

## 11 - Abraham 3:27-28 – Extra-Biblical Sources for the War in Heaven

In Abraham 3:27-28 we talked about who would be the new leader for the earth, and that *Mi-cha-el* means “like unto God” in Hebrew. Adam was chosen, and Lucifer was not, and his rebellion ensued, leading to a third part of the spirits not keeping their first estate. Below are other Ancient Texts that discuss this same concept.

### Vita Adae et Evae

(The Life of Adam and Eve)

(R. H. Charles, *The Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha of the Old Testament*, Vol 2, Oxford, 1977, pp.136-137).

Adam said, Woe unto thee, thou devil. Why dost thou attack us for no cause? What hast thou to do with us? What have we done to thee? For thou pursuest us with craft? Or why doth with thy malice assail us? Have we taken away thy glory and caused thee to be without honour? Why dost thou harry us, thou enemy (and persecute us) to the death in wickedness and envy?

And with a heavy sigh, the devil spake: O Adam! All my hostility, envy, and sorrow is for thee, since it is for thee that I have been expelled from my glory which I possessed in the heavens in the midst of the angels and for thee was I cast out in the earth.

Adam answered, What dost thou tell me? What have I done to thee or what is my fault against thee? Seeing that thou hast received no harm or injury from us, why dost thou pursue us? [*The devil did not lose his memory of the pre-earth life like Adam did.*]

The devil replied, Adam, what dost thou tell me? It is for thy sake that I have been hurled from that place. When thou wast formed, I was hurled out of the presence of God and banished from the company of the angels. When God blew into thee the breath of life and thy face and likeness was made in the image of God, Michael also brought thee and made (us) worship thee in the sight of God; and God the Lord spake: Here is Adam. I have made thee in our image and likeness.

And Michael went out and called all the angels saying: Worship the image of God as the Lord God hath commanded. And Michael himself worshiped first; then he called me and said: Worship the image of God the Lord.

And I answered, I have no (need) to worship Adam. And since Michael kept urging me to worship, I said to him, Why dost thou urge me? I will not worship an inferior and younger being (than I). I am his senior in the creation, before he was made was I already made. It is his duty to worship me. When the angels, who were under me, heard this, they refused to worship him.

And Michael saith, Worship the image of God, but if thou wilt not worship him, the Lord God will be wrath with thee.

And I said, If He be wrath with me, I will set my seat above the stars of heaven and will be like the Highest. And God the Lord was wrath with me and banished me and my angels from our glory; and on thy account were we expelled from our abodes into this world and hurled on the earth. And straightway we were overcome with grief, since we had been spoiled of so great glory. And we were grieved when we saw thee in such joy and luxury. And with guile I cheated thy wife and caused thee to be expelled through her (doing) from thy joy and luxury, as I have been driven out of my glory.

When Adam heard the devil say this, he cried out and wept and spake: O Lord my God, my life is in thy hands. Banish this Adversary far from me, who seeketh to destroy my soul, and give me his glory which he himself hath lost. And at that moment, the devil vanished before him.

Remember, Joseph Smith introduced us to the concept of the perfect plan of salvation that was known and understood before this earth was made and inhabited. These ancient texts are verifying and corroborating Joseph's teachings. These records are out there, but we are the only ones who teach about the pre-existence. This text we just read even contains the record of Adam and Eve being baptized. The only other record we have of this event is in Moses 5 in the Pearl of Great Price.

***Question:** Could you elaborate more on the preparation of the spirits who were to come to the earth? I'm not clear what was meant that 'Lucifer was one of those spirits that were prepared to come to this earth'.*

Joseph taught us that "all the minds and spirits that God ever sent into the world were susceptible of enlargement." (TPJS p 354) When they are ready (prepared), they can now be sent to the earth to continue to seek for further light and truth in order to become like God. We see in Abraham 3:18-19 that if there be two spirits and one is more intelligent than the other, there will be one spirit that is more intelligent than they all. Intelligence does not mean I.Q. It means they have the ability or propensity to obtain further light and truth. Those who had a *greater* propensity to do that became "the noble and great ones," the patriarchs. Abraham saw the Lord standing in the midst of all those spirits who were to be His rulers (His leaders) on the earth, and was told, "These I will make my rulers, and Abraham, thou art one of them," because that is what Abraham did. He sought for, received, and was obedient to further light and truth before he was even born. (Abr 3:21-22).

