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## The Enmity, the Battle - Part 1

16th October 2006

Hi guys,

we looked into [man's creation](#) yesterday. Today we will look at the hostility formed between the serpent and the woman and her seed.

When did satan become who he is?

The scripture says that satan murdered from the beginning (John 8:44). But that was when Cain killed Abel, which is a little away from the 1st 6 days of creation. This could indicate that 'beginning' may mean anytime very early in genesis. It could be the start, it could also be near the start of creation (see John 1:1, Matt 19:8)

Jesus then goes on to say that satan is the father, the originator, of lies. So he lied before he murdered and that lie was in Gen 3:1. So he most probably became who he is today between Gen 2:25 and Gen 3:1.

Remember that all the sons of God and morning stars (hebrew **-boqer kokab** - the 'break of day' princes) were joyful at the time the earth was fastened (Job 38:6-7). I believe satan and his demons were once one of them, but couldn't hold to the covenant of truth (abode not -John 8:44).

Ecc 3:11 says He (God) has made everything beautiful in His time. It says He has set the world (**olam** -age) in their heart, so that **no** man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end. (Here again, we see the forgetting process as he covers our spirits with the dust-body).

So God made the serpent beautiful at the start.

Satan used the most subtle of the field beasts (Gen 3:1). The word 'subtle' is **arum**. It can mean crafty (Job 5:12) or prudent (Pro 13:16, Pro 14:18).

Remember a word can have positive and negative connotations.

The word 'beast' is interesting. It is **chay** in hebrew and also means alive, strong. The serpent, gets its name from the hiss, that's why Adam named it so (Gen 2:20).

So the serpent was a good creature (for God created everything -and it was good to Him). It was also the wisest of the field beasts, the strong of the field.

Who is wiser than the prudent, who know how to choose their words carefully!

So the serpent most likely was able to speak before it was cursed to be the lowest of all cattle (Gen 3:14).

So that's why satan decided to use it. It had 'speaking intelligence', so its thought processes were utilised by satan.

For that reason this field beast was also cursed - losing its legs in the process and becoming the lowest of the low, physically and intelligently. You just have to see a snake eat a whole animal without chopping it up. That really is low!

Yet this curse had a spiritual application to the force behind the serpent -satan.

He would become the lowest of the low. And would be consigned to going on his belly - slithering; and eating dust all the days of his existence!

Who is dust? Man's dust-body is dust! Satan would be confined to feeding on all the dust that man churned out of himself, giving it strength by consuming it. This became his permanent calling.

Brothers and sisters, Jesus said , 'the prince of this world cometh and has nothing in me'.(John 14:30). There was no dust in Jesus for satan to feed on!! He was utterly powerless in the presence of our Lord Jesus.

Gen 3:15 ***And I will put enmity ( eybah -hostility) between thee and the woman and between thy seed and her seed; it (her seed) shall bruise thy head***(serpent's head- the serpent's controller), ***and thou shalt bruise his heel.***

Bruise: **shoof** - means gape, snap at.

Heel: **aqeba** - means heel. Also used for the rear company of an army.

What is the heel of a man? I think it not only means a foot bone, but it means his strongest part - the part that can fight! Know also that even the physical heel bone is the strongest bone in the body! (the thigh bone is the strongest of the long bones).

What is this part that fights? In Job 18:9 we see an explanation: ***The gin shall take him by the heel, and the robber shall prevail against him.***

Let's look at another verse. Ps 89:51: ***Wherewith thine enemies have reproached O LORD; wherewith they have reproached the footsteps (aqeba -heel) of thine anointed.***

What is this heel?

It is the strongest part, the fighting part, of man. It is his mind - the voice of the soul!

Man's mind is the battle ground. Satan will use the things of the body or direct oppression of the mind so as to control a man.Consider everything on television and the news-stands.

For the Christian, God's Holy Spirit is housed in our spirit, but the mind is still in the dust realm if it has not been fully conquered by Christ.

But this process of mind-battle continues our entire life, till our dust-bodies return to the ground and our spirits return to God who gave it. Ecc 12:7

There are those who also know another form of these battles: oppression on the body, while it is slowed down in sleep. For some it may be choking, for others crushing in the chest, yet others abuse by incubus/succubus. But this oppression is really felt by the soul, though it is a real physical experience. It is an attack by satan, as he seeks to disillusion and dishearten God's children.

But they can not be seen, because we are covered with the dust-body and can't see into the spirit realm.

But there is freedom in Christ Jesus!!

He says, '*Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captive delivered? But thus saith the LORD. Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible shall be delivered: for I will contend with him that contended with thee, and I will save thy children*' Isa 49:24-25

By HIS power we break free, for He is doing the contending, and we contend jointly with Him. Energised and resting assuringly in His word that he will deliver us from every hand of darkness! Amen.

Stay blessed in Him,

Tony A.

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