

The Eschatology of Satan



What Preterist's Agree On (Well Most)

The vast majority of preterist's that I am aware of believe in the destruction of satan in AD70. His destruction occurs then regardless if you believe in a supernatural being or satan as a reference to actual humans.

From the Start...

- Genesis 3: Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made.

Observations From the Text

- Deuteronomy 32: “For they *are* a nation void of counsel,
Nor *is there any* understanding in them. 33 Their wine *is* the poison of serpents, And the cruel venom of cobras.

Emphasize Serpent/ Doctrine/ Deception

- Psalm 140:

Deliver me, O LORD, from evil men;

Preserve me from violent men,

² Who plan evil things in *their* hearts;

They continually gather together *for* war.

³ They sharpen their tongues like a serpent;

The poison of asps *is* under their lips.

Associating Serpents and Evil Men

- Psalm 58: The wicked are estranged from the womb;
They go astray as soon as they are born,
speaking lies.
4 Their poison *is* like the poison of a serpent;
They are like the deaf cobra *that* stops its
ear,

Serpent as Tribe of Dan

- Genesis 47: Dan shall be a serpent
by the way,
A viper by the path,
That bites the horse's heels
So that its rider shall fall backward.

Nations Act as Serpent

- Micah 7: The nations shall see and be ashamed of all their might;
They shall put *their* hand over *their* mouth;
Their ears shall be deaf.
17 They shall lick the dust like a serpent;
They shall crawl from their holes like [i]snakes of the earth.
They shall be afraid of the LORD our God,
And shall fear because of You.

Before We Get To the New Testament

- We need to make an important observation: whoever or whatever the satan is, he/ it is also the dragon, the devil, and the serpent.
- Revelation 20: 2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is *the* Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

Context of the New Testament Serpent

- Only one group of people in the New Testament are directly called the serpent/ viper and that is ethnic Israel who rejects Messiah. Specifically, the religious leaders.

John the Baptist Identifies Them Too

- Matthew 3: 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?”

Matthew 12: 34

- 34 Brood[f] of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

Enemies Placed Under Foot

- Psalm 110: 1 is everywhere, especially Hebrews which is THE BOOK most obvious about the removal of the Old Covenant.

Parable of Minas

- Luke 19: 27 But bring here those enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, and slay *them* before me.’ ”

Who Would Be Cast Out?

- Galatians 4: 29 But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him *who was born* according to the Spirit, even so *it is* now. 30 Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.”

Synagogue of Satan

- Revelation 3: 9 Indeed I will make *those* of the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews and are not, but lie—indeed I will make them come and worship before your feet, and to know that I have loved you.

Problem Passage: What About Satan Roaming?

- 1 Peter 5: 8 ⁸ Be c sober, be d vigilant; e because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Leaders in Ezekiel's Day

- Ezekiel 22: ²⁵ The conspiracy of her [e]prophets in her midst is like a roaring lion tearing the prey; they have devoured [f]people; they have taken treasure and precious things; they have made many widows in her midst. ²⁶ Her priests have [g]violated My law and profaned My holy things;

- 27 Her princes in her midst *are* like wolves tearing the prey, to shed blood, to destroy [\[h\]](#)people, and to get dishonest gain. 28 Her prophets plastered them with untempered *mortar*, seeing false visions, and divining lies for them, saying, 'Thus says the Lord GOD,' when the LORD had not spoken.

Problem Passage: Revelation 2: 10

- Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer. Indeed, the devil is about to throw *some* of you into prison, that you may be tested, and you will have tribulation ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

Acts 9

- Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

Problem Passage: Hebrews 2: 14

- ¹⁴ Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Explaining Hebrews 2: 14

- Galatians 5: 1 Stand[\[a\]](#) fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

- How were they held in death?
Because satan held it over them.
To say it another way, they stood
to be accused before God barred
from entering His presence. IE...
Spiritual Death

The Accuser

- Revelation 12: 10 ¹⁰ Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, “Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down.

- Matthew 23: 2 Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to His disciples, ² saying: “The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses’ seat.

What Was Moses Seat?

- Exodus 18: ¹³ And so it was, on the next day, that Moses sat to judge the people; and the people stood before Moses from morning until evening. ¹⁶ When they have a [g]difficulty, they come to me, and I judge between one and another; and I make known the statutes of God and His laws.”

Power of Death?

- Romans 3: ¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become [\[e\]](#)guilty before God. ²⁰ Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.

1 Corinthians 15: 56

- 56 The sting of death *is* sin, and the strength of sin *is* the law.

Destroying the Power of the Devil

- Daniel 12: that *it shall be* for a time, times, and half *a time*; and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these *things* shall be finished.