Lucifer at one time was an angel in authority, the same way Michael was in authority. Because of his pride, Lucifer lost the right to become the first man, the first patriarch for this earth. One 'younger' than he was chosen, therefore he rose up in rebellion. Abraham 3 brings this up. The name Michael or *Mi-cha-el* means, in Hebrew, "one like unto God." Michael is also a priesthood office or position. As we read in the text above, Michael summoned all of the spirits and angels to come and give homage to Adam once his spirit was placed in the body God had formed from the dust of the earth to which he would be coming. Lucifer was bitter because he had imagined, in his pride, that he would be given the position and honor of being the first man for this earth.

## **2 Enoch**

### ***The Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha***

*of the Old Testament in English,  
R.H. Charles, editor, Vol 2, Oxford, 1977*

In **2 Enoch 29:4-6**, Enoch is viewing the creation with angelic assistance, much like Abraham and Moses in the Pearl of Great Price. Enoch, seeing the orders of angels, is told by God, that:

One from the order of the archangels deviated, together with the division that was under his authority. He thought up the impossible idea, that he might place his throne higher than the clouds which are above the earth, and that he might become equal to my power. And I hurled him out from the height, together with his angels. (p.148).

Why are these ones being tormented unceasingly? Enoch is answered that: **These are those who turned away from the Lord, who did not obey the Lord's commandments, but of their own will plotted together and turned away with their prince...**  
(p. 114)

What I hope you are seeing in these texts is that the story being told in the Pearl of Great Price is all over out there. These records are old, some of them written long before the time of Christ.

**The Gospel of Bartholomew**  
*M.R. James, The Apocryphal New Testament,  
Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1980, p 175, 178*

Bartholomew wants to know about evil and death; how they came into the world and why evil is here. Christ tells Bartholomew that he can speak with Satan himself; he can ask Satan directly these questions. Christ reassures Bartholomew that Satan will have no power over him as he asks Satan his questions.

23 And Bartholomew saith unto him: Tell me who thou art and what is thy name. And he said to him: lighten me a little, and I will tell thee who I am and how I came hither, and what my work is and what my power is.

24 And he lightened him and saith to him: Say all that thou has done and all that thou doest.

25. And Beliar answered and said: If you wilt know my name, at the first I was called Satanael, which is interpreted a messenger of God, but when I rejected the image of God (Adam) my name was called Satanas, that is an angel that keepeth hell (Tartarus).

26. And again Bartholomew saith unto him: Reveal unto me all things and hide nothing from me.

27. And he said unto him: I swear unto thee by the power of the glory of God that even if I would have aught, I cannot, for he is near that would convict me. For if I were able I would have destroyed you like one of them that were before you.

28. For, indeed, I was formed (al. called) the first angel: for when God made the heavens, he took a handful of fire and formed me first, Michael second [Vienna MS. Here has these sentences: for he had his Son before the heavens and the earth and we were formed (for when he took thought to create all things, his Son spake a word), so that we also were created by the will of the Son and the consent of the Father. He formed I say, first me, next Michael the chief captain of the hosts that are above], Gabriel third, Uriel fourth, Raphael fifth, Nathanael sixth, and other angels of whom I cannot tell the names.

There is another set of texts called the **Forty-Day Literature**. These texts deal with the time Christ taught the apostles during his forty-day period after his resurrection. One of the questions the Apostles had after going out into the world to proclaim the Gospel was why was there evil in the world and why was there death. They wanted to know why bad things happen to good people. The people asked them these questions and they wanted to be able to provide the answers. This text and those that follow answer these questions about Satan and about death. The interesting thing is that they all deal with the same story.

52. But the devil said: Suffer me, and I will tell thee how I was cast down into this place and how the Lord did make man.

