

## ANATOMY OF THE FIRST SHAKING

We need the authentic history of the origin of the earth, **of the fall of the covering cherub**, and of the **introduction of sin into our world**. Without the Bible, we should be bewildered by **false theories**. The **mind** would be subjected to the **tyranny of superstition and falsehood**. But having in our possession an authentic history of the beginning of our world, we need not hamper ourselves with **human conjectures and unreliable theories**. {MM 89.1}

In so deceptive a way did he [Lucifer] work that the sentiments that he inculcated could not be dealt with until they had **developed** in the **minds** of those who received them. {7BC 973.3}

**The influence of mind on mind**, so strong a power for good when sanctified, is equally strong for evil in the hands of those opposed to God. This power Satan used in his work of **instilling evil into the minds of the angels**, and he **made it appear** that he was seeking the good of the universe. As the anointed cherub, Lucifer had been **highly exalted**; he was **greatly loved** by the heavenly beings, and his **influence over them was strong**. Many of them listened to his suggestions and **believed his words**. "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven." {7BC 973.4}

Cast out of heaven, **Satan set up his kingdom in this world**, and ever since, he has been **untiringly striving to seduce human beings** from their allegiance to God. **He uses the same power that he used in heaven--the influence of mind on mind**. Men become tempters of their fellow men. The strong, corrupting sentiments of Satan are cherished, and they exert a

masterly, compelling power. Under the influence of these sentiments, men bind up with one another in confederacies (Letter 114, 1903). {7BC 973.5}

I would like us to look at freedom of choice, information, and the mind.

So I would like to look at definitions first:

INFORMATION → INFORM → facts provided or learned about something or someone

DIS-INFORMATION → INFORM → false facts with the deliberate intention to mis-lead or confuse

MIS-INFORMATION → INFORM → incorrect information spread without intent to mislead

DISINFORMATION CAN BECOME MISINFORMATION

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THEM IS: **INTENT**

MISINFORMATION

DISINFORMATION

Genuine, trustworthy, truth

fake, deceptive, lie

Chapter I. - The Fall of Satan- Spirit of Prophecy, volume 1

1. **Satan in Heaven, before his rebellion, was a high and exalted angel, next in honor to God's dear Son. His countenance, like those of the other angels, was mild and expressive of happiness. His forehead was high and broad, showing a powerful intellect. His form was perfect; his bearing noble and majestic. A special light beamed in his countenance, and shone around him brighter and more beautiful than around the other angels; yet Jesus, God's dear Son, had the pre-eminence over**

all the angelic host. **He was one with the Father before the angels were created.**

**Satan was envious of Christ**, and gradually assumed command which devolved on Christ alone. {1SP 17.1}

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. {PP 33.3}

1. The great **Creator assembled** the heavenly host, that he might in the presence **(public)** of all the angels **confer special honor upon his Son**. The Son was seated on the throne with the Father, and the heavenly throng of holy angels was gathered around them. The Father then made known that it was **ordained by himself** that Christ, his Son, should be **equal** with himself; so that wherever was the presence of his Son, it was as his own presence. The **word of the Son** was to be obeyed as readily as the **word of the Father**. His Son he had invested with **authority** to **command** the heavenly host. Especially was his Son to **work in union with himself** in the anticipated **creation of the earth** and every living thing that should exist upon the earth. His Son would carry out his will and his purposes, but would do nothing of himself alone. The Father's will would be fulfilled in him. {1SP 17.2} **Satan was envious and jealous of Jesus Christ**. And I saw that **when** God said to his Son, Let us make man in our image,

Satan was jealous of Jesus. **He wished to be consulted** concerning the formation of man. 1SG 17.1

