

Wisdom Literature – Lesson 12

The Wisdom of God in Job

September 28, 2025

This morning the scene shifts from the earthly to the heavenly>>

2]. **v.6-12**, the heavenly meeting>>

v. 6 *Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them...>>*

In this verse, we are introduced to an assembly of heavenly beings>>

<<a gathering of God's court or God's heavenly council>>

This heavenly council is also referenced in>>

Ps. 82:1 *God has taken His place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods He holds judgment...>>ESV*

Ps 89:5 *The heavens praise Your wonders, O Lord, Your faithfulness too, in the assembly of the holy ones.*

6 *For who in the skies above can compare with the Lord? Who is like the Lord among the heavenly beings?*

7 *In the council of the holy ones God is greatly feared; He is more awesome than all who surround him. NIV*

1 Kings 22:19-20 *Micaiah continued, "Therefore hear the Word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on His Throne with all the host of heaven standing around Him on His right and on His left...>>NIV*

v.6 records a divine council meeting in which God makes decisions in concert with His subordinate spiritual beings>>

Therefore, God created these spiritual beings with the responsibility of joining Him in the administration of His creation>>

<<their role is to act as His agents in governing the cosmos>>

Rev. 3:21 *He who overcomes, I will grant to him to sit down with Me on My Throne...>>*

Now let's look at the rest of **v.6**>>

<<...and Satan also came among them...>>

Are we surprised to find Satan in a heavenly meeting>>

In the Hebrew the word translated as ...Satan... is *hasatan*>>

<<the satan>>

Because the definite article ...the... comes before ...satan..., it should be translated as ...the satan...>>

Therefore, *hasatan* in the Hebrew is speaking about a role, not a proper name>>

It means adversary, accuser, challenger>>

Therefore, the verse can also be read as>>

<<...and the challenger also came among them...>>

Therefore, ...*hasatan*... describes someone who challenges or seeks to block another's purpose>>

In this account, there is no indication that ...*the satan*... was an outsider>>

He is presented as a member of God's heavenly court in his role of a challenger...>>

<<his role is to present an alternative opinion>>

And as we will see in **v.7**, ...*the satan*... will challenge Job's motive for serving God>>

Is this ... challenger... the devil, the enemy of God in Gen.3>>

Not according to the O.T. understanding>>

As we have seen the word ...*satan*... in the Tanakah referred to someone who challenged or sought to oppose another>>

For example>>

Num.22:22 ...God was angry [with Balaam]... and the Angel of the Lord took His stand in the way as an **adversary** [a satan] against him...>>

2 Sam 19:22 David then said, "What have I to do with you, O sons of Zeruiah [Joab and Abishai], that you should this day be an adversary [a satan] to me...>>

1 Kings 11:14 Then the Lord raised up an adversary [a satan] to Solomon, Hadad the Edomite...>>

As we can see, in two of the examples, ...*satan*... is a human and in one ...*the Angel of the Lord*...>>

This means that the word ...*satan*... is a generic term that describes a challenger, not necessarily the nefarious figure of **Gen.3**>>

Now we turn to the next verses to see the challenger in action>>

v. 7-12>>The challenge>>

The Lord said to [the satan], "From where do you come?" Then [the satan] answered the Lord and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it." 8 The Lord said to [the satan], "Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil." 9 Then [the satan] answered the Lord, "Does Job fear God for nothing? 10 "Have You not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. 11 "But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse You to Your face." 12 Then the Lord said to [the satan], "Behold, all that he has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him." So [the satan] departed from the presence of the Lord.