53 I was going to and fro in the world, and God said unto Michael: Bring me a clod from the four corners of the earth, and water out of the four rivers of paradise. [*The world has been created, and the council in heaven takes place along with the physical creation of Adam*] And when Michael brought them God formed Adam in the regions of the east, [*The east represents the pre-earth council in heaven, or the residence of God, the Savior will come from the east*] and shaped the clod which was shapeless, and stretched sinews and veins upon it and established it with joints; and he worshipped him, himself for his own sake first, because he was the image of God, therefore he worshipped him.

54. And when I came from the ends of the earth Michael said: Worship thou the image of God, which he hath made according to his likeness. But I said: I am fire of fire, I was the first angel formed, and shall I worship clay and matter?

55. And Michael saith to me: Worship, lest God be wroth with thee. But I said to him: God will not be wroth with me; but I will set my throne over against his throne, and I will be as he is. Then was God wroth with me and cast me down, having commanded the windows of heaven to be opened.

56. And when I was cast down, he asked also the six hundred that were under me, if they would worship: but they said: Like as we have seen the first angel do, neither will we worship him that is less than ourselves. Then were the six hundred also cast down by him with me.

**Question:** *Were these texts accepted as canon in the early church?*

No, because they contain concepts that the church after 425 AD did not believe, such as the council in heaven, the pre-existence of spirits, the Plan of salvation, and the role of Christ in that Council. These concepts are all contrary to Catholic and Protestant beliefs. These records I am sharing all date to the time period of Christ. They contain the same information that Joseph Smith introduced, but when he taught these concepts, these records had not yet been discovered. Most were not discovered and translated until much, much later.

### **The Book of John the Evangelist**

*M.R. James, The Apocryphal New Testament,  
Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1980, p 188-189*

And I said: Lord, before Satan fell, in what glory abode he with thy Father? And he said unto me: In such glory was he that he commanded the powers of the heavens: but I sat with

my Father; and he (Satan) did order all the followers of the Father, and went down from heaven unto the deep and ascended up out of the deep unto the throne of the invisible Father. And he saw the glory of him that moveth the heavens, and he thought to set his seat above the clouds of heaven and desired to be like unto the Most High.

The text explains how Satan convinced the other angels to follow him, promising them that “I will reign with you world without end,” thus seducing the angels of the invisible Father.

Then the Father commanded his angels, saying: Take away their garments. And the angels took away their garments and their thrones and their crowns from all the angels that harkened unto him.

And I asked of the Lord: When Satan fell, in what place dwelt he?

And he answered me: My Father changed his appearance because of his pride, and the light was taken from him, and his face became like unto heated iron, and his face became wholly like that of a man: and he drew with his tail the third part of the angels of God, and was cast out from the seat of God and from the stewardship of the heavens. And Satan came down into this firmament, and he could find (make) no rest for himself nor for them that were with his.

### **The Conflict of Adam and Eve with Satan**

*From: R. H. Platt Jr. ed. The Forgotten Books of Eden,  
Bell Publishing Co., New York, 1980. pp. 36-37.*

This particular text discusses the many conflicts or confrontations that Adam and Eve have with Satan, who often appears as an angel of light. We begin after the fall of Adam and Eve. They are visited by the angels sent from the presence of God to give Adam instructions. Adam, asking about Satan, is given the following information.

*Then the angels said unto Adam, “Thou didst harken to Satan, and didst forsake the Word of God who created thee; But now, O Adam, we will make known to thee, what came upon us through him, before his fall from heaven.*

He gathered together his hosts, and deceived them, promising them to give them a great kingdom, a divine nature; and other promises he made them. His hosts believed that his word was true, so they yielded to him, and renounced the glory of God.

He then sent for us – according to the orders in which we were – to come under his command, and to hearken to his vain promise. But we would not, and we took not his advice.

Then after he had fought with God, and had dealt forwardly with Him, he gathered together his hosts, and made war with us. And if it had not been for God's strength that was with us, we could not have prevailed against him to hurl him from heaven. *But when he fell from among us, there was great joy in heaven, because of his going down from us.* For had he continued in heaven, nothing, not even one angel would have remained in it.

