**CLASSNOTES FOR BST 104**

**ECCLESIOLOGY- Study of the Church**

**INTRODUCTION**  
**what is Church?** Many people today understand the church to be a building. This is not the biblical understanding of the church. The root meaning of “Church” is not that of a building, but of people. This includes everyone that has placed his/her faith in the LORD Jesus Christ and is obedient to his message.

“Church” is the translation of the Greek word “Ekklesia.” “Ek” in Greek signifies separation. So, “Ekklesia” in the New Testament described the Christians as a called out group. Christians are a called out community, **community of believers in Christ Jesus.** Combination of this two words “ecclesia” and “logy” meaning - study, therefore makes Ecclesiology the study of the church. Ecclesiology is crucial to understanding God's purpose for believers; it exposes us to God’s plan of salvation.

**DEFINITION:** The word “Church” is an English word derived from “Kuriakos” which is another Greek word, meaning, “Belonging to the Lord,” “pertaining to the Lord,” or simply “The Lord’s”.

**TIME OF INCEPTION OF THE CHURCH**

Some people believed that time of the inception of the Church can be traced to as far back as the patriarchal period – (Mosiac period), however a second view which is more accurate says that the Church had its beginning in the New Testament, on the day of Pentecost (Mt. 16:17-18, Acts 2.)

In the New Testament context, the word is employed in four senses:

1. It represents the body of Christ worldwide, over which the Lord functions as head (Mt. 16:18; Eph. 1:22; 1 Tim. 3:15)
2. The expression can refer to God’s people in a given region (Acts 9:31, ASV, ESV).
3. Frequently, it depicted a local congregation of Christians (1 Cor. 1:2; Rev. 1:11).
4. It could also signify a group of the Lord’s people assembled for worship (1 Cor. 14:34-35).

**Basically, there are two sides of a Church i.e.**

1. The visible church is the registered members that meet in worship (institutional body on earth which preaches the gospel and administer the sacraments).
2. The invisible Church is one that is divine (mysterious) in nature, of the saved (the elect who are known only to God in contrast to the visible Church, those who are saved).

**What is the plan and purpose of the church?** According to Scripture, the purposes/activities of the church should be:

1. Edification/teaching of Biblical doctrine, equipping the saint, correcting, rebuking (Heb. 10:25)
2. Providing a place of fellowship for believers,
3. Observing the Lord’s Supper,
4. Praying,
5. Evangelism; (propagation of God’s kingdom; preaching) Mt 28:18-20.
6. Good works; that which glorify God (1Peter 2:12, 0Matthew 5:14-16)
7. Social concern (concern for one another)
8. Praising/worshipping God

**BAPTISM**

**What is the importance of Christian baptism?** According to the Bible, Christian baptism is simply a step of obedience, a public proclamation of one’s faith in Christ alone for salvation. It is an act of obedience and faith—evidence that salvation is a reality in a person’s life.

**There are different types of baptism;** infant baptism, water baptism: sprinkling and immersion.

**What is the importance of the Lord's Supper/Christian Communion?** A study of the Lord’s Supper is a soul-stirring experience because of the depth of meaning that it portrays. It is an “acted out sermon,” remembering our Lord’s death and resurrection, and looking to the future for His return in glory.

**Three views of communion**

1. The Symbolic view (this view is held mostly by Evangelicals which includes; Baptists, Reformed, Presbyterians, and other independent churches). It is a view that the elements, bread and wine presented in communion are symbolic of the body and blood of Jesus- Jn. 19:30, Lk. 22:19.
2. Consubstantiation (mostly held by Lutherans). It is a view proposed by Martin Luther. This view states that the bread and wine do not change into actual body of Christ as Catholics held, rather, Christ body and blood are present “in, with, and under” the elements.
3. Transubstantiation view- (held mostly by the Catholics Church, some Orthodox and Anglicans). It states that the bread and the wine presented at communion become the literal body and blood of Jesus after a priest prays on and consecrates them.

