

January/February/March 1993 No. 135



An old etching by well known 19th century French illustrator Doré illustrating John Milton's *Paradise Lost* showing Satan coming to the Earth.

Satan is alive and well on Earth!

Exalting CHRIST among the Deaf

Personally from Billy



Welcome once again to **Light for the Deaf!** This time we look at the Devil, or Satan. We have chosen two stories from the Bible for our comic strips this issue. These two stories illustrate how our Enemy works in trying to fool people on Earth. One story is from the Old Testament, the other from the New Testament. The Old Testament story is from the very first book in the Old Testament, which is the book of Genesis. And it tells how sin entered the world and how Satan made it happen. The New Testament story is from the very first book of the New Testament, Matthew, though it is repeated in Luke 4:1-13 and very briefly treated in Mark 1:13. It tells how Jesus defeated Satan for our sake!

Our Lord pointed out two important things to us when He defeated Satan: (1) *Jesus has power over sin.* His death on the cross and resurrection (*return from the dead*) proves He has **power** to destroy the devil and his works (Hebrews 2:14)! He gives us power to keep the devil away (James

4:7)! (2) *Jesus gave us an example* (1 Peter 2:21). He lived as a man on earth and gave us a model for us to follow. If He can defeat the devil, so can we! (With help from Jesus, of course.)

And finally, you will notice on our front cover we say "*Satan is alive and well on Earth.*" This is all too true. 1 Peter 5:8,9 warns us: "Control yourselves and be careful! The devil is your enemy. And he goes around like a roaring lion looking for some person to eat. Refuse to follow the devil. Stand strong in your faith" (EVD).

But the Devil will not have the Earth in his grasp forever! The Bible promises the Devil will be destroyed in the lake of fire and brimstone (Revelation 20:10)!

We hope this issue helps you to understand our Enemy and that we can defeat him by continuing in our

(Continued on page 18)

LIGHT FOR THE DEAF USPS (087-210) published quarterly by East Frayser Church of Christ, 2285 Frayser Boulevard, Memphis, Tennessee 38127. Second class postage paid at Memphis, Tennessee. **POSTMASTER:** send address changes to: **LIGHT FOR THE DEAF**, 2285 Frayser Boulevard, Memphis, TN 38127. Billy Leavell, Editor.

Subscription is free to all, though donations are welcome.

THE FALL OF MAN

-Genesis 3:1-24

HOW DID SATAN
COME TO BE?

THE BIBLE
DOESN'T SAY.

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
JUST SAYS SATAN WAS
A MURDERER FROM THE
BEGINNING. (JOHN
8:44)

THE BIBLE ALSO SAYS
SATAN IS OUR
GREAT ENEMY.
(1 PETER 5:8)

IN FACT THAT
IS THE MEANING
OF SATAN'S VERY
NAME-- ENEMY.

SATAN IS ALSO KNOWN
AS "THE DEVIL"--
MEANING A PERSON
WHO ACCUSES,
OR BLAMES. (SEE
REVELATION 12:10)

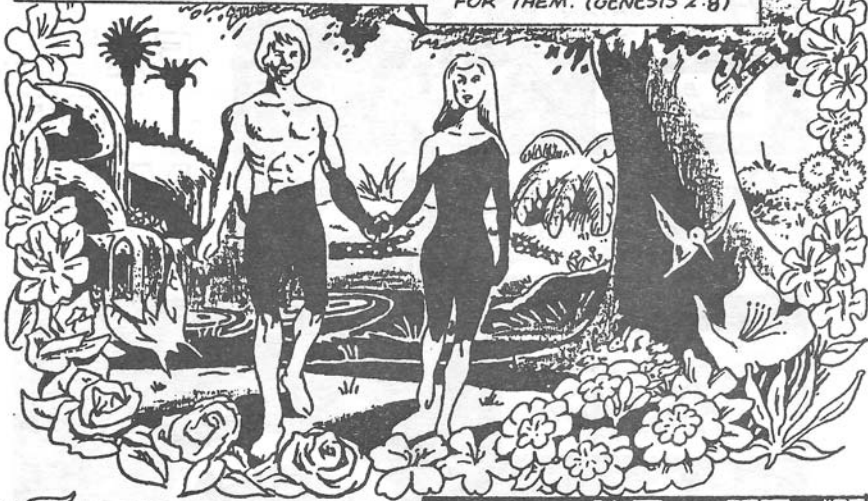
EVIDENCE SHOWS SATAN WAS A
FALLEN ANGEL FROM HEAVEN--
HIS SIN PRIDE. (1 TIMOTHY
3:6)

HE WAS PROBABLY
EXPELLED FROM
HEAVEN...

