

Research: Luke 10 Satan fall from heaven

Luke 10:1, 17-20

1AFTER these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before his face into every city and place, whither he himself would come.

“**Appointed** is *anadeiknumi* in Greek which means “to proclaim any one as elected to office; to announce as appointed a king, general; to lift up anything on high and exhibit it for all to behold.”

“After these things - After the appointment of the twelve apostles, and the transactions recorded in the previous chapters.

“Other seventy - Seventy others besides the apostles. They were appointed for a different purpose from the apostles. The apostles were to be with him; to hear his instructions; to be witnesses of his miracles, his sufferings, his death, his resurrection and ascension, that they might "then" go and proclaim all these things to the world.

“The seventy were sent out to preach immediately, and chiefly where he himself was about to come. They were appointed for a temporary object. They were to go into the villages and towns, and prepare the way for his coming. The number "seventy" was a favorite number among the Jews. Thus, the family of Jacob that came into Egypt consisted of seventy, Genesis 46:27. The number of elders that Moses appointed to aid him was the same, Numbers 11:16, Numbers 11:25. The number “which composed the great Sanhedrin, or council of the nation. was the same. It is not improbable that our Saviour appointed this number with reference to the fact that it so often occurred among the Jews, or after the example of Moses, who appointed seventy to aid him in his work; but it is evident that the office was "temporary" - that it had a specific design - and of course that it would be improper to attempt to find now a "continuation" of it, or a parallel to it, in the Christian ministry” (Barnes’ Notes).

“Two and two - There was much wisdom in sending them in this manner. It was done, doubtless, that they might aid one another by mutual counsel, and that they might sustain and comfort one another in their persecutions and trials. Our Lord in this showed the propriety of having "a religious friend," who would be a confidant and help. Every Christian, and especially every Christian minister, needs such a friend, and should seek someone to whom he can unbosom himself, and with whom he can mingle his feelings and prayers

17¶ And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.

“**Lord, even the devils are subject unto us.**—Better, *the demons*. The tone in which the disciples speak is that of a joyful surprise. They had not looked for such great and immediate results. They had thought that the power to cast out demons had been confined to our Lord’s

immediate action or to that of the Twelve, and they found that they too possessed the power to rescue the spirits of men from thralldom. With them, as with others, the consciousness of a new power was attended with a new pleasure, in this case, with that of high spiritual exultation” (Ellicott’s Commentary).

Subject is *hupotasso* in Greek which means “to be under; to be subject to; to be subordinate; to submit one’s control; to yield to one; a voluntary attitude of giving in, cooperating.”

18And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

Beheld is *theoreo* in Greek which means “to be a spectator of something; to look at; behold; view attentively.”

Satan is *satanas* in Greek which means “the adversary; one who opposes; the prince of evil; the adversary of God and Christ; he incites apostasy from God; the worshippers of idols are said to be under his control; he is able to take possession of man and inflict them; by God he is overcome.”

“I saw Satan fall "quickly" or rapidly - as quick as lightning. The phrase "from heaven" is to be referred to the lightning, and does not mean that he saw "Satan" fall "from heaven," but that he fell as quick as lightning from heaven or from the clouds. The whole expression then may mean, "I saw at your command devils immediately depart, as quick as the flash of lightning. I gave you this power - I saw it put forth - and I give also now, in addition to this, the power to tread on serpents," etc” (Barnes’ Notes).

“Phillips translates, "I was watching and saw Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning"; while *The New English Bible* has, "I watched how Satan fell, like lightning, out of the sky"; and *The Riverside New Testament* suggests, "I was looking when Satan fell like lightning from heaven."

“The fundamental nature of all matter is electrical.”

Think of words associated with the word “electric”: friction, charge, resistance, attraction, positive and negative, current, shock, reaction, pulse, excitement, discharge.

S&H 293:17 – “Electricity is the sharp surplus of materiality which counterfeits the true essence of spirituality or truth, — the great difference being that electricity is not intelligent, while spiritual truth is Mind.”

“Satan--A transcription of the Hebrew word, derived from a verb to lie in wait or oppose. Hence an adversary.

“As lightning--Describing vividly a dazzling brilliance suddenly quenched.

“Fall Lit., having fallen. The aorist marks the instantaneous fall, like lightning” (Vincent’ Word Studies).

19Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

“**Tread** is *pateo* in Greek which means “to tread down under foot; to trample literally and figuratively; to crush with the feet; to advance by setting foot upon; to encounter successfully the greatest perils from the machinations and persecutions with which Satan would fain thwart the preaching of the gospel.”

Serpents is *ophis* in Greek which means “serpent; a snake figuratively as a type of sly cunning; an artful malicious person especially Satan; an emblem of cunning and wisdom; the devil.”

Scorpions is *skorpios* in Greek which means “to pierce; a scorpion, the name of a little animal somewhat resembling a lobster, lurks in stone walls; has a poisonous sting in its tail; from the root word that means to conceal; to dig.”

Enemy is *echthros* in Greek which means “to hate; foe; odious; hateful; hostile; opposes another; men at enmity with God by their sin; opposing God in the mind; bitter enemy of divine government.”

“**I beheld satan:** Our Lord poetically compares Satan's discomfiture at the successful mission of the Seventy to his original fall from heaven. The only other allusion to the fall of Satan in the Gospels, and perhaps in the Bible, is John 8:44.

“**Serpents and scorpions:** Victory over spiritual foes is meant, rather than immunity from bodily injury.**The enemy is Satan** (Matthew 13:25).” (Dummelow’s Bible Commentary)

“To tread on serpents - Preservation from danger. If you tread on a poisonous reptile that would otherwise injure you, I will keep you from danger. If you go among bitter and malignant enemies that would seek your life, I will preserve you.

“Scorpions - The scorpion is an animal with eight feet, eight eyes and a long-jointed tail, ending in a pointed weapon or sting. It is found in tropical climates, and seldom exceeds 4 inches in length. Its sting is extremely poisonous, and it is sometimes fatal to life. It is in Scripture the emblem of malicious and crafty men. When rolled up it has some resemblance to an egg. The annexed cut will give an idea of its usual form and appearance.

“The enemy - Satan. The meaning of this verse is, that Jesus would preserve them from the power of Satan and all his emissaries - from all wicked and crafty men; and this shows that he

had divine power. He that can control Satan and his hosts that can be present to guard from all their machinations, see all their plans, and destroy all their designs, must be clothed with no less than almighty power” (Barnes’ Notes).

20Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

“Names are written in heaven - The names of citizens of a city or state were accustomed to be written in a book or register, from which they were blotted out when they became unworthy, or forfeited the favor of their country. Compare Psalm 69:28; Exodus 32:32; Deuteronomy 9:14; Revelation 3:5. That their "names were written in heaven," means that they were "citizens" of heaven; that they were friends of God and "approved" by him, and would be permitted to dwell with him. This was of far more value than all "earthly" honor, power, or wealth, and "in" this people should rejoice more than in eminent endowments of influence, learning, talents, or possessions” (Barnes’ Notes).