 We can only know Him if we have a personal relationship with Him.

Sin started in heaven with Lucifer; one of the top two cherubim angels. He wanted to be a god which put God on trial. We all know the rest of the story, *Gen. 3*, of how Lucifer (Satan) used a beautiful serpent to deceive Eve into the first sin on earth.

## 3.2

### God Goes to Court

Lucifer wanted to be a god; God said it was impossible. To settle this conflict, the great controversy of who is right and who is wrong, there has to be something similar to our court trial by Judge and Jury. When I say similar, it is and it isn't. The Bible states that Jesus is both our lawyer *Heb. 7:25, Rev. 20:4* and our Judge, *John 5:27*; however it also states that the saints will be judges too, *1 Cor. 6:2*. If God was the only judge and jury he could have sentenced Lucifer to death immediately before he cast him out

of heaven; however as I stated before God wants people to obey him out of love rather than fear; therefore, this conflict must go to trial. In this *trial illustration* I've given God, the Father, the position of Judge, and God, Jesus the defendant's position. For further clarification you may want to read appendix C.

**Plaintiff** Lucifer, *the accuser, Rev. 12:10*, is the Plaintiff; the person that finds fault with another party and demands justice.

**Defendant** Jesus, the accused, is the Defendant. He has to prove His innocents to the jury.

**Judge** God the Father is the Judge who will carry out the sentence.

**Jury** The Jury will be all the intelligent beings ever created.

**Courtroom** Earth is the courtroom.

There has to be juries because it is God, His government and laws which are on trial. He has to be proven 100 percent correct in all His judgments by all the people He has created. If He was the only one to judge then He could have done that when sin first started in heaven. He could have punished Lucifer and thus everyone would obey Him out of fear and not love. Like Shakespeare said, "The whole world is a stage", and every one has a part. He was right; they are all members of the jury. All will check the books of records to see if God treated everyone fair and just. Thus, God is on trail as well as the people of earth.

### 3.3

## Judgment

All over the world people talk about the Judgment Day. Have you ever heard a Biblical study on Judgment? Most believe that God will be the Judge and Jury, and your judgment takes place when you die and you are sent to Heaven or Hell immediately. To have a firm foundation about where and when we go to heaven or hell, we must first study the doctrine of judgment.

*1 Cor. 4:4* It is the Lord who judges me. 5) Therefore judge nothing before the appointed time; wait till the Lord comes.

*Acts 17: 31* For he has set a day when he will judge (not the day you die)

*Rom. 14: 12* So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God. (Individual account)

*Heb. 7: 25* He always lives to intercede for them. (Jesus our lawyer)

*Jam. 2: 12* Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom

*Dan. 7: 9* As I looked, "thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. 10) The court was seated, and the books were opened. (Court House)

*Rev. 11: 18* The Seventh Trumpet The time has come for judging the dead and for rewarding your servants the prophets and your saints (During the end times)

*Rev. 14:7* The Three Angels "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. (During the end times)

*1 Peter 4: 17* For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God (The Dead in Christ, the Saved.)

*Rev. 22: 11* Jesus is Coming Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; (no second chance) let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy." 12) "Behold, I am coming soon!" My reward is with me. (Second Coming, not when you die.)