AND WHEN HE CAME TO THE
EARTH, HE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY
TO RULE IT! (EPHESIANS 2:2)

THIS THEN BEGINS
THE STORY OF
HOW MAN FELL
FROM FELLOW-
SHIP WITH GOD...

ADAM AND EVE WERE HAPPY TOGETHER IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN, WHICH THE LORD ALMIGHTY HAD PLANTED FOR THEM. (GENESIS 2:8)



THEY ENJOYED FELLOWSHIP WITH THEIR CREATOR...



... AND GOD PUT A TEST ON THEIR OBEDIENCE BY LETTING THEM EAT ANY FRUIT IN THE GARDEN--

EXCEPT THE FRUIT FROM THE TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL--

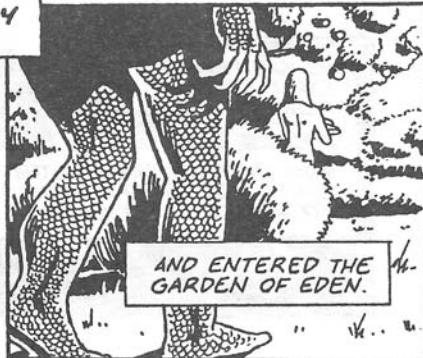


GOD WARNED THEM, "IN THE DAY THAT YOU EAT OF IT, YOU WILL SURELY DIE."

BUT SATAN MADE PLANS TO DESTROY MAN'S FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD!



SATAN EITHER CONTROLLED, OR ENTERED A SNAKE--



AND ENTERED THE GARDEN OF EDEN.



AH, GOD SAID YOU SHOULDN'T EAT OF ANY TREE OF THE GARDEN.

IS THAT RIGHT?



OH, WE MAY EAT OF THE FRUIT FROM THE TREES OF THE GARDEN.

BUT GOD HAS TOLD US NOT TO EAT, OR TOUCH, THE FRUIT FROM THE TREE WHICH IS IN THE MIDDLE OF THE GARDEN.

IF WE DO, WE WILL DIE.

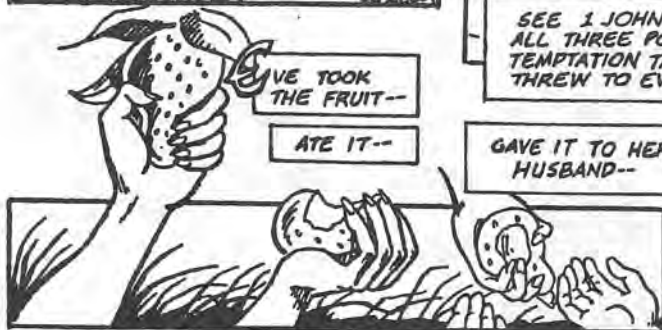


YOU SURELY WON'T DIE!

GOD KNOWS WHEN YOU EAT THE FRUIT OF THAT TREE, YOUR EYES WILL BE OPENED--

AND YOU WILL BECOME LIKE GOD--

YOU WILL KNOW GOOD AND EVIL!



I'VE TOOK THE FRUIT--

ATE IT--



EVE SAW THE FRUIT SEEMED GOOD FOR FOOD--

THE FRUIT WAS PLEASANT TO THE EYES--

AND IT DID SEEM LIKE IT WOULD MAKE HER WISE!

SEE 1 JOHN 2:16 TO FIND ALL THREE POINTS OF TEMPTATION THAT SATAN THREW TO EVE!



