Valley Bible Church Theology Studies

The Destiny of Satan

A. His past judgments

Satan was initially judged at his fall. At that point he lost his fellowship with God, he was corrupted so he lost the uncorrupted nature he had since his creation, and he lost whatever authority over elect angels he might have had before he sinned.

Nonetheless, he did remain an angelic creature with majesty and power. He retained his authority over the fallen angels who followed him and he either retained or was allowed to have in some way his authority over the world.

Satan was also judged at the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:14-15). The serpent was cursed and God established His plan for Christ to defeat Satan.

Genesis 3:14-15, "And the LORD God said to the serpent, Because you have done this, Cursed are you more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly shall you go, And dust shall you eat All the days of your life; 15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."

Satan was also judged at the cross, where Christ openly triumphed over the principalities and powers. The result of this judgment —of this present reality— is that Satan has lost and Christ is victorious. There is nothing that Satan can do to change this.

John 12:31, "Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world shall be cast out."

John 16:11, "And concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged."

Colossians 2:14-15, "Having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us *and* which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him."

B. His future judgments

Satan will be judged in the Tribulation (Revelation 12:7-12). He will be cast out of heaven with his angels by God's elect angels. Satan will lose all access to the throne of God at this point. Satan will first be cast down to earth, in other words, he and his angels will be exiled from their natural sphere. When Satan and his demons are cast down to earth during the Tribulation period the event will lead to the end.

Satan will also be judged at the Second Coming (Revelation 20:1-3) when he will be cast down to the Abyss for one thousand years, during the Millennial Kingdom reign of Christ on earth.

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Satan's final judgment (Revelation 20:10) will come after he does his time in the Abyss. After being released from the Abyss Satan will lead a rebellion against God, but his rebellion will be immediately judged and stopped. Satan will be cast into the Lake of Fire, and there he will be tormented day and night.

Revelation 20:1-3, "And I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key of the abyss and a great chain in his hand. And he laid hold of the dragon, the serpent of old, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, and threw him into the abyss, and shut *it* and sealed *it* over him, so that he should not deceive the nations any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time."

Revelation 20:10, "And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever."