

#### He Lives!

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today I know that He is living, whatever men may say I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer And just the time I need Him, He's always near

He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me

Along life's narrow way.

He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know He lives?

He lives within my heart.

#### He Lives!

In all the world around me I see His loving care,
And though my heart grows weary I never will despair;
I know that He is leading through all the stormy blast,
The day of His appearing will come at last.

He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me

Along life's narrow way.

He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know He lives?

He lives within my heart.

#### He Lives!

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian
lift up your voice and sing
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ the King!
The Hope of all who seek Him
the Help of all who find
None other is so loving, so good and kind

He lives! He lives! Christ Jesus lives today!

He walks with me and talks with me

Along life's narrow way.

He lives! He lives! Salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know He lives?

He lives within my heart.

# Ephesians 1:8-9

Satan's Plan vs. God's Plan

- 1. God's Plan for the Ages (Creation):
  - a. In Eternity Past, God the Father blessed US-IN-CHRIST (the Body of Christ not Israel) with all spiritual blessings, chose US-IN-CHRIST to be His set-apart (holy) vehicle of service, and predestinated US-IN-CHRIST to be brought into His family as adult sons and daughters (1:3-6).

#### PRAISE THE GLORY OF HIS GRACE!

b. In Time, God the Son through His death on the Cross accomplished His redemptive work for US-IN-CHRIST, making us accepted before God and forgiven all sins, given a sonship position; so that the Risen Lord could make known unto US-IN-CHRIST the Mystery of His will (1:7-12; 3:1-3).

#### PRAISE HIS GLORY!!

c. In Time and Eternity Future, God the Spirit seals and preserves US-IN-CHRIST, guaranteeing all God's promises to us will be fulfilled (1:13-14).

#### PRAISE HIS GLORY!!!

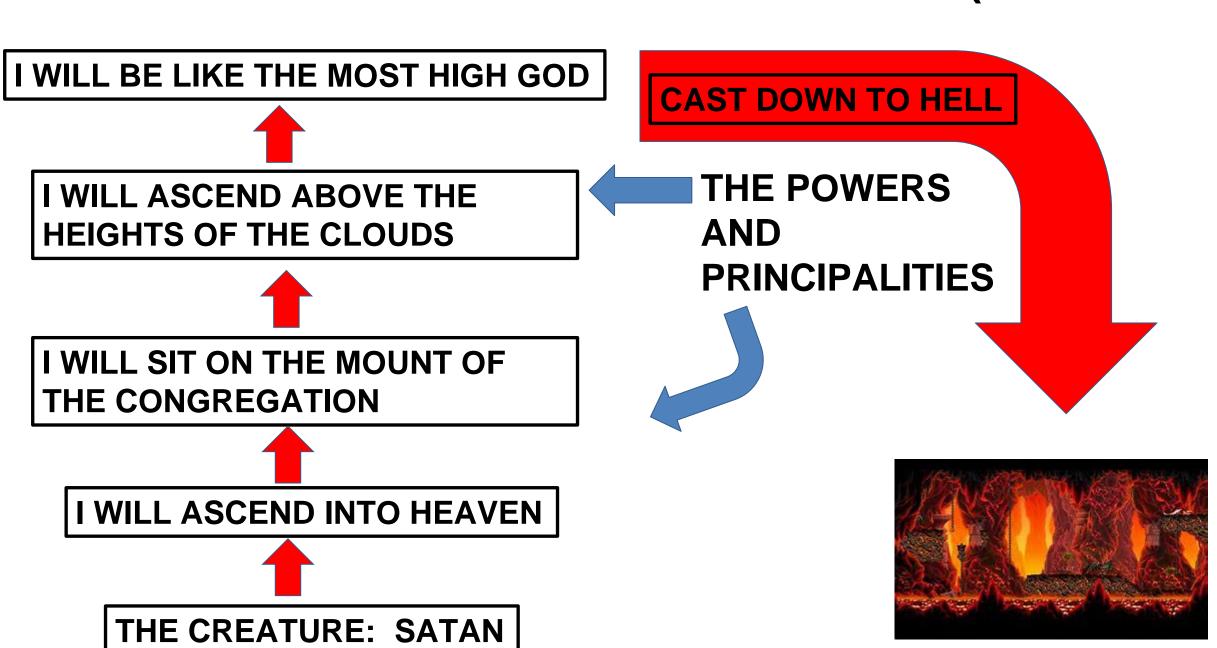
- 2. Wisdom and Prudence (Eph. 1:9; Prov. 8:11-12):
  - a. Wisdom—knowledge that sees into the heart of things, seeing them as they really are—what God is really doing today.
  - b. Prudence—using this wisdom--knowledge and understanding--to lead us in right/good actions (those in accord with God). See Col.1:9—spiritual understanding/walk.
  - c. Christ gives us the ability to see the great ultimate truths of eternity that give solutions to the problems of each moment in time. God's eternal and perfect viewpoint replaces our own inadequate human viewpoint.