But God in his mercy, drove him from among us to this dark earth; for he had become darkness itself and a worker of unrighteousness. And he has continued, O Adam, to make war against thee, until he beguiled thee and made thee come out of the garden, to this strange land, where all these trials have come to thee. And death, which God brought upon him he has also brought to thee, O Adam, because thou didst obey him, and didst transgress against God.

In the next text, the Koran, we see the same story showing up. Mohamed married the widow of a caravaner. As a young man, Mohamed worked for this man in his caravan. On their trade route, Mohamed witnessed and observed the different warring factions of the tribes and clans out in the deserts. He wanted to stop the feuds between these families and clans. He began collecting both Jewish and Christian documents (This was in the 600s, after Christ). In his travels in the Middle East he traded with the Jewish and Christian communities that were scattered about. What he collected eventually ended up in the Koran. The names have been changed a little bit, but the stories are the same. The following are found in some of the Surahs (chapters) in the Koran.

## The Koran

### Surah 2:34

And when We said to the angels: Prostrate yourselves before Adam, they all prostrated themselves except Satan, who in his pride refused and became an unbeliever.

### Surah 7:11-18

11 We created you (Adam) and gave you form. Then We said to the angels: Prostrate yourselves before Adam. They all prostrated themselves except Satan, who refused to prostrate himself.

12 Why did you not prostrate yourself when I commanded you? He asked. I am nobler than he, he replied. You created me of fire, but You created him of clay.

13 He said: Off with you hence! This is no place for you contemptuous pride. Away with you! Henceforth you shall be humble.

14 He replied: Reprieve me [*allow me my way*] till the Day of Resurrection.

15 You are reprieved, said He.

16 Because You have led me into sin, he declared, I will waylay Your servants as they walk on Your straight path,

17 and spring upon them from the front and from the rear, from their right and from their left. Then you will find the greater part of them ungrateful.

18 Begone! He said. A despicable outcast you shall henceforth be. As for those that follow you, I shall fill Hell with you all.

## Surah 15:22-29 (note similarities)

22 We created man from dry clay, from black moulded loam, and before him, Satan from smokeless fire. Your Lord said to the angels: I am creating man from dry clay, from black moulded loam. When I have fashioned him and breathed of My spirit into him, kneel down and prostrate yourselves before him.

23 The angels, one and all, prostrated themselves, except Satan. He refused to prostrate himself with the others.

24 Satan, said God, why do you not prostrate yourself?

25 He replied: I will not bow to a mortal whom You created of dry clay, of black moulded loam.

26 Begone, said God, you are accursed. My curse shall be on you till Judgment day.

27 Lord, said Satan, relieve me till the Day of Resurrection.

28 He answered: You are relieved till the Appointed Day.

29 Lord, said Satan, since You have thus seduced me, I will tempt mankind on earth: I will seduce them all, except those of them who are your faithful servants.

See also Surahs 17:61-63; 18:50; 20:115-124; 38:67-88.

## Discourse on Abbaton

This next text is the best one of them all. It was written down about 380 AD. Elder Russell M Nelson quoted from some of this text in the April 2000 General Conference. You may recognize Catholic influence in some of the wording and phrasing, but everything during this time period shows a Catholic influence.

What is important is the story. The earth has been created. Everything that Adam would need has been prepared. God sends the angel Mouriél down to the earth and to bring back sod of the dust that God would use to form the body of Adam. This document speaks of the Council in Heaven, The War in Heaven, the fall of Satan and his angels. These doctrines are some of the “plain and precious things” that have been taken out of the Bible, as Nephi reveals. The Discourse on Abbaton is the most complete and of the most ancient date, and may have been included in the scriptures at one time.

### DISCOURSE ON ABBATON

By Timothy, Archbishop of Alexandria

“Discourse on Abbatôn by Timothy, Archbishop of Alexandria,” in *Coptic Martyrdoms* etc. in the Dialect of Upper Egypt, ed. and trans. E. A. Wallis Budge (1914), 482.

Timothy, archbishop of Alexandria, died in A.D. 385.

