

# Satan & Evil

By [Sam Frost](#)

*If Satan and the demons have been cast into the Lake of Fire, how do you explain all of the evil in the world today?*

The question appears to assume that “satan and the demons” are the cause or explanation of “all the evil in the world.” The scriptural evidence, however, leads me to believe in a different conclusion.

1) God created evil. [Isaiah 45.7](#); [Lamentations 3.38](#), etc. The clearest picture in Scripture of this fact is that God made the tree of the knowledge of good and evil *before* the failure of Adam and Eve. Therefore, evil was before God created man. Evil was *known* by the mind of God in its entirety from eternity.

2) “God is righteous in all of his dealings” ([Dan 4.35](#)) and therefore can do no wrong. Even though he causes evil events, that is, events that we report as evil, and events that men bring about on other men (and we hold those men accountable for their evil actions), God Himself is not an agent, is not accountable to no man, and cannot be charged with committing evil. His motivations for bringing about evil actions of men *is qualitatively different* and *righteous*, whereas evil men fail to have these motivations. They are accountable. God is accountable to no man.

3) [Genesis 6.5](#) tells us that man’s mind is “on evil all the time.” The distinction between these men and Noah is that “Noah found *grace*” ([Genesis 6.8](#)). This grace enabled Noah to obey God. *Jer. Concurr*: “[the heart of man is evil, who can know it?](#)” Man is born with the knowledge of good and evil and the Second Coming of Christ did not alter this fact in the slightest. In order for man to be transformed into the image of Christ, he must *also* have eternal life. Having the knowledge of good and evil in our minds is the agency for evil to be.

4) “satan” was temporary. One would need powerful gifts of the Spirit to discern his activities in the world today. One would have to know if a sickness was from “demonic possession” or just a sickness. Only by the spiritual giftings enabled directly by the Spirit could one know this. If there are those that claim that spiritual giftings today have ceased, then how can one tell that the devil or demons are committing each specific act?

5) “satan’s” role was to accuse according to the transgression of the law given to Adam and increased in the giving of the law to Israel. Now that the law has been fulfilled for those in Christ Jesus, mankind can now receive reconciliation with God through Christ. Those who have not received such reconciliation are still dead in their sins and their hearts still born with the “knowledge of the law” (good and evil). Before, eternal life could not be given, but now In Christ it can. The *effects* and *residue* of the reign of the Death, the Sin and the Law by the justly appointed angel called “satan” are still very much with us today, though decreasing as the gospel spreads over time, but “satan”

himself, and the rule of the death and the sin and the law are no longer powers or principalities that rule in the heavenlies. They have all been vanquished. God justly rules over all things, being all in all, having filled all things, having destroyed all of his enemies. This fact, however, does not alter the fact that, in spite of the destruction of these powers, that man is born with a heart of *only* the knowledge of good and evil. It is through Christ, having faith in Christ, which is a gift of God that he can come and eat of the Tree of Life in the restored Kingdom. Up until this time, he, like Adam, only has a knowledge of good and evil, and though he perform the good occasionally, “even the kindest acts of the wicked are cruel” ([Prov. 12.10](#)) since it is not linked to faith and worship in Christ.

Conclusion, satan was appointed by God to carry out the judicial sentence against *all men*, including the righteous. All who were truly “of Israel” by faith in God were equally condemned “in Adam” and under the curse of “the Death and the Sin.” Because of the reconciling work of the Incarnate One, these, along with “whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord” were and are given access eternally to the Tree of Life, which Adam and *all men* were originally cut off from. In order to be given access, “the death, satan, the sin and the law” had to be vanquished. Their time was served, and their defeat was sure. “satan” is no longer necessary in the affairs of God, and thus his appointment was ended with the [Parousia](#), the consummation of all things in the [generation](#) His Son descended upon.