

Those who go down to the **PIT**

The pit lies below the surface of the earth. It is the lowest place in hell barred with a lattice-covered ingress. To be sentenced to the pit is a mark of great shame. There, rogue entities and darkened souls are imprisoned. They are unrepentant wicked rulers, rogue heavenly princes, authorities and powers from the heavenly realm. The stony pit where the pyre is deep and wide is saved for them. After judgment on that day, the fiery breath of God will set the pit ablaze like a violent volcano. The men of renown, the mighty warriors of old, all who warred against the Almighty God will die like mere men, along-side the wicked lowly human kings of earth.

Ezekiel penned this location as the place for captured rogue sons of God [the trees of Lebanon], His holy council members who after receiving the nations for an inheritance to teach them the way of God, turned against their Creator triggering a civil war in heaven. But, God is supreme. His choicest and best were brought down and sentenced to the earth below into the pit awaiting judgment and then, they will be mortalized and shamed to die like mere men.

Assyria: “Assyria, once a cedar in Lebanon... the cedars in the garden of God could not rival it... ‘I made it beautiful with abundant branches, the envy of all the trees of Eden in the garden of God,’ says the Creator... Because it towered on high, lifting its top above the thick foliage, and because it **was proud of its height**, I handed it over to the ruler of the nations, for him to deal with according to the wickedness. **I cast it aside...** Then all the trees of Eden, the choicest and best of Lebanon, **all the trees that were well-watered, were consoled in the earth below...** No other trees so well-watered are ever to reach such a height; **they are all destined for death, for the earth below, among mortal men, with those who go down to the pit**” (Ezekiel 31:3-15, 16-18).

Tyre: O Tyre whose domain was on the high seas. The king of this bustling centre was Satan, once a guardian cherub and under him, his anointed ruler—a rogue member of God’s holy council [a cedar from Lebanon]. Under this ruler were subordinates including kings and soldiers from the nations who delighted in the power and wealth gained through their shrewd business exchanges. “When I shall bring thee down with them that descend into the **pit, with the people of old time**, and shall set thee in the **low parts of the earth**, in places desolate of old, **with them that go down to the pit**, that thou be not inhabited; and I shall set glory in the land of the living” (Ezekiel 26:20).

God is the power of the east wind. “But the **east wind will break you to pieces in the heart of the sea**. Your wealth, merchandise and wares, your mariners, seamen and shipwrights, your merchants and all your soldiers, and **everyone else on board will sink into the heart of the sea** on the day of your shipwreck” (Ezekiel 27:26-27).

To the ruler of Tyre: You say O Tyre ‘I am perfect in beauty... **they took a cedar from Lebanon [a son of God from God’s holy council] to make a mast for you** (Ezekiel 27:3, 5). “In your pride of your heart you say, ‘I am a god; I sit on the throne of a god in the heart of the seas. But you are a man and not a god [This is a statement prophesying his future change down into a mortal.] By

your great skill in trading you have increased your wealth; and **because of your wealth your heart has grown proud...** I am going to bring foreigners against you, the most ruthless of nations... **they will bring you down to the pit**, and you will die a violent death in the heart of the seas. Will you then say, 'I am a god,' in the presence of those who kill you? **You will be** [future tense] **but a man, not a god**, in the hands of those who slay you. You will die the death of the uncircumcised at the hands of foreigners" (Ezekiel 28:2-9).

King David knew the fate of the rogue members of God's holy council. "God presides in the great assembly; he gives judgment among the 'gods.' I said, 'You are gods; you are all sons of the Most High. But you will die like mere men; you will fall like every other ruler.'" (Psalm 82:1, 6-7).

Zechariah knew for he wrote, "Open your doors,

- **O Lebanon**, so that **fire may devour your cedars!**
- Wail, O pine tree, for **the cedar has fallen; the stately trees are ruined!**
- Wail, oaks of Bashan; the dense forest has been cut down!
- Listen to the wail of the shepherds; their rich pastures are destroyed!
- Listen to the roar of the lions; the lush thicket of the Jordan is ruined!" (Zechariah 11:1-3).

To the prince in Egypt: Egypt will be brought low never to rise up again, for he was proud of his strength (Ezekiel 30:18). "I have broken the arm of Pharaoh king of Egypt. It has not been bound up for healing or put in a splint so as to become strong enough to hold a sword... I am against Pharaoh king of Egypt I will break both arms, the good arm as well as the broken one, and make the sword fall from his hand... he will groan before the king of Babylon **like a mortally wounded man...** his arms will fall limp (Ezekiel 30:21-25).

"Wail for the hordes of Egypt and consign to the earth below both her and the daughters of mighty nations, **with those who go down to the pit**" (Ezekiel 32:18).

In the pit:

- **Assyria** is there with her whole army (Ezekiel 32:22).
- **Elam** is there with all her hordes... They bear their shame with those who go down to the pit (Ezekiel 32:24).
- **Meshech and Tubal** are there with all their hordes around their graves (Ezekiel 32:26).
- **Pharaoh** will be broken and lie among the uncircumcised (Ezekiel 32:28).
- **Edom** is there, her kings and all her princes; despite their power, they are laid with those killed by the sword (Ezekiel 32:29).
- **All the princes of the north** and **all the Sidonians** are there, they went down with the slain in disgrace despite the terror caused by their power... they bear their shame with those who go down to the pit (Ezekiel 32:30).

Isaiah understood the darkness in the pit, the emptiness of God's truth. Those in the pit are shamed and disgraced, they have become totally devoid of truth. "For the grave cannot praise

thee, death **cannot** celebrate thee: **they that go down into the pit cannot hope for thy truth**" (Isaiah 38:18).

