

THE ORIGIN OF SIN

A Bible Study with Quotes from Ellen G. White

1. What was the first sin?

Isaiah 14:12-14 “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.**”

Ezekiel 28:12-15 “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.**”

PP 35 “**Sin originated with him who, next to Christ, had been most honored of God and was highest in power and glory among the inhabitants of heaven.** Lucifer, "son of the morning," was first of the covering cherubs, holy and undefiled. He stood in the presence of the great Creator, and the ceaseless beams of glory enshrouding the eternal God rested upon him. [Quotes Ezekiel 28:12-15]. **Little by little Lucifer came to indulge the desire for self-exaltation.** The Scripture says, "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness." Ezekiel 28:17. [Quotes Isaiah 14:13-14].”

2. Did the devil want to exalt himself above the angels?

Isaiah 14:13 “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:**”

Job 38:6-7 “Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When **the morning stars sang** together, and all **the sons of God shouted** for joy?”

PP 35 “Instead of seeking to make God supreme in the affections and allegiance of all created beings, **it was his endeavor to secure their service and loyalty to himself. And coveting the glory with which the infinite Father had invested His Son,** this prince of angels **aspired to power that was the prerogative of Christ alone.**”

3. Did God exalt His Son above the angels?

Hebrews 1:1-5 “1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by **his Son**, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high: **4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.** 5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?”

Testimonies for the Church, Volume 8, The Essential Knowledge, p. 268 “**The Scriptures clearly indicate the relation between God and Christ,** and they bring to view as clearly **the personality and individuality of each.** [quotes Hebrews 1:1-5]. **God is the Father of Christ; Christ is the Son of God.** To Christ has been given an exalted position. He has been **made equal**

with the Father. All the counsels of God are opened to His Son."

PP 36 **"Before the assembled inhabitants of heaven the King declared that none but Christ, the Only Begotten of God, could fully enter into His purposes, and to Him it was committed to execute the mighty counsels of His will. The Son of God had wrought the Father's will in the creation of all the hosts of heaven; and to Him, as well as to God, their homage and allegiance were due."**

4. Did the devil want to sit also upon the throne of God?

Isaiah 14:13 "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."**

PP 38 **"The exaltation of the Son of God as equal with the Father was represented as an injustice to Lucifer, who, it was claimed, was also entitled to reverence and honor.** If this prince of angels could but attain to his true, exalted position, great good would accrue to the entire host of heaven; for it was his object to secure freedom for all. But now even the liberty which they had hitherto enjoyed was at an end; for an absolute Ruler had been appointed them, and to His authority all must pay homage. **Such were the subtle deceptions that through the wiles of Lucifer were fast obtaining in the heavenly courts."**

5. Does God share His throne with His Son?

Hebrews 1:1-5 "1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by **his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;** 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high: 4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. 5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?"

PP 36 "The King of the universe summoned the heavenly hosts before Him, that in their presence He might set forth the true position of His Son and show the relation He sustained to all created beings. **The Son of God shared the Father's throne, and the glory of the**

eternal, self-existent One **encircled both."**

6. Did the devil want to be like God?

Isaiah 14:14 "I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I will be like the most High."**

PP 37 **"As songs of praise ascended** in melodious strains, swelled by thousands of glad voices, the spirit of evil seemed vanquished; unutterable love thrilled his entire being; **his soul went out, in harmony with the sinless worshippers, in love to the Father and the Son.** But again he was filled with pride in his own glory. **His desire for supremacy returned, and envy of Christ was once more indulged.** The high honors conferred upon Lucifer were not appreciated as God's special gift, and therefore, called forth no gratitude to his Creator. **He glorified in his brightness and exaltation and aspired to be equal with God.** He was beloved and revered by the heavenly host, angels delighted to execute his commands, and he was clothed with wisdom and glory above them all. **Yet the Son of God was exalted above him, as one in power and authority with the Father.** He shared the Father's counsels, while Lucifer did not thus enter into the purposes of God. **"Why," questioned this mighty angel, "should Christ have the supremacy? Why is He honored above Lucifer?"**

7. Who is the express image of God?

Hebrews 1:1-5 "1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by **his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;** 3 **Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person,** and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high: 4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. 5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?"

PP 34 **"The Sovereign of the universe was not alone in His work of beneficence. He had an associate--a co-worker** who could appreciate His purposes, and could share His joy in giving happiness to created beings. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God." John 1:1, 2. **Christ, the Word,**

the only begotten of God, was one with the eternal Father--one in nature, in character, in purpose--the only being that could enter into all the counsels and purposes of God. "His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6. His "goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2. **And the Son of God declares concerning Himself: "The Lord possessed Me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting. . . . When He appointed the foundations of the earth: then I was by Him, as one brought up with Him: and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him." Proverbs 8:22-30.**"

8. Why is Christ so much better than the angels?

Hebrews 1:1-5 "1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high: 4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. 5 **For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee?** And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?"

Ezekiel 28:15 "Thou wast perfect in thy ways from **the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.**"

PP 36, 38 "Before the assembled inhabitants of heaven the King declared that **none but Christ, the Only Begotten of God**, could fully enter into His purposes, and to Him it was committed to execute the mighty counsels of His will. . . . **There were some who looked with favor upon Lucifer's insinuations against the government of God.** Although they had heretofore been in perfect harmony with the order which God had established, they were now discontented and unhappy because they could not penetrate His unsearchable counsels; **they were dissatisfied with His purpose in exalting Christ. These stood ready to second Lucifer's demand for equal authority with the Son of God.**"

10 MR, 162-163 "Please read the first chapter of **Patriarchs and Prophets** and see if the precious truths

contained in this book are not **given by the Lord to protect His people from deceptions that are urged upon them just now.** I tell you in the name of the Lord God of Israel, that **Satan is presenting his sophistries to ministers and medical workers, and if our people listen to these sophistries, they will become impregnated with the same false idea of a popular religion that will cause them to develop into gods, and there will be no place in their lives for God or for Christ.**"

Ms86, Aug. 21, 1910 "**Christ was the only begotten Son of God, and Lucifer, that glorious angel, got up a warfare over the matter, until he had to be thrust down to the earth.**"

This Day with God, April 29, 1910, par. 2-3 "**This fact the [fallen] angels would obscure, that Christ was the only begotten Son of God, and they came to consider that they were not to consult Christ. One angel began the controversy and carried it on until there was rebellion in the heavenly courts, among the angels.**"

Quiz:

1. Did the devil want to be like God?

Isaiah 14:14 "I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be ____ the most High."

2. Who is the express image of God?

Hebrews 1:1-3 "1 God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, 2 Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his ____, whom he hath appointed ____ of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; 3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the ____ image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:"

3. Why is Christ so much better than the angels?

Hebrews 1:4-5 "4 Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by _____ obtained a more excellent name than they. 5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I _____ thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?"