2. **Yet** when all the angels bowed to Jesus to acknowledge his supremacy and high authority and rightful rule, **Satan bowed with them; but his heart was filled with envy and hatred**. (Disagreed inwardly with his mind, but outwardly obeyed.) Christ had been taken into the special counsel of God in regard to his plans, while Satan was unacquainted with them. He did not understand, **neither was he permitted to know**, the purposes of God. But Christ was acknowledged sovereign of Heaven, his power and authority to be the same as that of God himself. Satan **thought that he was himself a favorite** in Heaven among the angels. He had been **highly exalted**; **but this did not call forth from him gratitude and praise to his Creator**. He aspired to the **height of God himself**. He **gloried in his loftiness**. He knew that he **was honored by the angels**. He had a special mission to execute. He had been near the great Creator, and the ceaseless beams of glorious light enshrouding the eternal God, had shone especially upon him. Satan **thought how angels had obeyed his command with pleasurable alacrity**. (enthusiasm) **Were not his garments light and beautiful? Why should Christ thus be honored before himself?** {1SP 18.1} **The battle began in Lucifer's mind. Then he takes action.**
3. **He left** the immediate presence of the Father, **dissatisfied**, and **filled with envy** against Jesus Christ. **Concealing his real purposes**, he **assembled the angelic host**. He introduced his subject, which was **himself**. As one **aggrieved**, (feeling resentment at **having been unfairly treated**) he related the **preference** (choosing one over another;

**promotion**) God had given Jesus to **the neglect** of himself. He told them that henceforth all the **sweet liberty** the angels had enjoyed was at an end. For had not a **ruler been appointed over them**, to whom they from henceforth **must yield servile** honor? He stated to them that he had called them together to assure (**tell confidently to remove any doubts**) them that **he no longer would submit** to this **invasion** of his rights and theirs; **that never would he again bow down to Christ**; that he would **take** the honor upon himself which should have been conferred upon him, and would be the **commander** of all who would submit to follow him and obey his voice. He [Satan] declares he cannot submit to be under Christ's command; that God's commands alone will he obey. Good angels weep to hear the words of Satan, and to see how he **despises** to follow the direction of Christ, their exalted and loving Commander. {7BC 973.6}

4. There was contention (**a heated disagreement**) among the angels. Satan and his sympathizers were striving to **reform** the government of God. They were **discontented and unhappy** because they could not look into his unsearchable wisdom and ascertain his purposes in exalting his Son Jesus, and endowing him with such unlimited power and command. **They rebelled against the authority of the Son but not the Father**. {1SP 18.2}
5. Angels that were loyal and true **sought to reconcile** this **mighty, rebellious angel** to the will of his Creator. They justified the act of God in conferring honor upon Jesus Christ, and with forcible reasoning **sought to convince** Satan that no less honor was his now than before the Father had **proclaimed the honor** which he had conferred

upon his Son. They clearly set forth that Jesus was the Son of God, existing with him before the angels were created; and that he had ever stood at the right hand of God, and his **mild, loving authority** had not heretofore been questioned; and that he had given no commands but what it was joy for the heavenly host to execute. They urged that Christ's receiving special honor from the Father, in the presence of the angels, did not detract from the honor that he had heretofore received. The angels wept. They **anxiously sought** to move Satan to renounce his wicked design and yield submission to their Creator; for all had heretofore been **peace and harmony**, and what could occasion this **dissenting, rebellious voice**? {1SP 19.1}

6. **Satan refused to listen.** (choice) And then he turned from the loyal and true angels, **denouncing them as slaves**. These angels, true to God, stood in amazement as they saw that Satan was successful in his effort to *excite rebellion*. He promised them a new and better government than they then had, in which all would be freedom. Great numbers signified their **purpose to accept** (choice) Satan as their leader and chief commander. As he saw his advances were met with success, he flattered himself that he should yet have all the angels on his side, and that he would be equal with God himself, and his voice of authority would be heard in commanding the entire host of Heaven. Again the loyal angels warned Satan, and assured him what must be the consequence if he persisted; that He who could create the angels, could by his power overturn all their authority, and in some signal manner punish their audacity and terrible rebellion. To think that an angel should resist the law of God which was as sacred as himself! They warned the rebellious to close their ears to