- d. He created the universe via a wise and prudent plan, but the full understanding of that plan wasn't made known until the revelation of the Mystery
- e. Now one of the most important blessings God gives to us that is often ignored and belittled: HE HAS SUPER
  -ABUNDANTLY BLESSED US WITH ALL WISDOM AND PRUDENCE THROUGH THE REVELATION OF THE MYSTERY (Eph. 1:8-9 with 3:9-10).
  - --This FULLY equips us to serve Him by proclaiming that Mystery, which announces the manifold wisdom of God and the utter foolishness of Satan not just on Earth but in the Heavenly realm as well

- 3. What was created together, broke apart through the angelic and human falls:
  - a. The heavenly realm fell through the fall of Satan, resulting in the fall of a large part of the angelic realm (Ezek. 28:12-19; Is. 14:12-17; Job 38:4-7).
  - b. The earthly realm fell when Adam joined Satan, resulting in the fall of the whole human race.

- 4. God is the possessor of Heaven and Earth (Gen. 14:19, 22), but creation fell (Gen. 1:1):
  - a. The Heavenly realm fell through the sin of Satan, who took a large part of the angelic realm with him (Is. 14:12-17; Ezek. 28:12-15). The one created to be the Lightbearer that brought people to Christ, rebelled because he wanted it himself.
  - a. The Earthly realm fell through the sin of Adam, who took all of humanity with him, enslaved to sin and death (Gen. 2-3; Rom. 5:12).

## THE ASCENDING AND FALL OF SATAN (Is. 14:12-15)



### THE DESCENDING AND EXALTATION OF CHRIST (Phil. 2:6-11)

JESUS CHRIST: THE CREATOR MOST HIGH GOD



HE DIDN'T CONSIDER HIS STATUS



HE MADE HIMSELF OF NO REPUTATION: FORM OF A SERVANT.

BODY OF CHRIST



HE HUMBLED HIMSELF: LIKENESS OF MAN



HE OBEYED, GOING TO THE CROSS

**EXALTED ABOVE ALL** 

- 5. To appreciate Ephesians, we must first appreciate Satan's plan of evil against God and His plan. It is the mind of Satan that is at work in the world.
- 6. Jesus Christ's descending as Man in obedience to God was exalted as the (God) Man into the very position that Satan tried to reach by ascending in disobedience to God thereby being consigned to the pit of Hell (Phil. 2:5-11; Is. 14:12-17; Eph. 1:20-22).
- 7. The solution to this problem is that He might "gather in one all things in Christ" both in Heavenly realm and Earthly realm (Eph. 1:10).
  - --And in Colossians—"reconciling all things unto Himself (Christ)" both in Heaven and Earth (Col. 1:20).

- 8. That is really the most important question for humanity:
  - a. Will you follow the mind of Satan, who selfishly ascended, to make himself into the false likeness of God?
  - b. Or, will you follow the Mind of Christ, who selflessly descended, demonstrating what God is really like whereby God truly conforms us into the image of His dear Son.

#### **GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS**

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee
Thou changest not,
Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter
And springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today
and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine with ten thousand beside!

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!