Perdition’s Policies

Zechariah 2:10 - 3:4

Perdition’s Policies

- Zech. 2:10-13 - “Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion! For behold, I am coming and I will dwell in your midst, says the LORD. 11 Many nations shall be joined to the LORD in that day, and they shall become My people. And I will dwell in your midst. Then you will know that the LORD of hosts has sent Me to you. 12 And the LORD will take possession of Judah as His inheritance in the Holy Land, and will again choose Jerusalem. 13 Be silent, all flesh, before the LORD, for He is aroused from His holy habitation!”

Perdition’s Policies

- Zech. 3:1-4 - “Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him. 2 And the LORD said to Satan, The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire? 3 Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel. 4 Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And to him He said, See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes.”

Perdition's Policies

- God will always, inevitably defeat Satan
  - John 12:31 - "Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out."
  - Col. 2:15 - "Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it."
  - Rev. 20:1-3 - "Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. 2 He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; 3 and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished…"

Perdition's Policies

- Satan has lost much of his power
  - His power to send evil spirits ended with the apostles
  - His power over sin a death ended with the resurrection of Jesus
  - He can only influence, persuade, and deceive

Perdition's Policies

- "If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle." (Sun Tzu, The Art of War)

Satan Persuades People That He Does Not Exist

- Do you agree or disagree that Satan is not a living being, but is simply a symbol of evil?
  - 59% agree that Satan is not real
  - 35% affirm that Satan is real
  - 6% were not sure what they believed
- Do you agree or disagree that the Holy Spirit is not a living entity, but is simply a symbol of God's power?
  - 58% agree that the Holy Spirit is not real
  - 34% affirm that the Holy Spirit is real
  - 8% were not sure what they believed

Satan Persuades People That He Does Not Exist

- Many who believe he exists think he is harmless
  - 1Peter 5:8 - “Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”

Satan Persuades People That He Does Not Exist

- He has killed everyone on the planet
  - Rom. 5:12 - “Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned”
  - Rom. 3:23 - “For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”
  - Rom. 6:23 - “For the wages of sin is death…”

Satan Is The Origin Of All Evil On Earth

- Satan is the author of sin
  - John 8:44 - “You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.”

Satan Is The Origin Of All Evil On Earth

- Satan is the author of suffering
  - Acts 10:38 - “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil…”
  - Luke 13:16 - “So ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has bound--think of it--for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath?”

Satan Is The Origin Of All Evil On Earth

- Satan is the author of death
  - Heb. 2:14 - “Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil”
- He kills by influencing people to dwell on earthly things
  - Rom. 8:6 - “For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.”

Satan Is The Origin Of All Evil On Earth

- Satan is the author of temptation
  - 1Thes. 3:5 - “For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter had tempted you, and our labor might be in vain.”
  - Matt. 4:1 - “Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.”
  - Mark 4:15 - “And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts.”

Satan Is The Origin Of All Evil On Earth

- Satan is the author of slavery
  - 2Tim. 2:26 - “That they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.”
- Jesus redeemed us from slavery to sin
  - Rom. 6:17-18 - “But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. 18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.”

Satan Is The Most Dangerous Being In This World

- Satan invades and colonizes
  - John 13:2 - “nd supper being ended, the devil having already put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him”
- Ananias’ lie was prompted by Satan
  - Acts 5:3 - “But Peter said, Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?”

Satan Is The Most Dangerous Being In This World

- Satan enters into peoples' hearts the way a con man enters the homes of his victims
- Creating welcoming environment for Satan
  - John 13:27 - "Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him."
  - Matt. 12:43-45

Satan Is The Most Dangerous Being In This World

- Christians are protected
  - 1Peter 1:5 - “Who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.”
  - 2Peter 2:9 - “The Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment”
  - John 10:28-29 - “And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand”

Satan Is The Most Dangerous Being In This World

- Satan blinds his victims
  - 2Cor. 4:3-4 - “But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.”

Satan Is The Most Dangerous Being In This World

- Satan steals what is priceless to his victims
  - Luke 8:12 - “Those by the wayside are the ones who hear; then the devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.”
- Satan actively works against God in the salvation process - John 8:44
- Satan doesn’t want God to have our souls so he steals our only hope, the truth; he would rather destroy our soul than let God have it - 1Peter 5:8

Satan Is The Most Dangerous Being In This World

- Satan multiplies evil people and unbelievers
  - Matt. 13:25, 38-39 - “But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way… 38 The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. 39 The enemy who sowed them is the devil, the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are the angels”

Satan Is The Most Dangerous Being In This World

- Satan empowers wickedness. His ultimate deception is in religion; he impersonates Jesus
  - 2Cor. 11:13-14 - “For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. 14 And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light.”
  - 2Thes. 2:9-10 - “The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, 10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.”

Perdition's Policies

- Never underestimate our enemy; Satan is a brilliant, deceitful adversary.
- Satan opposed the prophets of old
  - Zech. 3:1 - "Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him."
- Satan even was able to limit some works of the apostles
  - 1Thes. 2:18 - "Therefore we wanted to come to you--even I, Paul, time and again--but Satan hindered us."

Perdition's Policies

- Though powerful, Satan is a defeated enemy. On the day that Jesus returns, Satan will be consigned to eternal punishment
  - Rev. 12:9-10 - "So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. 10 Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down."

Perdition's Policies

- Though powerful, he cannot take away our salvation if we resist him
  - Rom. 8:38-39 - "For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."