**MARKS/IMAGES OF THE CHURCH**

This entails what the life of the body of Christ (believers) ought to portray, being salt of the earth, light of the world, branches of the vine, the elect, the bride of Christ, the ambassadors, the chosen race, the holy temple, the royal priesthood, new creation, fighters of Satan, sanctified and saved, friends of God, household of God, members of Christ etc.

**LEADERSHIP OF THE CHURCH**

The following authenticate Christ as the head of the Church

1. Christ holds the key to the church (Mt. 16:18-19)
2. Christ is the head of the church (1 Cor. 11:3, 1 Peter 5:3-4, Eph.3:6, 5:23, Col.1:17,18)
3. Christ sacrifice for the church’s sake (precious blood) Mt. Acts 20:28, Eph. 5:24, Col. 1:24.

The implication of the above is that church leaders are to surrender ultimate leadership to our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the one who leads and determines the teachings and practices of the church. While every church will have its local leaders, the ultimate leader of any church is the Lord Jesus. He said, “I will build my church...” Mtt.16:18. The church belongs to Him. He is the head of the body and the only One with the power to adequately lead and love the church. Church members are to follow Christ first and earthly leaders second, as those leaders emulate Christ. Secondly, the love Jesus has for the church is expressed in His desire that we also love the church. The church is not a building or organization but group of people who know and worship Jesus.

**CONCLUSION**

The Church is the community of all true believers for all time. The Church is to be made of all those who are truly saved. Paul says, "Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her" (Eph. 2:25). Here the term "the church" is used to apply to all those whom Christ died to redeem, all those who are saved by the death of Christ. But that must include all true believers for all time, both believers in the New Testament age and believers in the Old Testament age as well.

**NOTES ON SOTERIOLOGY**

Soteriology is the study of the saving of mankind from the power and effects of sin (White, R. E. O. 967 in Elwell, Walter Ed.). The Greek word ***Soteria*** (relating with the Hebrew word ***yāša’*)** describes for us a situation of deliverance and preservation from any danger (Acts 7:25; 27:31; Heb. 11:7). The root words ***saos, sōzō,*** however convey the notion of wholeness, soundness, and health, giving salvation a medical connotation and producing ideas like salvation from affliction, disease, demon possession, death (Mark 5:34; James 5:15). Sometimes these words literally mean peace, joy, praise, faith when in the context of healing and health. Jesus’ self-description as “physician” (Mark 2:17) and the illustrative value of the healing miracles in defining his mission shows how readily physical and spiritual healing unite in salvation (Lk 4:18-19). So, in other words, salvation describes what God has done, is doing and will do on behalf of men and women who suffer from misery, mortality and meaninglessness (Ryken 2529).

Salvation demands that there should be someone who needs to be saved and also the availability of someone who is willing and able to save. The whole of human race as well as all other creation of God was battered by sin and in need of salvation. God through Jesus Christ provided salvation for His creation. This simply is the Gospel (Heb. 2:18; 7:25; Eph. 3:20)

False mediums expected to provide salvation

1. Education – 1 Tim 6:20; 2 Tim 3:7
2. Church membership
3. Good works – Eph. 2:8, 9
4. Baptism – 1 Cor. 1:17
5. Proper or conducive environment
6. Keeping the Law – Gal. 2:16
7. Confirmation
8. Living by the Golden Rule (do unto others what you expects them to do to you)
9. Sincerity
10. Lodge or fraternity membership
11. Tithing
12. Secular organization
13. Religious organization (belonging to CAN, PFN, WCC etc)

Threefold methods –

1. Salvation is always by blood. It must be the blood of innocent victim, must be shed and the applied – Heb. 9:22
2. Salvation is always through a person – it must be proclaimed through a person – Jonah 2:9; Acts 4:12; 1 Thess. 5:9; Heb. 5:9
3. Salvation is always by grace (Eph. 2:8, 9; Titus 2:11) –
4. Grace requires that the sinner exhibits faith (Rom. 5:1; Heb. 11:6)
5. The grace if followed by the Saviour’s peace (Rom. 1:7; 1:1 Cor. 1:3; Gal. 1:3)