- Heb. 11: 32 *And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthan, David, Samuel and the prophets, who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised. 39) These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. 40) God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect. (The Saved go at the same time, Second Coming.)*
- 1 John 2:25 *And this is what he promised us, even eternal life. (Immortality, 1 Cor. 15:51)*
- 1 Cor. 15:51 *Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed, (The Saved, 1Thess. 4:16) 52) in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. (Immortality only at the Second Coming, 1Thess. 4:16) For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, (first resurrection, Second Coming, 1Thess. 4:16) and we will be changed. 53) For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable and the mortal with immortality.*
- Acts 2:29 *Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried and his tomb is here to this day. 34) David did not ascend to heaven, (still sleeping)*
- John 11: 11 *Jesus said: “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up.” ... 23) Jesus said to her, “Your brother (Lazarus, John 11: 17) will rise again.” 24) Martha answered, “I know he will rise at the last day.” (Second Coming)*
- Eccl. 3:17 *God will bring to judgment (future) both the righteous and the wicked, for here will be a time for every activity.*
- John 5:28 *Do not be amazed at his, for a time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear his voice 29) and come out, those who have done good will rise to live, (they are not living now) and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned. (Not yet but in the future.)*
- Rev. 20:4 *They (souls) came to life (the Saved, first resurrection, Second Coming) and reigned with Christ a thousand years. 5) The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. (The Lost, second resurrection) This is the first resurrection. 6) Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second death has no power over them, but they will be (future) priests of God and of Christ and will reign (future) with him for a thousand years. (In heaven till the Third Coming; when He will make earth His home.) 12) And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead (the Lost) were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. (The time frame for judging the dead, the Lost, is at the Third Coming, one thousand years after the Second Coming. When people die they are put into a grave and they remain there in a dead sleep (no thoughts, Eccl. 9: 10) until they are resurrected. The Dead in Christ are resurrected at the Second Coming and the Lost are resurrected at the Third Coming.*
- Eccl. 9:10 *Whatever you hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the grave, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom.*
- Heb.9:27 *Just as man is destined to die once, and after that to face judgment, (no second chance) 28) so Christ as sacrificed once to take away the sins of many people; and he will appear a second time, not to bear sin, but to ring salvation to those who are waiting for him. (Salvation comes only once and that is at the Second Coming; again no second chance.)*
- Rom. 2: 12 *God’s Righteous Judgment All who sin apart from the law (Gentiles; all who have not heard of Jesus or the Bible) will also perish apart from the law, and all who sin under the law (Jews and Christians) will be judged by the law. 13) For it is not those who hear the law who are righteous in God’s sight, but it is those who obey the law who will be declared righteous. 14) Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, 15) since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them. 16) This will take place on the day (future) when God will judge men’s secrets*

*through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares.* (No Second Chance)

This is sound doctrine that there will be a judgment in the future. If the judgment is in the future this means no one can go to heaven or hell until after they are judged. Nowhere in the Bible is there a place where people go after they die, like purgatory, before they are judged. The Saved will go to heaven at the Second Coming when they receive immortality and the Lost will be raised, judged and condemned at the Third Coming, 1000 years later. (*Rev. 20*) So the doctrine that all the dead sleep until they are resurrected has to be correct. I believe you will have some questions about this topic so I've put in appendix C, Death & Soul Bible Study, D, Answers to Difficult Bible Texts, and D, Answers to Difficult Bible Texts.

## 3.4

### Three Juries

We all know that judgment day is coming and we believe that God will judge us. But in fact it is God that is on trial and all intelligent beings ever created are jury members that will judge Him as to whether He was fair or not in with with the lives of humans and the fallen angels. This judgment will determine where we end up; in heaven or not. I will now present biblical texts to provide evidence of the three juries. You will notice that judgment will be determined from what is written in "the books"; which are for the jury's benefit not God's because God knows everything. Of course God will pass out the final judgment after the verdict is in.

Jury #1	The Never Sinned	started judging 1844 and will finish at the Seventh Trumpet.
Jury #2	The Saved	will start judging after the Second Coming.
Jury #3	The Lost	will start judging after the Third Coming.

*Dan. 7:9*      *The Ancient of Days* (God the Father, Judge) *took His seat.*

*7:10*      *The Court* (Jury) *was seated and the books were opened.* (Everyone's life record)

*Phi. 2:10*      *At the name of Jesus every knee will bow, In heaven* (Jury #1, The Never Sinned) *and on earth* (Jury #2, The Saved) *and under the earth,* (Jury #3, The Lost) *and every tongue confess (100%) that Jesus Christ is Lord.*

We have a Court room scene but there are three juries.

**The 1<sup>st</sup> Jury**, *in heaven*, all who have never sinned. They will examine the books and agree with God that all the Saved and the Lost were judged correctly according to their life record. The only sinners in the universe are here on earth which includes the fallen angels who are bound to earth. *Rev. 20:2 Gen. 3:22*

*John 3:17*      *For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn* (Judge) *the world, but to save the world through him.* (Judgment of the world will come later.)

*1 Peter 4:17*      *For it is time for judgment to begin with the family of God* (The Dead in Christ, the Saved.)

