

Chapter 7

The Trinity's Central Objective

Violated Law:

We cannot fully realize the Trinity and the need for a Savior without coming to terms with Satan's true objective in the "Garden of Eden." His obvious motive was to bring about sin, but as we shall find out, this was not his only intent. The first chapter of Genesis discloses the granting of the dominion authority to man. In doing so, God made man responsible for all earthly matters. The only condition placed on Adam was to abstain from the forbidden fruit. At the same time, embedded within this condition, was man's right to choose. Thus, by acquiring freedom to choose, he was also free to partake of the forbidden fruit or abstain from it.

When God created the universe He set certain ethical and comprehensive guidelines in place. Since God made man in His own image and likeness, and placed him in such high authority on the earth, the rules relating to man are firm. One thing is certain; these regulations are for our protection. Nevertheless, sin invaded the heart of Adam, and in so doing, set off a series of events. God absolutely had the power and capacity to intervene when Adam and Eve disobeyed, but by doing so, He would have intruded on the very directive He set in place. That principle declares, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Ezekiel 18:4 and "The wages of sin is death..." Romans 6:23.

Man in Bondage:

As a fallen angel, Satan was fully aware of the consequences for disobeying God. He had held a high position among the ranks of the angels. Therefore, being in such high standing, not only was he aware of God's laws, but he was also conscious of God's integrity. He knew that God holds firm to His word. By deceiving Adam and Eve, Satan not only tempted them to sin, but his true intention to seize the earthly dominion was realized. This occurred when Adam disregarded God's directive. Adam no longer remained obedient to God, but assumed obedience to Satan. What resulted from this act continues to haunt man, even to this day. As it happened, another precept was violated, which placed man under the control of Satan. The following Scripture verses may shed some light on this principle.

- Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. - (John 8:34)
- ...to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? - (Romans 6:16)
- He that committeth sin is of the devil; - (1 John 3:8)

No Way Out For Humanity?

Thus we discover that man was disobedient to God by submitting to Satan's deception. In turn, this produced the transfer of the dominion authority from man to Satan. In the exchange, man became servant to Satan. The situation created by sin took on a look of hopelessness. Not only did sin bring forth death, but now, man essentially became slave to Satan. Was there any way possible for redemption back to God? After careful analysis, there was a way, but simply *one* way. Still, that way seemed impossible in the eyes of man. Only a human being free from bondage to Satan and sin could redeem mankind.

Humanity Doomed?

Since Adam had no children before the fall, meant no more sinless people existed. Also, Adam's future descendants would acquire his sinful nature. Without such a person available to deliver man from his despair, humanity was doomed. Satan obtained control of the dominion authority over the earth and *fallen man* was under the authority of the *fallen angel*.

The Father of Lies:

- Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. - (John 8:44)

This Scripture illustrates that man transferred his loyalty from God to Satan. Jesus was speaking to the religious leaders in His day when He made this statement. If the religious superiors were children of the devil, where did everyone else stand? If Satan is our father, then God cannot be our Father.

Satan's Authority Undisputed:

We find another piece of evidence to back up the claim of Satan's authority. At one point, Satan tempted Jesus while He was in the wilderness. In the following Scripture passages we find Satan offering Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if He would only bow down to him. Although He did not give in to the temptations of Satan, Jesus also did not dispute Satan's claim to the dominion authority.

- And the devil, taking Him up into an high mountain, showed unto Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. - (Luke 4:5)
- And the devil said unto Him, All this power will I give Thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. - (Luke 4:6)
- If Thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be Thine. - (Luke 4:7)

The Result of Obedience to Satan:

If Jesus had agreed to Satan's request, He would have fallen into the same trap as Adam. By submitting to Satan's temptations, Jesus would have been disobedient to His Father's will. Notwithstanding, Satan would be under no obligation to fulfill his end of the bargain, since he is the father of lies and void of any moral standards to live by.

God's Answer for Man:

In examining the situation, only a human being, not connected to the lineage of Adam, would qualify to restore man back to God. This is not all—the individual must be without sin to gain back the dominion authority from Satan. The big question was—where would he come from? Angels or beasts were not eligible because they are not human beings, nor are they made in the image and likeness of God. That meant there was no one left to redeem fallen man from his bondage.

God may have been in heaven, but He was fully aware of the desperate situation of man. He knew that man had no way out of his affliction. Still, despite man's unfaithfulness, God's love for humanity did not stop. That was good news, because God had an answer to the problem. The question was, what was that answer and just how did God propose to accomplish His plan?

What Was God's Answer?

After analyzing every possible option available, it turns out that there were no available options, but one. That one ultimate answer was -- God Himself. God devised a plan whereby He

would come down to this earth to redeem fallen man from his plight and make a way for restoration. In light of the fact that no other perfect beings existed anywhere in the whole universe, God truly was the only answer to man's predicament.

Hope for humanity was now in the hands of a merciful God. Yet, how would He achieve this feat, since the Bible tells us that no man can look upon God and live, Exodus 33:20. If that was the case, God could never have come down to earth to live among mortal man. Nevertheless, with God all things are possible.