GAVE IT TO HER HUSBAND--



AND HE ATE IT.



THE EYES OF ADAM AND EVE WERE OPENED--

AND THEY KNEW NOW THAT THEY WERE NAKED!

THEY TRIED TO COVER THEIR GUILT AND SHAME BY PUTTING FIG LEAVES TOGETHER LIKE APRONS OVER THEIR BODIES.



THEN ADAM AND EVE HEARD THE VOICE OF THE LORD WALKING IN THE GARDEN!

ADAM!

ADAM AND EVE WERE FRIGHTENED. THEY TRIED TO HIDE!



ADAM, WHERE ARE YOU?



GULP... H-HERE I AM...

I-I HID WHEN I HEARD YOUR VOICE--



BECAUSE-- BECAUSE I WAS-- UH-- NAKED.



WHO TOLD YOU THAT YOU ARE NAKED?



DID YOU EAT OF THE TREE I TOLD YOU NOT TO?

GULP... THE WOMAN WHOM YOU GAVE ME, GAVE SOME OF THE FRUIT TO ME, AND I ATE...



WHAT IS THIS YOU HAVE DONE?

GULP-- THE SNAKE FOOLED ME... AND I-- I ATE...



SINCE YOU HAVE DONE THIS, YOU ARE CURSED.

YOU AND THE WOMAN WILL BE ENEMIES.

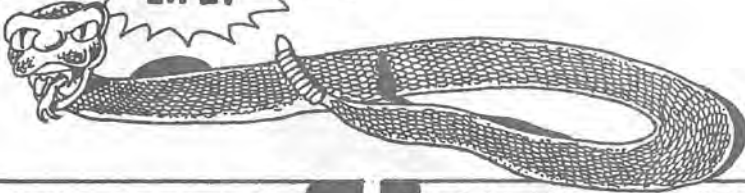
YOUR CHILDREN AND HER CHILDREN WILL ALSO BE ENEMIES.



ONE DAY YOU WILL HURT THE HEEL OF ONE OF HER CHILDREN.

BUT HE WILL HURT YOUR HEAD!

**YOU WILL GO ON YOUR
STOMACH AND EAT DUST
THE REST OF YOUR
LIFE.**



**I WILL GREATLY
MULTIPLY YOUR SOR-
ROW WHEN YOU HAVE
A BABY, AND YOU WILL
GREATLY DESIRE YOUR
HUSBAND, AND HE
WILL RULE OVER
YOU.**



**YOU WILL WORK
HARD FOR FOOD FROM
THE EARTH ALL YOUR
LIFE. YOU ARE DUST,
AND YOU WILL RETURN
TO DUST.**



So, WITH THE SIN OF ADAM AND
EVE, PHYSICAL DEATH CAME
INTO THE WORLD (1 CORINTHIANS
15:21).

GOD MADE
COATS OF
SKIN FOR ADAM
AND EVE...



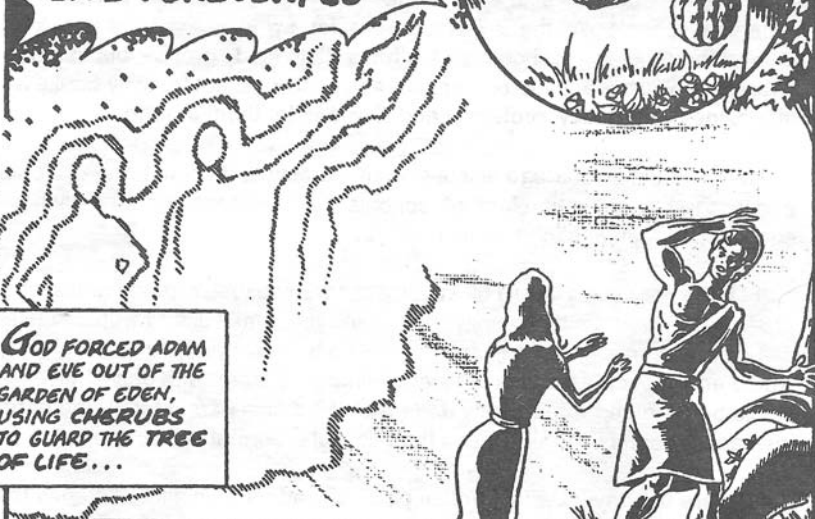
AND THEN
GOD SAID--

NOW MAN IS LIKE US,
BECAUSE HE KNOWS
GOOD AND EVIL.