Why the Persecution?

- Romans 8: ³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies. ³⁴ Who *is* he who condemns?

Moving To Revelation 20

- Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is *the* Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;

- ³ and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.

- Emphasize the fact that he is bound from deceiving the nations?

- Who is Babylon the Harlot in the book of Revelation?

Revelation 18

- ²³ The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived. ²⁴ And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth.”

- Babylon the harlot deceives the nations.
- Satan deceives the nations.
- Babylon = to satan

Religious Leaders Proselytize

- Matthew 23: 15 “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of [[h](#)]ell as yourselves.

Overview So Far

- Israel was to lead the nations to God. They failed.
- Their message was now overcome by Christ and the apostles during the time of the New Testament.
- Thus, satan was bound from deceiving the nations.

- New Adam..... Christ

- New Eve..... The Church

Deception and the Garden

- 2 Corinthians 11: 2 For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present *you as* a chaste virgin to Christ. 3 But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the [\[a\]](#)simplicity that is in Christ.

Who was it?

- 2 Corinthians 11: 20 For you put up with it if one brings you into bondage, if one devours *you*, if one takes *from you*, if one exalts himself, if one strikes you on the face. 21 To *our* shame I say that we were too weak for that! But in whatever anyone is bold—I speak foolishly—I am bold also. 22 Are they Hebrews? So *am* I. Are they Israelites? So *am* I. Are they the seed of Abraham? So *am* I.

- The Bride was deceived in the garden, just as Israel was led astray by wicked leadership throughout the story of the Old Testament. But now in the New Testament the church remains faithful and withstands satan's attacks.
- What is the Difference?

She Finally Had a Continually Faithful Leader

- Romans 5: 18- 19 So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men, even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.

Revelation 20 Words It This Way

- Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.

This Wasn't Israel's First Binding

- Ezekiel 7: 23 'Make a chain,
For the land is filled with crimes of blood,
And the city is full of violence.

21 I will give it as plunder
Into the hands of strangers,
And to the wicked of the earth as spoil;
And they shall defile it.

- I take satan's binding to be roughly ad30- ad66.
- Satan would then be released for a “little while” to bring havoc on the church for 3 ½ years.

Revelation 20: 7

- ⁷ Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison ⁸ and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number *is* as the sand of the sea.

- Old Covenant apostate Israel rallies all her forces to do away with the church once and for all.
- Since the entire world had heard the gospel message, the churches testimony ceased for 3 ½ years and they held on until the judgement came to remove satan and his forces.

Ceasing the Testimony

- Revelation 11: 7 ⁷ When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends out of the bottomless pit will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.

The Judgement Scene

- Revelation 20: 9 They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.

- Why I do not think this is Rome Surrounding the beloved city...

Seeing the Entire Story

- Romans 12: 17 Repay no one evil for evil. Have^[e] regard for good things in the sight of all men. 18 If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but *rather* give place to wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance *is* Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.

Romans 13

- Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will [\[a\]](#)bring judgment on themselves.

Romans 13

- ³ For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. ⁴ For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to *execute* wrath on him who practices evil.

Romans 13

- ⁵ Therefore *you* must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. ⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing.

Revisiting The Judgement Scene

- Revelation 20: 9 They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them.

Land Beast in the Garden

- Genesis 3: Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made.

Land Beast in Revelation 13

- ¹¹ Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon.
¹³ He performs great signs, so that he even makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men.

SIS

- The Same hermeneutic that leads even the partial preterists to see Israel as the land beast, leads you to make a strong case for having someone who has apostatized from the covenant in the garden.

Characteristics of a Beast?

- Romans 1: 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like [\[h\]](#) corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

Nebuchadnezzar becomes a Beast

- Daniel 4: Let his heart be changed from *that of a man*,
Let him be given the heart of a beast,

Genesis 3

- And I will put enmity
Between you and the woman,
And between your seed and her
Seed;
He shall bruise your head,
And you shall bruise His heel.”

Following Romans to the End

- Romans 16: 20 ²⁰ And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.

My Conclusion

- The destruction of satan from the biblical story is to remove wicked apostates from overthrowing the covenant. The overthrow by satan was a continuous old covenant reality that the woman/bride could not overcome.

- When the better Adam comes and brings the New Covenant, He discharges the enemy and teaches and equips the bride to properly fight against attacks. That specific enemy has been utterly defeated. Now when new enemies arrive to overthrow the New Covenant, the church is properly equipped to fight them off.

This is why the covenant established by the Lord Jesus Christ will have no end, because though the church may have struggles at times, she will never ultimately be led away by her leader to the point of exile from the presence of God.