Reasons why mankind is lost (Willmington 727)

1. They are lost because of their rejection of biblical revelation – Ps. 19:1; Acts 14:17; Rom. 1:19, 20
2. They are lost because of disobeying their own conscience – Rom. 2:14-16
3. They are lost because of their relationship to the world – Eph. 2:2; Jas. 4:4; 1 John 2:15-17
4. They are lost because of their relationship to Satan – Mt. 4:8, 9; Jn. 8:42-44; 12:31; 2 Cor. 4:4; Col. 1:13; 1 Jn. 3:10; 5:19
5. They are lost because of their relationship to sin – Gen 2:17; 8:21; Job 14:4; Eccl.7:20; Jer. 17:19; Mark 7:20-23; Rom. 5:12; 7:14; Eph. 4:18
6. They are lost because of their relationship to God – Jn. 3:36; Eph. 2:12; 1 Jn. 5:12; Jude 19.

Salvation Types in the Old Testament

* 1. Adam and Eve – illustrate to us that Salvation clothes us – Gen. 3:21; Zech. 3:1-5; Rev. 3:5, 18; 19:7-8. After the fall, Adam and Eve realized that they were naked, then God clothed them
  2. Cain and Abel – illustrate that Salvation guarantees us acceptance – Gen. 4:4; Eph. 1:6
  3. The Ark and the Passover – illustrate that Salvation protects us from God’s wrath – Gen. 7:1; Exo. 12:23; Rom. 1:18; Col. 3:6; 1 Thess. 1:10; Rev. 6:17
  4. Abraham and Isaac – illustrate that Salvation provides for us an acceptable substitute – Gen. 22:12-14; 1 Pet. 3:18
  5. The Manna and the smitten Rock – illustrate that Salvation satisfies us – Exo. 16:14; 17:6; Ps. 103:5; 107:9
  6. The brazen serpent – illustrate that salvation cures us – Num. 21:9; Jn. 3:14
  7. Naaman – illustrate that Salvation cleanses us – 1 Kg. 5:1-14; Ps. 51:7
  8. The Tabernacle – illustrate that Salvation restores lost fellowship – Exo. 25:22; Ps. 23:3

The vocabulary of Salvation

1. Conversion – Ps. 19:7; 51:13; Mt. 18:3; Acts 3:19; 15:3; James 5:20 – the Greek word ***Metanoia*** translated “Conversion” has reference to a twofold turning on the part of the individual. One has to do with repentance (which is a turning from), and the other with faith (a turning to).
   * 1. Repentance –
        1. What repentance is not
           1. Repentance is not reformation, which is an act of turning a new leaf (e.g. a drug addict taken to rehabilitation centre)
           2. Repentance is not remorse which is an act of regretting the fruit of one’s crime but not the root (e.g. Esau in Gen. 27; Heb. 12:17 and Judas in Matt 27:3)
           3. Repentance is not penitence which is that act of attempting to make up for one’s sins through good works (e.g. making donation to religious bodies)
        2. What repentance is – it is a voluntary and sincere change in the mind of the sinner, causing him to turn from his sin. The sin is the rebellion to God and the attitude of rejecting Jesus Christ, this is the root of all other sins (Jn. 16:7-11; Mt. 3:2, 8; 9:13; Acts 17:30).
     2. Faith
        1. What faith is not
           1. It is not a blind leap into the dark
           2. It is not supposition
           3. It is not speculation
           4. It is not opinion or hypothesis
        2. What faith is
           1. It is a voluntary and sincere change in the mind of the sinner, causing him/her to turn to the Saviour (Acts 20:21).
           2. Faith comes from hearing the word of God – Acts 10:17
           3. Faith is so important because (1) we cannot please God without faith – Heb. 11:6; (2) the sinner is saved by faith – Rom. 5:1; Eph. 2:8, 9; and (3) the saint is sanctified (grows) by faith. So by faith