MAN MAY EAT OF THE
TREE OF LIFE, AND
LIVE FOREVER, SO--



GOD FORCED ADAM
AND EVE OUT OF THE
GARDEN OF EDEN,
USING CHERUBS
TO GUARD THE TREE
OF LIFE...



AND ADAM AND EVE HAD TO LEAVE THEIR BEAUTIFUL
HOME FOR THE HARD LIFE AWAITING THEM OUTSIDE.

IF I WERE THE DEVIL

by Anonymous

This is an interesting article found in a large ad in the Commercial Appeal (a Memphis, TN newspaper). Read it carefully. It may open your eyes!

--Editor

If I were the devil I would look across the world and find the apple of God's eye-- the fortress of Christian outreach-- the United States of America.

I would then have the ACLU take prayer out of the schools and God out of the Pledge of Allegiance by a simple and subtle twist of the intent of the Constitution.

I would have the media focus on religious cults and religious con men who entice followers to violence and self-glorification rather than honoring the Son of God by gracious deeds.

I would never want it to be said that the Christians, out of love for Jesus Christ, have literally built thousands of schools, hospitals, colleges, facilities for the homeless, and other outreach facilities not only in America, but around the world, to minister to mankind with gracious deeds of love, inspired by our loving and caring Savior.

If I were the devil I would stop the giving of New Testaments to children in American schools. As the children grow older, I would pass laws forbidding them to read their Bibles in schools and to have Bible study groups; but in study hall or at break, I would want it to be considered censorship not to allow books and magazines with nudity, profanity, and illicit sex for them to read.

Then I would discourage discussion of morality and abstinence-- I would encourage sex education for high schools that would focus on the giving out of condoms with instructions in their usage.

If I were the devil, I would fill the airways with sexual, profane music and programs. I would attack family values and the family unit. I would substitute self-gratification and lust for pleasure for honest love and commitment. Then I would entice people to beds of sexual immorality laden with deadly disease. I would be delighted with divorce and make the single parent family the norm instead of marital commitment as the basis of a normal family.

If I were the devil, I would entice political leaders to institute lotteries to fill the

(Continued on page 18)

SATAN TEMPTS JESUS

JESUS IS THE ONLY SON OF GOD (JOHN 3:16). HE REALLY IS A PART OF THE GODHEAD (COLOSSIANS 2:9).

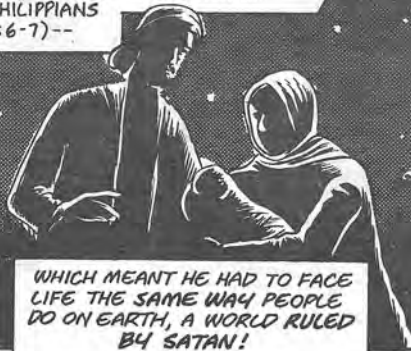
IN FACT HE CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, AND THE MEN WHO LIVE ON IT (COLOSSIANS 1:16, JOHN 1:13, HEBREWS 1:2).

TRULY, A GLORIOUS LORD...

YET HE EMPTIED HIMSELF OF HIS GLORY...



AND WAS MADE IN THE LIKENESS OF MEN, BECOMING A HUMBLE SERVANT OF THE FATHER (PHILIPPIANS 2:6-7)--



WHICH MEANT HE HAD TO FACE LIFE THE SAME WAY PEOPLE DO ON EARTH, A WORLD RULED BY SATAN!



JESUS GREW UP STUDYING HIS FATHER'S SCRIPTURES...

SOAKING SO MUCH THAT HE SURPRISED PEOPLE BY HOW MUCH HE KNEW AT AGE 12!



