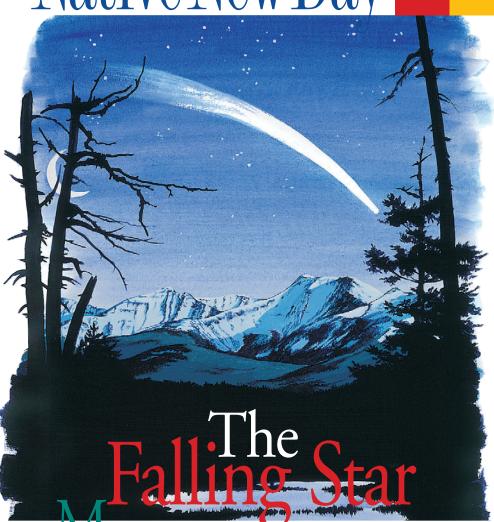
Native New Day 5



any tribal legends regarded certain bright stars of the night sky to be men who started out from their heavenly lodges at sunset and made nightly journeys across the sky. Among several Native tribes, these evening stars were legendary protectors of fields and planting. If any of these protecting stars failed in their duties, they were cast down to the earth and destroyed in the process. This was the explanation of the meteors, or "falling stars," seen across the skies at night.

Interestingly, the *Book of Heaven*, the Bible, in symbolic language tells a similar story. Angels are sometimes referred to as stars. Some of the angels of God rebelled against Him. Their leader, Lucifer, the bright and morning star, became the Devil or Satan, the Adversary, and was also cast out of heaven to this earth. Today these fallen angels work as evil spirits that seek to turn us away from the loving protection and power of our Creator.

he Bible, in symbolic language, sometimes refers to angels as stars. One-third of the angels of heaven became fallen angels who work against us.

Key Thought. The Bible calls these unfaithful angels evil spirits and promises that some day all of them will be destroyed in a lake of fire. Their evil leader is Lucifer, or Satan. He and his fallen angels in spirit form sneak about us today like roaring lions seeking whom they may devour (see 1 Peter 5:8). It's so important for us to know there is an actual evil power working against us, as we endeavor to live for Christ. As a result of this influence, we have dishonesty, heartache, and twisted thinking in our world today. These evil powers are working harder and more feverishly on us each day because they

see their coming destruction drawing near. Jesus, our Creator offers to protect us from these evil forces and has instructed His devoted good angels to protect us.

BIBLE ANSWERS

1. What position did Lucifer once have in heaven? Ezekiel 28:14. "You were the ______ cherub [angel] . . . on the holy mountain of God." (All quotations from the Bible in these lessons are taken from the New King James Version (NKIV) unless otherwise noted.)



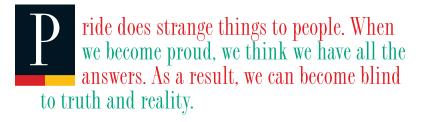


NOTE: Lucifer held a high position close to God in heaven, though he was only a created angel. Lucifer, this fallen angel, became the Devil. As a created being, he doesn't have the power to heal, create, or bring things into existence. The evil doings of the Devil—also called Satan—and his angels are only tricks or illusions of creating, restoring, or bringing healing to us.

2. Was Satan created sinful? Ezekiel 28:15. Circle one: (1) Yes. (2) No.

NOTE: God created Lucifer as a "perfect" being, but Lucifer made a devil out of himself. He had the right to choose to do evil. God also created us with the power to choose which way we want to think and live. Like Lucifer, all of us can deliberately decide to go the wrong way by keeping jealousies and evil thinking in our minds. This evil thinking influences us to do evil acts.

3. How	did this perfect being become evil? What
word is	used several times in describing Lucifer's
desires? 1	saiah 14:13-14. "For you have said in your
heart: '	will ascend into heaven,
will exalt	my throne above the stars of God;
	_ will be like the Most High.'"



Thought and Discussion. Many say Satan had "I" trouble. Because of his pride he selfishly rebelled against God and would not listen to God's counsel. Many folk today have the same problem. They think they are better than others, or more deserving, because of their good looks or because of their intelligence. Pride does strange things to people. When we become proud we do not listen to counsel or instruction, because we think we have all the answers. As a result we become ignorant of truth and reality.

4. Through Satan's influence how many other angels in heaven followed him and turned against Michael (Jesus) as a result? Revelation 12:4. "His tail [influence] drew a ______ of the stars [angels] of heaven."

NOTE: Though one-third of the angels in heaven became evil angels who work against us, it is comforting to know that two-thirds of the angels remained faithful to God. Therefore, the good angels minister to us today with greater force than the evil spirits or fallen angels can. (Hebrews 1:14).

5. What will eventually happen to the Devil and his angels? Matthew 25:41. "Then He [God] will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the ______ prepared for the devil and his angels." (See also Revelation 20:10; Ezekiel 28:18-19.)

NOTE: When everyone sees and understands that Satan's ways only lead to destruction and death, God will destroy him and his angels. These angels, often

called evil spirits/angels, will not exist to harass us anymore. Heaven will be eternally secure because all will have learned that following Satan's ideas and thinking only leads to a dead end. Without sin and its



The Bible describes the Adversary as walking about like a roaring lion.



wo-thirds of the angels remained faithful to God. Therefore the good angels who minister to us who are greater in number than the evil spirits or fallen angels. results, heaven and the new earth will be a beautiful and safe place to live.

6. What are Satan and his angels seeking to do to us today? 1 Peter 5:8. "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may ______."

NOTE: As we move closer to the time when Jesus will come, Satan and his angels will work more feverishly and deceitfully to prevent us from choosing to allow God to lead our lives. These evil forces will do whatever they can to keep us out of the heaven they once enjoyed. We are to be on guard against and resist the Devil and his angels, because following them will lead to our destruction and eternal death.

7. How can we be protected from the Devil and his evil angels today? James 4:7. "Therefore ______ to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you."

NOTE: The way we resist the Devil is to choose to continually trust Jesus and the holy angels for protection, because our strength and intellect are no match for the Devil. Without the protection of God we would all be destroyed immediately. Whenever we are tempted or harassed by evil spirits, we are told to "pray without ceasing" (1 Thessalonians 5:17). We need always to be in "an attitude of prayer," meaning always to be ready to turn to our heavenly Father when we are tempted.

A little girl remarked that when the Devil knocks at her heart's door, she simply sends Jesus to answer the





wisdom from the mouth of a child.

door. When Jesus answers the door, we can feel secure in God's promises that He will deliver us from the powers of darkness and save us in His eternal kingdom (Matthew 13:41-43; 2 Timothy 4:18).

Closing Thought. We need to always remember that there are evil forces today that are working to destroy us spiritually. As surely as the sun rises each morning and the stars come out each night, we can have confidence that God's protection is continually over us. If we place ourselves in an attitude of trusting dependence upon our heavenly Father, just as Jesus did when He was on this earth, God will put His hedge of protection around us.

Next Lesson. Our next lesson will talk about God's plan to rescue us from Satan, from our sins, and from this sinful world.



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