We live – Rom. 1:17

We stand – 2 Cor. 1:24

We walk – 2 Cor. 5:7

We fight – 1 Tim. 6:12

We overcome – 1 Jn. 5:4

1. Substitution (1 Pet. 3:18) – two types of substitution
   1. Temporary substitution – in the OT times, prior to Calvary, sheep and other animals were killed to take the place of the offender – Gen. 22:10-13; Exo. 12:3-7
   2. Permanent substitution (Heb. 10:4; Jn. 10:11) – in the NT after Calvary, the Shepherd died for the sheep, i.e. Christ died for His sheep – the humanity. Christ became sin in our place, bore the burden of sin, died resurrected, and there by set us free. The Son of God became the Son of man that the sons of men might become the sons of God – 2 cor. 5:21; Isa. 53
2. Reconciliation – God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself (2 Cor. 5:19)
3. Meaning of reconciliation – in the OT, the Hebrew word ***kaphar***, found 83 times means “to cover something”. Of this it is translated “atonement” sixty six times and “reconciliation” seven times. In the NT, the word ***allasso*** means “to change from that of enmity to friendship” (Eph. 2:16; Col. 1:20-22; Mt. 5:24; Rom. 5:10, 11; 11:15; 1 Cor. 7:11; 2 Cor. 5:18-20).
4. Implications of reconciliation – it shows that there was a previous animosity but now, the offended parties now view things differently and positively.
5. Reconciliation has two phases – god has reconciled himself to the world through Christ (2 Cor. 5:18, 19), so mankind has the duty to reconcile themselves to God through Christ (2 Cor. 5:0).
6. The chronology of reconciliation
   1. In Eden God and man faced each other in fellowship
   2. After the fall, God and man turned from each other
   3. At Calvary, God turned his face toward mankind
   4. At conversion (through faith and repentance) mankind turns his/her face toward God.
7. Propitiation – 1 Jn. 2:2; 4:10 – And He is the propitiation for our sins; and not our only but also for the sins of the whole world
8. Meaning – propitiation comes from the Greek word ***hilasmos*** which means “to render favourable, to satisfy, to appease.”
9. Method of propitiation – Rom. 3:25 and Eph. 2:13. Creation was rendered favourable through the grace of God paid for by the blood of redemption spilled by the Lord Jesus Christ.

Other words used in explaining salvation are as follows:

Remission, Redemption, Regeneration, Imputation, Adoption, Supplication, Justification, Sanctification, Glorification, Preservation and Origination (under Origination, topics like Decree, foreordination, foreknowledge, election, counsel, predestination, purpose, and called are discussed)

**NOTES ON ESCHATOLOGY**

Eschatology has to do with the study of future events, and in this case the events of the later part of this age. When the Bible speaks about the last days, its focus is on the events that started from the resurrection of Christ unto the close of the age. Few of the expected events are treated below.

* + - 1. The rapture

Rapture is gotten from the Latin verb ***rapere***, which means “to transport from one place to another”. This is the next expected event predicted by the Bible, which will happen when our Lord Jesus Christ comes in the air to call up all his saints as reflected in the following Bible verses: 1 Thess. 4:15-17 and 1 Cor. 15:51-53.

Who will participate in the rapture?

1. The Lord Jesus Christ himself
2. The archangel (perhaps Michael in Dan. 10:13, 21; 12:1; Jude 9 & Rev. 12:7)
3. The bodies of the dead believers
4. The translated bodies of living believers

What is the purpose of the rapture?

1. To judge and reward the church of God (2 Cor. 5:10)
2. To remove the Spirit of God from the world (2 Thess. 2:7)

The mystery of the rapture is that not all people on earth will reach their heavenly destination via the grave. This was earlier demonstrated by the translation of Enoch (Gen. 5:24), and Elijah (2 Kgs. 2:11). Apostle Paul called it a secret that is being revealed now, i.e. made explicit in the NT times (read 1 Cor. 15:51).

The trumpet of the rapture

In 1 Cor. 15:52; 1 Thess. 4:16 and Rev. 4:1 we read about the trumpet of the Lord. Casting our minds back at the OT, the trumpet was sounded when the need arose to summon the community for war or for worship. Dr. J. Dwight Pentecost suggests that this duo purposes will still be valid at the end of the age.

