

Excerpt: Children in the Crossfire

By: Patricia Marlett

1

Rebellion in the Kingdom

Man's history began not in the Garden of Eden but in the Kingdom of Heaven. It didn't start with the first Adam but with second Adam, Jesus. The second Adam was before the first Adam, for Christ was the Word manifesting all of God's creation. As God spoke, the Word brought everything into existence. The Kingdom of Heaven existed before the Kingdom of Earth and before there was man there were angels.

Deception occurred in the Kingdom of Heaven before Adam in the Garden of Eden. Lucifer's defying act to overthrow the governing powers of the Almighty King was the origination of sin with the spinoff of self-righteousness and unbelief. All the afflictions that came upon Adam happened because of and through Lucifer. Typically, we think our story of man begins in the Garden, but in actuality it goes further back into the Kingdom of Heaven. Lucifer set the precedence for Adam's deception, and thus, spirit death.

God created both angels and man with a free will, and it's easy to be swayed to believe in anything that seems reasonable. We witness this when one-third of the angels within the Kingdom chose to stand alongside Lucifer, believing he would oust the Creator.

Today, Lucifer is still seeking to build an army of people, along with his fallen angels, to oppose the Almighty King of all Creation. To build his fortress requires not just unbelievers, but to gain believers to his camp. His plan to keep everyone from God.

It delights him to deceive the Christians away from God, for his objective has not changed in nearly six- thousand years. In fact, there will be a final attempt to claim the temple in Jerusalem, sit on the throne and call himself God. It will be a climactic culmination of all his efforts before he is defeated for all time by the Son of God.

The high-ranking archangels have names, positions, and responsibilities. As we see everything of God's Kingdom is in a trinity, so also is the number of the prominent angels. They are Michael, Gabriel, and Lucifer. Something to take notice of is the position each holds. For example, Michael is a warrior angel, Gabriel a messenger angel, and Lucifer a worship angel. God had already set forth the commanding high-ranking angels with responsibilities required for a future event; a time when a messenger angel and a warrior angel would be needed in the Kingdom of Earth. There is order within God's Kingdom.

Lucifer was one of the high-ranking archangels with the charge of directing the angels in worship of the Almighty King; one whose ministry surrounded the heart of Heaven dwelling eternally in the very presence of God. *Son of man, take up a lamentation upon the king of Tyrus, and say unto him, Thus saith the Lord God; Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.* Ezekiel 28:12-15 We have validation for Lucifer's position in the Kingdom of Heaven and his presence before the Almighty King.

God declared him perfectly made. However, because of Lucifer's exceeding beauty, greatness, and knowledge of the Kingdom, he became pompous and

prideful believing he should hold the position as the Almighty King of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Because of his rebellious attempt to overthrow the throne of God along with one-third of the angels who chose to follow him, all were expelled to Earth. *How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.* Isaiah 14:12-15 Lucifer was familiar with the Kingdom of Earth and the Garden of Eden before his fall: *Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God.*

When Lucifer was removed from the Kingdom of Heaven, the only place of his descent that he could have *fallen* to was the Kingdom of Earth; therefore, Lucifer was in residence before Adam. As an archangel, Lucifer had the ability to travel back and forth between these two kingdoms, Heaven and Earth, at will. In Heaven his name was *Lucifer, son of the morning*; however, when sent to Earth, his name changed to Satan, *adversary* or *accuser*.

God created man from the very soil of the Earth, formed him into clay and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and named him Adam which means *earth*, or in Hebrew, *adamah*. He made man with a body, soul, and spirit and placed His most precious creation, fashioned in His likeness and image, in the Kingdom of Earth in a special garden eastward of Eden called the *Garden of Eden*. God made him king of the Kingdom of Earth, ruler over all the inhabitants including naming the animals that would occupy the land.

When Adam and Eve lived in the Garden of Eden, Lucifer, now referred to as Satan, was familiar with the layout of the Garden. As a high-ranking officer in the Kingdom, he was privy to God's plan and knew how to sever the relationship God had with Adam. If he couldn't be the king of the Kingdom of Heaven, he certainly would make sure he became the king of the Kingdom of Earth and knew exactly how to steal it from Adam.

Thus, it all began in the Kingdom of Heaven, but will end in the Kingdom of Earth

when Christ returns to win the war against Lucifer. In the meantime, we are children caught in the crossfire and our salvation is dependent upon which king we believe.