King David prayed, "For you will not abandon me to Sheol; You will not allow your faithful one to see the **pit**" (Psalms 16:10) and "Unto thee will I cry, O LORD my rock; be not silent to me: lest, if thou be silent to me, I become **like them that go down into the pit**" (Psalms 28:1).

Isaiah wrote about the fate of the fallen. "In that day the LORD will punish **the powers in the heavens above and the kings on the earth below**. They will be herded together, like prisoners gathered in the **pit**; they shall be shut up in the prison and **punished after many days**" (Isaiah 24:22).

"Topheth—the place of burning—has long been ready for the Assyrian king; the pyre is piled high with wood. The breath of the LORD, like fire from a volcano, will set it ablaze" (Isaiah 30:33).

The tallest cedar of Lebanon [prince of Assyria] was sentenced to the pit because he became proud of his height and he rebelled against God. Never again will God allow his sons to grow so tall for the temptation to be proud becomes too intense to resist. Only God, himself, is guaranteed to be eternally righteous, unable to sin. All of the members of God's holy council rebelled. These fallen have been brought very low. They are sentenced to the **pit**, the lowest recess of the grave where lowly mortals, wicked men go upon death. "As a result, none of its watered trees will grow tall, their tops will never reach to the clouds, and they'll never grow so high again, because **all of them have been appointed to death in the world beneath where human beings go, that is, down to the Pit**" (Ezekiel 31:14).

The Apostle Paul knew what Christ did immediately after his resurrection from the grave. He took the remaining rogue sons of God as captives and paraded them before those who are already in the **pit**.

Those rogue rulers of the nations did not know God's plan to overthrow them. "None of the **rulers of this age** [the principalities and power in high places] understood it, for if they had, **THEY WOULD NOT HAVE CRUCIFIED THE LORD OF GLORY**" (1 Corinthians 2:8).

Christ triumphed over them and made a public spectacle of them in the pit. "He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that war against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, **nauling it to the cross**. And having **DISARMED THE POWERS AND AUTHORITIES, he made a PUBLIC SPECTACLE OF THEM** [the rogue sons of God], **TRIUMPHING OVER THEM BY THE CROSS**" (Colossians 2:13-15).

Having won the conquest over them, he took their authority and gave it to his church to teach the nations the way of God. "This is why it says: 'When He ascended on high, **He led captives** [those rogue sons of God, the members of God's holy council] **away**, and **gave gifts to men** [authority to teach the Word of God].' What does 'He ascended' mean, except that **He also descended to the lower parts of the earth**? He who descended is the very one who ascended above all the heavens, in order to fill all things" (Ephesians 4:8-10).

A new ruling body has been established. Christ is now the only heir of the nations. He will marry his church and together, they will rule. He is the head and she is his body; they will rule as one.

“Some to be **apostles**, some to be **prophets**, some to be **evangelists**, and some to be **pastors and teachers, to prepare God’s people for works of services**, so that the **body of Christ may be built up until we ALL reach unity in the father and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature**, attaining to the **whole measure of the fullness of Christ**” (Ephesians 4:11-13).

There still remains one last enemy—the king of Babylon. The day of the LORD is coming.

“Babylon, the jewel of kingdoms, the glory of the Babylonians’ pride, will be overthrown by God like Sodom and Gomorrah” (Isaiah 13:19). **The sins of Sodom and Gomorrah included the forbidden sexual relationship between spiritual entities who leave their domain and transform into suitable bodies to unite with mortal women** (Genesis 6). **It was this sin that led to their swift destruction. Look! “Babylon has fallen, has fallen!”** (Isaiah 21:9).

What turmoil exists in the heavens that the righteous sons of God fear? “Even the pine trees and the cedars of Lebanon [sons of God] exult over **you [the destruction of the heavenly king of Babylon]** and say, ‘Now that you have been laid low, **no woodsman comes to cut us down**’” (Isaiah 14:8). **They watched the once strong and powerful members of God’s holy council turning in opposition to their Creator. One-by-one they all fell taking with them other sons of God. Finally, Babylon is brought down and the remaining sons of God no longer fear their own spiritual destruction.**

To the pit, he will go. “Sheol beneath is stirred up to meet you when you come; it rouses the shades to greet you, all who were leaders of the earth; it raises from their thrones all who were rulers of the nations. They will all respond, they will say to you, ‘You [heavenly king of Babylon] **also have become weak, as we are; you have become like us**’” (Isaiah 14:9-10).

In addition, Satan will join them: “How you have fallen from heaven, O morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! You said in your heart:

- I will ascend to heaven;
- I will raise my throne above the stars of God;
- I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain.
- I will ascend above the tops of the clouds,
- I will make myself like the Most High.’

But **you are brought down to the grave to the depths of the pit**” (Isaiah 14:12-15).

Pride comes before a fall:

- Satan was proud of his beauty
- the heavenly ruler of Tyre was proud of the wealth that he gained from his trading skills
- the heavenly prince ruling over Assyria was proud of his height
- the heavenly pharaoh ruling over Egypt was proud of his strength.

Satan will be the last enemy to be overthrown and brought down to the **pit**. He will remain there for 1,000 years before he is released for 100 years to test the world one final time, before he is destroyed. Then, the pit will be empty and this physical world will pass away for God is going to create a new home for us; He will create a new heaven for the first creation (Adam who pictures the heavenly kind, male) and a new earth for the second creation (Eve who pictures mankind, female) (Revelation 21:1).

Together, the two realms will be ruled by a monarchy: the King (Christ—the last Adam) from the realm in heaven and the Queen (the saints, Christ’s bride) from the realm of earth. God Almighty will reign supreme. That is the monarchial kingdom that God Almighty has been offering mankind for 6,000 years, “seek first the kingdom.”

And then, there will be peace.

Compiled by Janette Andrejowich