

# The Cosmic Crash; The Eternal Burn

Isaiah 14:12-17

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# connect groups

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**Path**  
(outline: read and discover)

**Points**  
(major ideas within the teaching: reflect and discuss)

**Practice**  
(questions based on the teaching and text: respond and do)

## PATH

One of the starkest truths we find in the Bible is its brutal honesty—it never flatters its heroes, and it never glosses over its villains. Just as Hebrews 11 is the *Hall of Fame*, showing the people of faith from the Old Testament, this new teaching series will look at the *Hall of Shame*. Why? So we can learn from their failures and not repeat them. In this new series, *Crash & Burn*, we will learn how to fly by looking at those who fell. The first “fall” was the worst, making way for every fall thereafter. In this teaching, Pastor Skip considers how Lucifer became Satan. His path through the text is as follows:

I. His Dwelling Was in Heaven  
(v. 12)

II. His Domain Is on Earth  
(v. 12b)

III. His Destiny Will Be Hell  
(v. 15)

IV. His Downfall Was His Pride  
(vv. 13-14)

## POINTS

### His Dwelling Was in Heaven:

- Isaiah 14:12-17 refers to a past and future instance. First, it addresses the earthly ruler of Babylon. Second, it addresses someone who will die and go to hell: Lucifer.
- *Lucifer* means *light-bearer* or *shining one*. It's similar to the word for *serpent* (*nachash*), also meaning *shining one*.
- The word for *hell* is *sheol*, which is equivalent to the Greek word *hades* (“abode of the dead”).
- There are two errors people make when dealing with the Devil:
  - Denial: they deny that this powerful Enemy exists.
  - Overreaction: they develop an obsession, an unhealthy fascination, with the Devil.

### His Domain Is on Earth:

- Concerning Lucifer's fall, Jesus said, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven” (Luke 10:18).
- Where did Lucifer fall to? The earth.
- Lucifer fell from heaven, and his domain is the earth, but he still has access to heaven (see Job 1).

- Only three angels in the Bible have known names: Gabriel, Michael, and Lucifer. Lucifer may have been the chief angel over all the other angels.
- After his fall, Lucifer took control over the world's systems.
- No matter how close you are to God, it's no guarantee you won't make bad choices.
- Lucifer has four principle targets: Jesus, the angels, the nation of Israel, and Christians.

### His Destiny Will Be Hell:

- Satan is not currently in hell; he's been cast out of heaven and his domain is on earth (see Ephesians 6:11-18).
- One day, however, Satan will go to hell. In hell, his position will not be chief victimizer, but chief victim. He won't be the chief tormenter, but the chief target.
- When God's people see Satan, we'll be amazed at how beautiful and limited he is.
- Ezekiel 28 tells us that Lucifer is “perfect in beauty” (v. 12). Many people have a misconception that Satan is ugly. Beauty makes more sense, because sin is pleasurable and appears beautiful for a moment.

### His Downfall Was His Pride:

- What made Lucifer become Satan? Where did his sin begin? In his heart; it began by a creature setting itself against its Creator.
- Pride was the root of Lucifer's sin. It caused him to go from the *shining one* to the Prince of Darkness. Pride is the oldest sin in the universe and shows no signs of growing weaker with age.
- Lucifer is Jesus' counterfeit. Satan exalted himself; Jesus lowered Himself.
- The way to deal with sin is humility. The way down is up; the way up is down.
- How do we cultivate humility?
  - Prayer: it shows our dependence on God.
  - Worship: we proclaim God's exalted nature.
  - Encouragement: we focus on others.
  - Service: when we are others-centered, our attention is off ourselves.
- D.L. Moody put it this way: “Be humble, or you'll stumble.”

## PRACTICE

**Connect Up:** Compare and contrast God's characteristics—sovereignty, love, omnipotence (all powerful), omnipresence (everywhere present), etc.—to Satan's limitations. Take a moment to worship the Lord for His power over Satan and sin.

**Connect In:** Discuss the importance of the four ways we can cultivate humility (prayer, worship, encouragement, and service). How should we practice these things individually and as a church?

**Connect Out:** The Bible paints a realistic portrait of Satan—one out to kill and destroy. How does this reality help or hurt us in our outreach and evangelism? What are some of Satan's devices that Christians should be mindful of when we serve on behalf of Christ? How can we overcome the wiles of the Devil (see Ephesians 6:11-18)?