

with Dr. Greg Evans

**What Nature Says About Conflict and Destiny**

- Conflict and death show us that all is not “very good” (Gen.1:31) as it was when God created all. What went wrong? A great cosmic battle started.
- Q: How did this great cosmic controversy start? Isaiah 14:12-14
- A: The angel Lucifer rebelled against God.
- Q: Why did Lucifer rebel against God? Ezekiel 28:17. A: Pride
- Q: To what did this rebellion lead, and what was the result? Rev.12:7-9
- A: A war in heaven, and Satan was cast out to earth. 1/3 angels were cast out with him. God didn't stop the rebellion because he believes in free choice.
- Q: What did Satan do on earth? Revelation 12:9. A: He deceived people.
- Q: How did Satan go about deceiving people on earth? Genesis 3:1-6
- A: Satan used the guise of a serpent to deceive. He appealed to the 3 components of Eve's character: 1. “the tree was good for food” – the physical; 2. “it was pleasing [a desirable thing] to the eyes” – the mental; and, 3. “a tree to be desired to make one wise [be like God, v.5]” – the spiritual.
- Q: What was the consequence? Gen.3:10b;3:8-10a;4:5,8;3:17c-19;3:19.

	Before Sin	After Sin (passed to all – Romans 5:12)
Self	Worth (1:31; 2:25)	Shame (3:10b)
God	Friends together (3:8)	Afraid and apart (3:8-10a)
Others	Love (2:24)	Hatred (4:5,8)
Nature	Dominion (1:26)	Distress (3:17c-19)
Destiny	LIFE ETERNAL (3:22)	DEATH (3:19)

- Q: What does the Bible say about a flood? Genesis 6:17-19
- A: All the earth was covered with water.
- Q: Why the need of the Flood and the ark? Genesis 6:11,12,5
- A: A fresh start. There was too much evil in the world.
- Q: Why should we not be troubled about our future? John 14:1-3
- A: Our future is bright ... Jesus is returning to take us home to heaven.
- Q: What type of place? Hebrews 11:10,16. A: A real city built by God.
- Q: What is this place called where we will live with Jesus? Rev.21:1,2.
- A: The New Jerusalem, which eventually comes down to a new earth.
- Q: What's so special about the new earth? Rev.21:3-5a (also 21:16-21)
- A: It's perfectly new. No more death, no sorrow, no crying, and no pain.
- Our relationship with God will be restored to one of perfect fellowship.
- What does Isaiah prophesy about the new earth? Isaiah 65:17,18
- A: Relationships are restored to how they were in Eden:
  - Self – joy (Isa.65:22d); God – perfect fellowship (Rev.21:3); Others – unity (Isa.65:23b); Nature – harmony (Isa.65:23a,25); Destiny – life eternal (Rev.21:4); This is “true and faithful.” (Rev.21:5b)
- Q: How do you get these rewards? Gal.3:29. A: Be Christ's
- Challenge: Consider the sign of the rainbow (Gen.9:11,13). It points to the place and the Person of your escape.
- Next time: *What Nature Says About Our Nature and Its Makeover.*