Satan's deceptive reasonings, and advised Satan, and all who had been affected by him, to go to God and confess their wrong for even admitting a thought of questioning his authority. {1SP 20.1}

7. Many of Satan's sympathizers were inclined to heed the counsel of the loyal angels, and repent of their dissatisfaction, and be again received to the confidence of the Father and his dear Son. The mighty revolter then declared that he was acquainted with God's law, and if he should submit to servile obedience, his honor would be taken from him. No more would he be intrusted with his exalted mission. He told them that himself and they also had now gone too far to go back, and he would brave the consequences; for to bow in servile worship to the Son of God he never would; that God would not forgive, and now they must assert their liberty and gain by force the position and authority which was not willingly accorded to them. {1SP 20.2}
8. The loyal angels hasten speedily to the Son of God, and acquaint him with what is taking place among the angels. They find the Father in conference with his beloved Son, to determine the means by which, for the best good of the loyal angels, the assumed authority of Satan could be forever put down. The great God could at once have hurled this arch deceiver from Heaven; but this was not his purpose. He would give the rebellious an equal chance to measure strength and might with his own Son and his loyal angels. In this battle every angel would choose his own side, and be manifested to all. It would not have been safe to suffer any who united with Satan in his rebellion to continue to occupy Heaven. They had learned the lesson of genuine rebellion against the unchangeable law of God; and this is incurable. If God had

exercised his power to punish this chief rebel, disaffected angels would not have been manifested; hence God took another course; for he would manifest distinctly to all the heavenly host his justice and his judgment. {1SP 21.1}

9. It was the highest crime to rebel against the government of God. All Heaven seemed in commotion. The angels were marshaled in companies, each division with a higher commanding angel at their head. Satan was warring against the law of God, because ambitious to exalt himself, and unwilling to submit to the authority of Gods' Son, Heaven's great commander. {1SP 22.1}
10. All the heavenly host were summoned to appear before the Father, to have each case determined. Satan unblushingly made known his dissatisfaction that Christ should be preferred before him. He stood up proudly and urged that he should be equal with God, and should be taken into conference with the Father and understand his purposes. God informed Satan that to his Son alone he would reveal his secret purposes, and he required all the family in Heaven, even Satan, to yield him implicit, unquestioned obedience; but that he (Satan) had proved himself unworthy a place in Heaven. Then Satan exultingly pointed to his sympathizers, comprising **nearly one half** of all the angels, and exclaimed, These are with me! Will you expel these also, and make such a void in Heaven? He then declared that **he was prepared to resist the authority of Christ**, and to **defend** his place in Heaven **by force of might, strength against strength**. {1SP 22.2} Good angels wept to hear the words of Satan, and his **exulting boasts**. God declared that the rebellious should remain in Heaven no longer.  
  
The Father decides the case of Satan, and declares that he must be turned out of



heaven for his daring rebellion, and that all those who united with him in his rebellion should be turned out with him. 7bc 973

11. Their high and happy state had been held upon condition of obedience to the law which God had given to govern the high order of intelligences. But no provision had been made to save those who should venture to transgress his law. Satan grew bold in his rebellion, and **expressed his contempt** of the Creator's law. This Satan could not bear. He claimed that angels needed no law; but should be left free to follow their own will, which would ever guide them right; that law was a restriction of their liberty, and that to abolish law was one great object of his standing as he did. The condition of the angels he thought **needed improvement**. Not so the mind of God, who had made laws and exalted them equal to himself. The happiness of the angelic host consisted in their perfect obedience to law. Each had his special work assigned him; and until Satan rebelled, **there had been perfect order and harmonious action in Heaven. Then there was war in Heaven**. The Son of God, the Prince of Heaven, and his loyal angels, **engaged in conflict** with the arch rebel and those who united with him, **for they were determined to remain in heaven with all their rebellion**. (3SG 38). {7BC 973.7}