WHILE HE WAS ON THE EARTH, JESUS MET TEMPTATION JUST LIKE ANY OTHER MAN.

YET HE NEVER SINNED. (HEBREWS 4:15)



OUR STORY BEGINS WHEN JOHN THE BAPTIST BEGAN PREACHING IN THE WILDERNESS...

PROCLAIMING THAT PEOPLE MUST CHANGE THEIR HEARTS BECAUSE THE KINGDOM OF GOD WAS COMING!



WHEN JESUS HEARD ABOUT JOHN, HE PUT AWAY HIS CARPENTER'S TOOLS FOR GOD...

FOR HE KNEW IT WAS TIME TO BEGIN HIS MINISTRY.



JESUS CAME ALL THE WAY FROM NAZARETH TO THE JORDAN RIVER TO BE BAPTIZED EVEN WHEN HE NEVER HAD SINNED...



AND AFTER HE WAS BAPTIZED, THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE FORM OF A DOVE CAME ON HIM--



AND A VOICE FROM HEAVEN ANNOUNCED, "THIS IS MY BELOVED SON, WITH WHOM I AM WELL PLEASSED!"

AFTER THIS, THE SPIRIT LED JESUS INTO THE WILDERNESS...



WHERE JESUS PRAYED AND FASTED (NOT EATING) FOR FORTY DAYS...

PERHAPS PREPARING FOR THE TIME HIS MINISTRY WOULD GO INTO FULL FORCE.





THEN SATAN TOOK JESUS TO JERUSALEM, WHERE THE TEMPLE WAS...

AND PUT HIM ON A VERY HIGH ROOF OF THE TEMPLE.

IF YOU'RE THE SON OF GOD, JUMP!

IT IS WRITTEN, "HE WILL GIVE HIS ANGELS RESPONSIBILITY FOR YOU. THE ANGELS WILL CARRY YOU UP IN THEIR HANDS TO KEEP YOU FROM HURTING YOUR FOOT ON A STONE." (PSALM 91:11,12)



IT IS ALSO WRITTEN, "YOU MUST NOT TEST THE LORD YOUR GOD" (DEUTERONOMY 6:16).

BY THIS JESUS MEANT THAT WE SHOULDN'T TEST GOD IN A FOOLISH WAY!

NEXT SATAN
TOOK JESUS
TO A VERY HIGH
MOUNTAIN...

WHERE, IN AN INSTANT, HE SHOWED JESUS ALL THE
MIGHTY KINGDOMS OF THE WORLD!



ALL THESE ARE MINE -- AND
I CAN GIVE THEM TO ANYONE
I WANT --
EVEN TO
YOU.

IN FACT, I'LL
BE GENEROUS AND
GIVE THEM ALL TO
YOU --

IF YOU'LL FALL
DOWN AND
WORSHIP ME!



AND ANGELS FROM HEAVEN
CAME TO HELP JESUS.

BUT SATAN DID NOT
LEAVE JESUS
FOR GOOD!

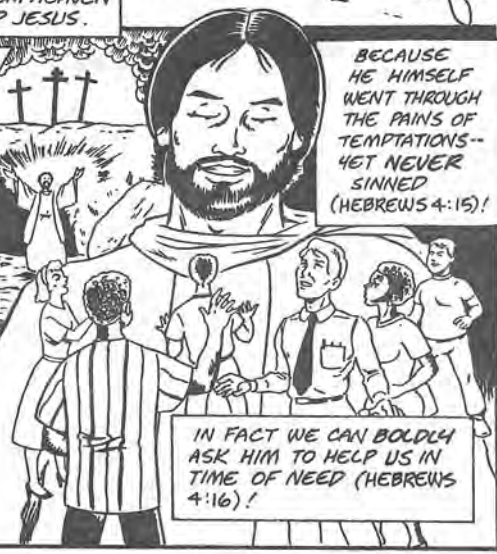
FROM TIME TO TIME SATAN
TRIED TO TEMPT JESUS AWAY
FROM THE WAY OF THE
CROSS (MATTHEW 16:21-23;
27:39-44), BUT JESUS
CONTINUED THROUGH TO HIS
OWN DEATH ON THE CROSS.