1. To the angels of God, the trumpet blast will be a call for them to prepare for war. It is clear in the Scripture and in real life that this present world is controlled by forces of evil (Jn. 14:30; Eph. 6:12; 1 Jn. 5:19). So, the hosts of heaven of will have to fight the evil one in order to clear the way for both the rapture and the second coming of Christ. The evil forces that have kept believers in prison shall be displaced and dislodged by the angels of God.
2. To the believing community, the blast of the trumpet will be a “call to worship”. Read Numbers 10:1-4.

In view of the coming rapture what is expected of the child of God?

1. To attend to the services of the Lord regularly – Heb. 10:25
2. To observe the Lord’s supper with the rapture in mind – 1 Cor. 11:26
3. To love believers and all mankind – 1 Thess. 3:12-13
4. To be patient – James 5:8
5. To live a separated life – 1 Jn. 3:2, 3; Tit. 2:12, 13
6. To refrain from judging others – 1 Cor. 4:5
7. To preach the word of God in season and out of season – 2 Tim. 4:1-2; 1 Pet. 5:2, 4
8. To comfort the bereaved – 1 Thess. 4:16, 18
9. To win souls for the Master – Jude 21-23
10. To live heavenly conscious life. Col. 3:1-4
    * + 1. The Bema seat of Christ

The Greek word ***bema*** translated “judgment seat” in the King James Version of the Bible was a term used in Paul’s day to describe the elevated platform where the judge sat to reward the winners of Olympic Games in the Olympic arena (Willmington 827). The Bible confirms that we shall appear before the Bema seat of Christ (Rom. 14:10-12; 1 Cor. 3:13; 2 Cor. 5:10).

The purpose of the Bema seat is for believers to stand before their Lord and Master to give account of the way they have used their privileges and responsibilities from the moment of their conversion (1 Cor. 3:10-13; 1 Pet. 4:10). The result of the Bema seat will be to receive our rewards (1 Cor. 3:14). The Bible enumerated at least five (5) rewards for the believers thus:

The Five Crowns (Adapted from David L. Dawson ETS 1a and Willmington)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| SN | NAME OF CROWN | HOW OBTAINED | AREA OF LIFE | BIBLE VERSES |
| 1. | Of Life | Enduring trials and temptations | Discipleship | Jam. 1:12; Rev. 2:10 |
| 2. | Incorruptible | Self-denial/Mastering the old self | Discipleship | 1 Cor. 9:25-27 |
| 3. | Of Joy/Rejoicing | Soul winning | Evangelism | Prov. 11:30; Dan. 12:3; 1 Thess. 2:19-20 |
| 4. | Of Glory | Given to faithful Preachers and Teachers | Disciple Making | Acts 20:26-28; 2 Tim. 4:1, 2 ; 1 Pet. 5:2-4 |
| 5. | Of Righteousness | Looking for the second coming | Second Coming | 2 Tim. 4:8 |

This event is to be joined by the marriage supper of the Lamb (Matt. 22:2; 25:1; Lk. 12:35, 36; Rev. 19:7).

* + - 1. The last event we shall consider is the Tribulation or the Great Tribulation.

The Bible describes a time of trouble that will come upon the earth and it is called the Tribulation period. It has been referred to by the following names:

1. The day of the Lord – (Isa. 2:12; Amos 5:18; 1 Thess. 5:2; 2 Pet. 3:10)
2. The day of God’s vengeance (Isa. 34:8; 63:1-6)
3. The time of Jacob’s trouble (Jer. 30:7)
4. The Seventieth week (Dan. 9:24-27)
5. The time of the end (Dan. 12:9)
6. The Great day of His wrath (Rev. 6:17)
7. The hour of His judgment (Rev. 14:7)
8. The end of this world (Mt. 13:40, 49)
9. The indignation – (Isa. 26:20; 34:2)
10. The overspreading of abomination (Dan. 9:27)
11. The time of trouble such as never was (Dan. 12:1)
12. The Tribulation or the Great Tribulation (Mt. 24:21, 29)

