



## The origin of sin

In the Bible's first book, Genesis, Adam and Eve are identified in chapter 3 as the first people to sin and thereby making all of their descendants into sinners on whom God's judgement rests. Where did sin however come from?

According to Scripture, sin has its origins with the angels, "And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, He has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day..." (Jude:6, also 2 Peter 2:4).

This refers to Satan and his followers who rebelled against God. The devil, who was probably the head of the angels, incited some of the angels to join him in his rebellion against God. Revelation 12:4 states that the dragon (Satan) swept a third of the stars out of the sky. In other words, a third of the angels followed Satan in his rebellion against God and became demons themselves.

1 Timothy 3:6 warns of the danger of becoming conceited and "fall into the condemnation of the devil". It can therefore be concluded that Satan and his cohorts became conceited and arrogant and stood up against God.

One of the best-known characteristics of Satan is that he is a liar. The Lord Jesus indeed says of him: "You are of your father, the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and has nothing to do with the truth, because there is no truth in him" (John 8:44). Satan became God's greatest enemy (Job 1:2; Zecharia 3:12). He set out to destroy God's beautiful creation by introducing sin. This he also did when he led man astray with his lies.

Satan was initially still allowed in heaven (Job 1:2). Upon Christ's crucifixion and resurrection from the dead he was defeated and upon Christ's ascension, he was cast out of heaven (Revelation 12:8, 9), to never set foot there again. Eventually God, who gives peace, will crush Satan under believers' feet (Romans 16:20). He and his followers will be cast into the pool of fire forever (Revelation 20:10).

Also read: 2 Peter 2:1-10; Heidelberg Catechism, Answer 7

*If you are interested,*

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