BECAUSE
HE HIMSELF
WENT THROUGH
THE PAINS OF
TEMPTATIONS--
YET NEVER
SINNED
(HEBREWS 4:15)!

HE WAS RISEN BACK
TO LIFE THE THIRD
DAY-- AND GIVEN
GLORY (PHILIPPIANS
2:8-11)!

JESUS UNDERSTANDS
OUR WEAKNESSES--

IN FACT WE CAN BOLDLY
ASK HIM TO HELP US IN
TIME OF NEED (HEBREWS
4:16)!



Personally from Billy



(Continued from page 2)

faith in the Person who died for our sins and rose from the dead and is now in heaven pleading with the Father for us (Hebrews 9:24, 12:2, 1

John 2:1).

In warmest Christian love,

Billy Leavell
Billy Leavell, Editor

IF I WERE THE DEVIL

(Continued from page 10)

government coffers instead of developing fiscal responsibility in government spending.

Then I would discourage personal patriotism and commitment to America. I would encourage the citizens of America to request that the government be their provider. I would tax and distribute America's wealth until all work ethics and incentive were gone and America becomes bankrupt.

Then I would stand back and laugh at America because her people allowed me to do as I please.

"Pray for me, too"

When Princess Margaret Rose of England was a little girl, her parents-- King George and Queen Mary-- took her and her sister, who is now Queen Elizabeth II, to a church service in Scotland. After the service she was overheard telling her father, "Daddy, the minister prayed for you and mommy and Elizabeth. Why didn't he pray for me? I'm as bad as the rest of you."

When we pray, let us remember **all** for whom we should pray. Prayer is a great blessing for God's children.

--Selected

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The answers given to the questions below are the responsibility of the Editor. You may direct all queries to LIGHT FOR THE DEAF, 2285 Frayser Boulevard, Memphis, TN 38128.

Must a person repent before he can be saved?

Yes, a person must repent before he can be saved. Jesus told His disciples, "You must go and tell people that their sins can be forgiven. Tell them that they must **change their hearts and be sorry for their sins**. If they will do this, then God will forgive them" (Luke 24:47-48). The King James Version of this same passage says "**repent**". And Peter said, "**Change your hearts and lives** and be baptized, each one of you in the name of Jesus Christ. Then God will forgive your sins, and you will

receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). The King James also says "**repent**" in this passage. The EVD makes it clear that we must *change our hearts and lives*, for that is exactly what the Greek word translated "**repent**" means-- a *change of mind* which will lead to a *change of life*. A person who thinks he is a Christian but who continues to sin without repenting will probably have an unpleasant surprise for him on the Judgment Day.

Can Christians stray so far from God that they never come back?

It is true, Christians who stray far from God can reach a point of "**no return**": that is, they never come back to Him. If they go near that point, then they are putting their souls in great danger. These Christians who stray far away can find themselves judged to eternal punishment. Hebrews 10:26-27 has this serious warning for us: "*If we decide to continue sinning after we have learned the truth, then there is **no other sacrifice** that will take away sins. If we continue sinning, all we have is fear in waiting for the **judgment** and the **angry fire** that will destroy all people who live against God.*" And

verse 31 of this same chapter sums it up: "*It is a terrible thing for a sinful person to fall into the hands of the living God.*" Best never ever stray from the Lord in the first place!

As long as a Christian is alive who has strayed, there is **hope** that he might later come back to Jesus. But if that person dies without having turned back to Jesus, then there is no hope for him. The writer of Hebrews gives us this warning: "*Every person must die once. After a person dies, he is judged*" (9:27).

Let us stay faithful to Jesus!

Some people know Christ;
some just know about Him.

He Can Overpower the Death Grip



Light for the Deaf

Second Class Postage
Paid at Memphis, Tennessee

2285 Frayser Boulevard
Memphis, Tennessee 38127

ARTHUR WILSON
3414 B NASHVILLE AVE
LUBBOCK, TX 79413