**ANGELOLOGY**

**Introduction**

1. The angels and their functions
2. The origin of Angels
3. The purpose of Angels
4. The nature of Angel
5. Names and title of Angels
6. Duties and ministries of Angels in heaven and on earth

**DEMONOLOGY**

**Introduction**

1. Origin of evil (Demons)
2. Satan’s origin and Duties
3. Satan’s Character
4. Satan’s titles
5. What are Demons
6. Duties and Mission of Demons
7. How to cast out demons

**ANGELOGY (The Study of Angels)**

**INTRODUCTION:** Throughout the long history, humans have often wondered whether they indeed are the only intelligent beings in his universe and whether life is confined to the earth alone, one of the most scientific attempts is the search for extraterrestrial life (Telescope). These questions are mind bogging i.e.

1. Are there other living creatures and rational beings beside humans?
2. Are they friends or foes?
3. Is there civilization other than ours?
4. Who are these cosmic creatures?

Egyptians, Phoenicians, Greeks and others, all expressed belief in angels.

1. The Mohammedans believe in Angels. They claim that two (2) angels are assigned to each person, one on your right recording good deeds and one on your left recording evils deeds
2. Hebrews taught there are 4 Angels

* Gabriel reveals secrets of God to man - Gabriel is the mighty one of God
* Michael fights/avenges God’s foes
* Raphael receives departing spirits of dead men (Apocryphal book of Tobit)
* Uriel will summon all to judgment

The Bible records a lot of information about the spirit world, i.e. angels and demons, it also informs us that angels have a significant degree of power/authority.

The following Bible references are on angels: Psalm. 68:17, Heb. 12:22, Psalm 104:4, 148:2, Job 1:6, Neh, 9:6, Luke, 3:38, John 3:3, Gal 3:26. In addition, the earliest archeological evidence on the activities of angels appears on the stalk of Ur–Nammus dated to about 2250BC.

**ORIGIN OF ANGELS**

The existence of angels is mentioned in 34 books of the Bible, 273 times 108 in O.T and 165 in N.T. They were created by a special act of God and called “sons of God.”

**DEFINITION:** Angelos is the Greek word for angels, meaning messenger. It sometimes refers to star’ because of their radiant appearance

There are two main groups of Angels

1. The holy angels are larger in number, powerful and faithful stewards of God
2. The evil angels, one third fell with Satan in rebellion. Isaiah 14:12
3. They are not a race but a company, they don’t die, and they cannot increase nor decrease.
4. They appear in physical forms suggesting important relationship with mankind.

**PURPOSE OF ANGELS**

The purpose of their existence is to glorify God. They were created to worship God.

**NATURE OF ANGELS**

* They possess separate and individual personalities (No two are alike)
* They are spirits
* They are invisible beings
* They are immeasurable
* They are superior to mankind because of Adam’s fall (they are smarter, swifter and stronger)
* They are inferior to God (Psalm 104: 4, Heb, 1.7, Rev. 19: 10, Rom 1:18-32, Dan 10; Psalm 8:4)
* They don’t marry/have families
* They perform miracles, killing 185,500 Assyrians, shut mouths of lions, rolled the stone of Jesus grave and opened it.
* The moral significance of angels is that they were impeccable (able not to sin)
* They are faithful to God

**NAMES AND TITLES OF ANGELS**

* The Cherubim
* The Seraphim; Means ‘burning ones’
* Living creatures
* Ruling angels
* Guardian angels
* Associated with horses and chariots
* Ministers
* Host
* Watchers
* Sons of the mighty
* Sons of God

**DUTIES AND MINISTRY OF ANGELS IN HEAVENS AND ON EARTH**

1. Activities in heaven are:

* They worship God, They observe the people of God, they inquire into the prophetical plan of God, they rejoice in the work of God, they rejoice in the will of God, and they witness the wrath of God.