12. The Son of God and true, loyal angels **prevailed**; and Satan and his sympathizers were **expelled** from Heaven. . . from the **presence of God**, doomed to be no more acknowledged in the heavenly courts as having a right there. Satan had held a **high office** in heaven, **possessing a throne** radiant with light. But he swerved from his allegiance to the blessed and only Potentate, and fell from his first estate. (MS 78,

1905). {7BC 973.8} All the heavenly host acknowledged and adored the God of justice. Not a taint of rebellion was left in Heaven. All was again peaceful and harmonious as before. {1SP 22.3}

13. Angels in Heaven mourned the fate of those who had been their companions in happiness and bliss. **Their loss was felt in Heaven.** The Father consulted Jesus in regard to at once carrying out their purpose to make man to inhabit the earth. He would place man upon probation to test his loyalty, before he could be rendered eternally secure. If he endured the test wherewith God saw fit to prove him, he should eventually be equal with the angels. He was to have the favor of God, and he was to converse with angels, and they with him. He did not see fit to place them beyond the power of disobedience.

#### **SUMMARY:**

We see a new message was opened up before the angels. It was unexpected by Lucifer. He had expectations and preconceived ideas of his place and role in heaven. The message was a testing messages for the angels. Then Lucifer developed a message of his own. All the powers of his mastermind were bent to the work of deception, and he was able to secure the sympathy of a minority of the angels that had been under his command. Each of them had freedom of choice; to choose for themselves as to whose banner they would stand under.

A testing message given by God continues on earth from Eden to Eden restored. We see the pattern. We recognize God's methodology of truth and righteousness. He wants us to freely choose to love and obey Him. We also recognize the methodology of Satan to deceive men by

creating counterfeits. He will employ the power of mind over mind to carry out his designs. For thousands of years the chief of conspiracy has palmed off falsehood for truth.

Man as a sinner was in a different position from that of Satan. Lucifer in heaven had sinned in the light of God's glory. To him as to no other created being was given a revelation of God's love. Understanding the character of God, knowing His goodness, Satan **chose** to follow his own selfish, independent will. This choice was final. There was no more that God could do to save him. **But man was deceived**; his mind was darkened by Satan's sophistry. The height and depth of the love of God he did not know. For him there was hope in a knowledge of God's love. By beholding His character he might be drawn back to God. {DA 761.5}

END WITH A FEW SOP QUOTES:

God might have created man without the power to transgress His law; He might have withheld the hand of Adam from touching the forbidden fruit; but in that case man would have been, not a free moral agent, but a mere automation. **Without freedom of choice**, his obedience would not have been voluntary, but forced. **Courage and Conflict chp. 7**

The law of love being the foundation of the government of God, the happiness of all created beings depended upon their perfect accord with its great principles of righteousness. God desires from all his creatures the service of love,— homage that springs from an intelligent appreciation of his character. **He takes no pleasure in a forced allegiance, and to all he grants freedom of will, that they may render him voluntary service.** {GC88 493.2}

(DESIRE OF AGES, CHPTR 38- CROSS JUST BEFORE CHRIST, DISCIPLES SELF-SEEKING)

There rose up before Him a vision of Lucifer, the "son of the morning," in glory surpassing all the angels that surround the throne, and united in closest ties to the Son of God. Lucifer had said, "I will be like the Most High" (Isaiah 14:12, 14); and the desire for self-exaltation had brought strife into the heavenly courts, and had banished a multitude of the hosts of God. Had Lucifer really desired to be like the Most High, he would never have deserted his appointed place in heaven; for the spirit of the Most High is manifested in unselfish ministry. Lucifer desired God's power, but not His character. He sought for himself the highest place, and every being who is actuated by his spirit will do the same. Thus alienation, discord, and strife will be inevitable. Dominion becomes the prize of the strongest. The kingdom of Satan is a kingdom of force; every individual regards every other as an obstacle in the way of his own advancement, or a steppingstone on which he himself may climb to a higher place. {DA 435.2}

While Lucifer counted it a thing to be grasped to be equal with God, Christ, the Exalted One, "made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." {DA 436.1}