**And He put breath into him in this way; He breathed into his nostrils the breath** of life three times, saying, A Live! Live! Live! According to the type of My Divinity.

And the man lived straightway, and became a living soul, according to the image and likeness of God. And when Adam had risen up he cast himself down before [My] father, saying, A My Lord and my God! Thou hast made me to come into being [from a state in which] I did not exist. *[We all got to see Adam and his physical body for ourselves.]*

Thereupon My Father set him upon a great throne, and he placed on his head a crown of glory, and he put a royal scepter [in his hand], and My Father made every order [of angels] in the heavens to come and worship him, whether angel or archangel. And all the hosts of

heaven worshiped God first of all, and then they worshiped Adam, saying, Hail, thou image and likeness of God!

And He intended that the order of the angels who were fashioned [before Adam] should worship him, and My Father said unto him (i.e. their chief), “Come, thou thyself shalt worship my image and likeness.” And he, a being of great pride, drew himself up in a shameless manner, and said, “It is meet that this [man Adam] should come and worship me, for I existed before he came into being.”

And when My Father saw his great pride, and that his wickedness and his evil-doing were complete, (had reached their highest pitch) He commanded all the armies of heaven, saying, “**Remove the writing** [which is] in the hand of the proud one, strip ye off his armor, and cast ye him down upon the earth, for his time hath come. For he is the greatest of them all, (the rebellious angels) he is the head over them and is like a king, and he commandeth them as the general of an army [who commandeth his] soldiers; he is the head over them, and their names are written in his hand.

Thus is it with this cunning one, and the [names of the] angels were written in his hand. And all the angels gathered together to him, and they did not wish to remove the writing from his hand. And my Father commanded them to **bring a sharp reaping-knife, and to stab him therewith on this side and that, right through his body to the vertebrae of his shoulders**, and he was unable to hold himself up. And straightway My Father commanded a mighty Cherub, and he smote him, and cast him down from heaven upon the earth, because of his pride, and he broke his wings and his ribs and made helpless, and those whom he had brought with him became devils with him.

This discourse is instructive on many fronts: we learned from our experience in the Grand Council just how bad earth life could be. We understood perfectly how bad things could be here on earth, and yet we chose to come to this hell, this rotten, terrible world, knowing that we could experience the loss of a child, a spouse, or another loved one. We understood perfectly that disease, cancer, leukemia, dementia, physical or mental handicaps could be a real possibility. We understood the possibility of living in poverty or in war-torn countries. Realizing these things gives us a power over such things. We do not have trials; we have a life that we chose to participate in. On the other hand, we see also that Lucifer and those that followed him would also experience the judgment and decree of never ever having the opportunity to experience a physical body. He knew and understood the consequences of his pride and his rebellion. His pride was complete. He would never, ever, ever, ever change.

We learned in Moses 4:6 that Satan “knew not the mind of God”; thus God, because of His foreknowledge, could use whatever Satan was doing in order to further His work for the benefit of mankind.

## **Conclusion**

Our time is up today. We did not get to the good stuff yet. Next time we will further discuss Joseph’s statements about the eternal nature of our spirits. The question we will discuss next time is:



## **If our spirits never had a beginning, how do we become sons and daughters of God?**

There are multiple verses in our scriptures that discuss this very subject, and they all say the same thing! The interesting thing is if the scriptures are right and our spirits were not created, but have always existed, then Satan never was a brother to Christ.

The Anti-Mormons have taken our traditional theological understanding of this doctrine and used it to accuse us of believing that Satan and Christ are brothers! With what you have learned today, and with what we will discuss next time, you will see that that concept is no longer an issue. What makes Satan a brother of Christ, according to tradition, is the belief that a Heavenly Mother gave birth to all spirits. We will see in scripture that Satan, because of his choice, never had the opportunity to become a son of God.

This is why the scriptures are to be our standard for doctrine. This class is to help you get into the scriptures so that you might see there is more in them than what you may have thought. There is more out there to learn than just traditions. Today we have read the statements of Joseph Smith and read from modern and ancient texts. We can only get a glimpse of what Abraham saw and understood by studying his record.