

Re: OT: Re: Who is Lucifer? Who is the Devil? Who is Satan?

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.archaeology/2006-08/msg00706.html>

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- *From:* Eric Stevens <[eric.stevens@xxxxxxxxxx](mailto:eric.stevens@xxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Sat, 26 Aug 2006 10:51:01 +1200
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On Fri, 25 Aug 2006 22:12:17 +0100, Doug Weller  
<[dweller@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:dweller@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

On Fri, 25 Aug 2006 09:44:40 +1200, in sci.archaeology, Eric Stevens  
wrote:

On Thu, 24 Aug 2006 19:27:24 GMT, prd <[X\\_header@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:X_header@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)>  
wrote:

In sci.archaeology message  
[news:oqrre2dcn9tiesk3jpvsgt8ti5fvbl30tv@xxxxxxxx](mailto:news:oqrre2dcn9tiesk3jpvsgt8ti5fvbl30tv@xxxxxxxx) by  
Doug Weller  
<[dweller@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:dweller@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> . . . :

On Thu, 24 Aug 2006 15:31:01 +1000, in  
sci.archaeology, Peter  
Jason wrote:

Come back and clean up  
your mess!

"Garry Denke"  
<[garrydenke@xxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:garrydenke@xxxxxxxxxxxxx)>  
wrote  
in message  
[news:31bcdbb74a53940ad0735d196b8f1aba.106283@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:news:31bcdbb74a53940ad0735d196b8f1aba.106283@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)  
..

My work on  
this planet  
is done.

Re: OT: Re: Who is Lucifer? Who is the Devil? Who is Satan?

The son of  
perdition,  
Garry  
Denke

Denke's nuts, but the question is interesting.  
I became aware of  
this yesterday:

<http://www.physorg.com/news75128924.html>

What the Devil? Prince of Darkness Is  
Misunderstood, Says UCLA

Professor

He's not the enemy of God, his name really  
isn't Lucifer and he  
isn't even evil. And as far as leading Adam  
and Eve astray, that  
was a bad rap stemming from a case of  
mistaken identity.

"There's little or no evidence in the Bible for  
most of the  
characteristics and deeds commonly  
attributed to Satan," insists  
a UCLA professor with four decades in what  
he describes as "the  
devil business."

In "Satan: A Biography" (Cambridge Press),  
Henry Ansgar Kelly  
puts forth the most comprehensive case ever  
made for sympathy  
for the devil, arguing that the Bible actually  
provides a  
kinder, gentler version of the infamous  
antagonist than  
typically thought.

"A strict reading of the Bible shows Satan to  
be less like Darth  
Vader and more and more like an  
overzealous prosecutor," said  
Kelly, a UCLA professor emeritus of  
English and the former  
director of the university's Center for  
Medieval and Renaissance  
Studies. "He's not so much the proud and  
angry figure who turns  
away from God as [he is] a Joseph  
McCarthy or J. Edgar Hoover.

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Satan's basic intention is to uncover wrongdoing and treachery, however overzealous and unscrupulous the means. But he's still part of God's administration."

...

"His job is to test people's virtue and to report their failures," Kelly said.

...

Ironically, the only mentions of Lucifer in the New Testament and there are three of them refer to Jesus, Kelly said. "Jesus is called 'Lucifer' or 'the morning star' because he represents a new beginning."

The morning star is Venus.

That's a modern interpretation. For the original see Isaiah 14:12.

From the King James version of the Bible:

Hold on. Modern? Lucifer is a Roman word.

Hang on a minute Doug. You have misunderstood me. What I said was a modern interpretation is the statement "The morning star is venus". I am fully aware that the name Lucifer is Roman in origin and cited the Isaiah to show that even at the time of the King James translation Lucifer was something quite different.

And I don't think the King James version is the 'original'. The term Lucifer occurs in the 5th century Vulgate. But that's hardly original either.  
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucifer>

Agreed. The concept of the morning star which fell to earth and, as described in Isaiah, made the world a wilderness, destroying cities, destroying the land and slaying people, is an old one which far

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predates the bible. My point is that, whatever it was, it was not Venus.

### Origins in Isaiah

In the Vulgate, an early-5th-century translation of the Bible into Latin by Jerome, Lucifer is a Latin word that appears in many translations of Isaiah 14:12-14. The original Hebrew text of this verse was לְהֵל בֶּן-שָׁחַר (heilel ben-schahar), meaning "Helel son of Shahar." Helel was a Babylonian / Canaanite god who was the son of another Babylonian / Canaanite god named Shahar.

Helel was the god of the morning star and his father was Shahar, god of the dawn. Some translations of Isaiah 14:12 "How art thou fallen from heaven, O day-star, son of the morning!" American Standard Version translating Hebrew Helel as "day-star" and the Hebrew word Ben as son and the Hebrew word Shahar as "of the morning." Others translate it as "Lucifer, son of the morning" 21st Century King James.

The Hebrew does not speak of a devil named Lucifer. Lucifer appears nowhere in Isaiah. It is Helel, a fallen Babylonian god which appears in the original text.

The term Lucifer first appeared in Latin translations of the Book of Isaiah in the 4th century. Through the years most translators kept the latin word "lucifer" in Isaiah 14 rather than properly translating it as "god of the morning star" or even leaving it as the Hebrew Helel.

14:4 You will recite this parable about the king of Babylonia: How has the oppressor come to an end, the arrogance been ended?

14:10 They will all proclaim and say to you, "You also have been stricken as we were; you are compared to us.

14:11 Brought down to the nether-world were your pride and the tumult of your stringed instruments; maggots are spread out under you, and worms are your covers.

14:12 How have you fallen from the heavens, O glowing morning star; been cut down to the ground O conqueror of nations?

(Isaiah, Artscroll Tanakh)

The Jewish Encyclopedia reports that "it is obvious that the prophet in attributing to the Babylonian king boastful pride, followed by a fall, borrowed the idea from a popular legend connected with the morning star".[1] However, this metaphorical "falling from the heavens" was later interpreted as a literal fall from heaven by Christians when the passage's original meaning was made opaque by retranlations and eventually forgotten.

Judaism does not believe in fallen angels (as do Christians). In Judaism angels do not possess free will and thus cannot rebel against God. It is only in folk tales and homily called Midrashim aggadah where such tales

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are found in Judaism.

Helel in Isaiah 14 has nothing to do with the Jewish concept of HaSatan (the adversary). The prophet is speaking of the fall of Babylon and along with it the fall of her false gods Helel and Shohar. In Judaism there is no concept of a devil or a fallen god. There is Satan which is a Hebrew word meaning "adversary" and in the Tanakh one will find many instances of the word used to describe human and angelic adversaries to man.

"12 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!  
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:  
14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;  
I will be like the most High.  
15 Yet thou shall be brought down to hell,  
to the sides of the pit.  
16 They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee,  
and consider thee saying, Is this the man which  
made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms;  
17 That made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed  
the cities thereof; that opened not the house of his prisoners  
[ ... ]  
20 Thou shalt not be joined with them in burial, because  
thou hast destroyed thy land, and slain thy people: the  
seed of evildoers shall never be renowned."

Venus fits the description as far as ascending into heaven is concerned, and also being associated with Heaven. But Venus traditionally cannot be described as 'son' of anything. Nor is Venus associated with a 'pit'. As for making the world a wilderness, destroying cities, destroying the land and slaying people – no, that's not Venus.

I know that many people will be inclined to say that all the mayhem is mere poetic license, but maybe it is not. Maybe it really happened. But whatever, it is not Venus.

--- snip ---

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Eric Stevens