*Dan. 9:25*      *Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem...*

*Dan. 8:14*      *He said to me, "It will take 2,300 (Prophetically = 2300 years, *Eze. 14: 34*) evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary will be reconsecrated.* (Judgment started in 1844)

*Rev. 22: 11*      *Let him who does wrong continue to do wrong; let him who is vile continue to be vile; let him who does right continue to do right; and let him who is holy continue to be holy."12)"*  
*Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me."*

The time prophecies of Daniel have been proven, by the date Christ died, to start "*From the issuing of the decree*" *Dan. 9:25*, which was in *Ezra 7:9, October 22, 457 B.C.* By applying this same starting date to

the 2300 years prophecy you get October 22, 1844. *“The sanctuary will be reconsecrated,” Dan. 8:14* I believe means that judgment started in Heaven (1844). The Never Sinned has to be the first jury because there is no one else to judge them. The *‘judgment to begin with the family of God’, 1 Peter 4:17*, shows us that the first to be judged, by the first jury, the Never Sinned, will be the *‘Dead in Christ.’* Abel first, then each generation until it is time to judge the *‘Living in Christ’*. The Saved Living, will also be judged by the first Jury, the Never Sinned just prior to the Second Coming then they are sealed, *Rev. 22:11*.

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> Jury**, *on earth*, all the Saved, will start their judgment when they get to heaven. *1 Cor. 6:2*. Like all juries, they will have to look over all the evidence so that there is not a shadow of doubt as to the verdict.

*Rev. 20:4* *I saw thrones on which were seated those who had been given authority to judge. .... They came to life (at the Second Coming) and reigned with Christ (Christ takes them to heaven) a thousand years.*

*1 Cor. 6:2* *Do you not know that the saints (the Saved) will judge the world?*

*Mat. 19:28* *Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.*

*John 12:47* *For I (Jesus) did not come to judge the world, (Judgment is in the future) but to save it. 48) There is a judge for the one who rejects me (the Lost reject Jesus) and does not accept my words; (Only the Bible, God, Jesus, was the author that gave man the words, visions and dreams that make up the whole Bible.) that very word which I spoke will condemn him at the last day. (Judgment of the Lost will be at the Third coming, 1000 years after the Second Coming, Rev. 20:4+5.)*

At the Second Coming the Saved will be taken to heaven. (*John 14:2*) They’ll have 1000 years (Millennium *Rev. 20: 1-10*) to look over the Books of Record of all the lost and saved. They may think, “Why is so and so here and why isn’t so and so here?” Just like the Never Sinned, the Saved will have all their questions and doubts answered when they get to heaven and examine the judgment books, the court records of everyone’s life.

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> Jury**, *“under the earth”*, all the Lost, *Phil. 2:10* *“every knee will bow .... and tongue confess”*, means that 100 percent of all intelligent beings will be in agreement, no question and no doubts, that God’s way was and is 100 percent correct. Then sin will never ever happen again. *Rev. 21:4*.

*2 Thess. 2:7* *For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work, but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. 8) And then the lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroyed (the Lost) by the splendor (His Glory) of his (Second) Coming.*

*Jer. 25:33* *At that time those slain by the Lord will be everywhere from one end of the earth to the other. They will not be mourned or gathered up or buried, (At the Second Coming Jesus splendor will slay all the lost and there will be no humans alive on earth to bury the dead) but will be like refuse lying on the ground.*

*Rev. 20:5* *The rest of the dead (the Lost, humans) did not come to life until the thousand years were ended.*

*Rev. 20:14* *Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.*

Why will all the Lost be raised from the dead, (*Rev. 20:5* *“did not come to life,”*) a 1000 years after the Second Coming just to be put to death a second time? They have to have a *fair trial*. God will reveal to



## 3.5

### How Sin Will End

After the third and final Jury gives its verdict, God will pass the death sentence, the second death, on the Lost.

*Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, (not torture) but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*Rev. 20:14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.*

*Rev. 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away... 4) He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. (The time frame is the Third Coming.)*

The Lost will be put to death quickly then burnt up in the Lake of Fire. God will recreate the world as it was before sin. This will be discussed in detail in chapter 7.2, The Lake of Fire.

## 3.6

### Summary

From this study we see that sin started in heaven with Lucifer accusing God of having an imperfect government and how this great controversy has to go to trial and all intelligent beings with freedom of choice will be given chance to voice their opinion in a jury, even the Lost will bow in agreement. All agree that God's ways are perfect. Still many will not want to obey Him and they will be put to death, the second death. The rest will live for ever with no more tears, pain or death. This gives you the big picture of how sin started and how it will end. Now let's study more in detail the end time events.