1. Activities on earth: -

* Angels strengthened people physically and mentally
* Angels deliver Christians from human and demonic dangers
* Angels remind and deliver messages to the people of God
* Angels carryout the judgment of God
* Angels will accompany Christ at his return
* Angels delight in the worship of God from people in fellowship

**DEMONOLOGY (The Study of Demons)**

**INTRODUCTION:** Demons or evil spirits are mentioned in many places in the Bible. Who are these evil spirit? In the teaching of some religions evil spirits are spirits of the dead ancestors with evil character.

There are several theories about who demons are and where they are coming from, but there is strong evidence from scriptures that they are among the fallen angels who rebelled with Satan against God (Beelzebub is the prince: Satan is their ruler (Rev 12:4, Matt 2:21 26 Luke 10:17 -18).

Major worldview on evil

1. Atheism affirms reality of evil and deny reality of God
2. Pantheism affirms reality of God and deny reality of evil
3. Theism affirms the reality of both evil and good (demons and God).

**ORIGIN OF DEMONS**

The Bible suggest a shocking story about a rebellion against God which took place a long time ago (probably before mankind was earth). The story explains the origin of evil in the universe and the way the world is tormented with evil today.

The angel guarding God’s throne, beautiful and wise became corrupt and full of pride wanted other angels to worship him and follow him. Satan introduced evil by planning to rebel against God, this was the most terrible event is history. Without God’s holiness and life, he became corrupt and evil (Ezek. 28:11-18, Isa. 14:12-14, Matt. 4.9).

**SATAN ORIGIN AND DUTIES**

The Scripture affirms that satan was created by God, though the time of his creation is unknown to mankind, however Ezekiel 28 and Isaiah 14 give us a clue. He was full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. Covered with precious stones, he was the anointed cherub the chief highest angel. He prided himself because of his beauty. He was created perfect until he sinned against God and was cast out from the presence of Lord. He was called “LUCIFER” the son of the morning. His destiny is mentioned as being Hell.

Satan’s Character:-

* He is a thief, he is subtle, a murderer, he is a liar and deceiver

Satan’s Title are:-

* Camouflaged angel of light
* Roaring lion
* Prince of the power of air
* The power of darkness
* The great dragon
* Prince of the world
* The god of this world
* The king of bottomless pit – ABBADON (II Cor. 2:13 -15, 1 Pet. 5:8; Eph. 2:2, Col 1:13, Rev. 12:9, II Cor. 4:4 John 14:30, Rev. 9:11)

**WHAT ARE DEMONS**

They are spirit beings, unclean spirits, unseen power of the air, intelligent beings, possess supernatural knowledge, morally unclean, and with super human strength.

THEIR DUTIES AND MISSION

1. They oppose God seeking to defeat his will
2. They oppress man and seek to hinder his welfare
3. They cause dumbness, blindness, insanity, suicidal mania etc.
4. Deception
5. Murder
6. Torture
7. Sexual immorality, uncleanness and violence
8. Influence in human governments
9. Hindrances to the Gospel
10. Hindrances to prayers
11. General harassment of God’s people
12. Promotion of idolatry, witchcraft, divination, necromancy, magic, sorcery and prognostication.
13. The working of strange occurrences that deceive people’s minds
14. Standing and accusing Christians before God (John 18:44, 2Cor. 10.5 Mark 5:5 Job 18: 12-19, Matt. 12:22 Eph. 5:5, Mark. 7:25, 1 Thess. 1:18, Dan. 10:12-13, Luke 22:31, Psalm 106:35-37, Deut 18:9-12, Rev. 16:13-14).

**HOW TO CAST OUT DEMONS**

1. Resist Satan in the name of Jesus Christ
2. Pray in Faith and get others along
3. Test if the demons are stubborn
4. Sing and speak much about the blood of Jesus Christ.
5. Quote and read scripture showing Christ’s victory over all powers of evil
6. Rely solely on God’s power and authority (Mark 9:29, 12:11, Luke. 10:18-19, 1 John. 4:4, 5:4).

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