

INTRODUCTION

I. THE TERM “SON” IS USED IN SCRIPTURE OF THOSE WHO BELONG TO A FAMILY.

A. The word “sons” is used throughout Scripture of those who

1. The Old Testament word for “sons” is “*ben*” which is used in a majority of times for:
 - a) A male offspring. Gen. 7:13; 23:10 (of the offspring of Heth); Gen. 34:13 (offspring of Jacob)
 - b) Spirit beings. Cf. Gen. 6:2,4; Job 38:7
 - c) Those belonging to a kind of family.
 - (1) Of family of men (translated “children”). Gen. 11:5
 - (2) Sons of Belial (belonging to) Belial. 1st Sam. 2:12
 - (a) Belial is a compound word made up of:
 - (i) Bal -- a failure; nothing; not at all. -- Strong’s lexicon cf. Ps. 10:4 (of the wicked not seeking after God); 16:8 (of not being moved)
 - (ii) Alah -- to go up; ascend, climb. -- BDD Gen. 44:33
 - (b) Belial is used in Scripture of those of a worthless nature. Cf. Deut. 13:13; Judges 19:22
2. The plural form of “ben” is used for boys and girls in the Hebrew. Gen. 5:7,13; Ps. 17:14; Prov. 4:1; 13:22; Mal. 4:6

B. The primary Greek terms are:

1. Teknon - which means to be born into a family. Cf. Matt. 22:24 (provisions under law for those who died absent of offspring); 2:18 (of Rachel’s children); 10:21 (of those in families during Trib. period); John 1:12 (of those born into the family of God)
2. Hios which is used of one who is of maturation.
 - a) It is used of family relationships. Mk. 10:35 (James and John); Lk. 1:13 (Elisabeth’s child); Lk. 15:11 (Prodigal sons)

- b) It is used of the incarnate Son of God. cf. John 1:18; Matt. 4:8
- c) It is used of those belonging to a kind of family.
 - (1) It is used of the family of mankind. Eph. 3:5
 - (2) It is used to note biological sons. Rom. 9:9 (Sarah); Gal. 4:30 (Hagar)
 - (3) It is used of those in the family of God. John 1:12; Rom. 8:14; Phil. 2:15
 - (4) It is used in Scripture of Satan's sons.
 - (a) Satan has sons in his kingdom whose appearance is similar to tares. Matt. 13:38
 - (b) There are some that belong to the age. Lk. 16:8; 20:34
 - (c) Paul describes them as the sons of disobedience. Eph. 2:2

II. BECAUSE SATAN NOR DEMONS CAN BE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE AFFAIRS OF THE WORLD HE UTILIZES HUMAN OPERATIVES TO ADVANCE HIS AGENDA.

A. Satan manipulated men from the outside under the Old Covenant.

1. Satan provoked king David to number the army of Israel. 2 Sam. 24:1,5; 1st Chron. 21:1,5
 - a) "Satan" is the transliterated word of the Hebrew term, used without the article it can be translated, an adversary.
 - b) "Provoked" is the Hebrew verb suth which can be translated "to incite, allure, instigate." -- Brown, Driver & Briggs cf. 2 Sam. 24:1
 - c) "To number" is "manah" (qal perf.) with the lamed preposition -- "to weigh out; by implication to allot or constitute officially." cf. Gen. 13:16 (of counting the dust of the earth); Ps. 90:12 (of the numbering days)
2. A demon was used to convince Ahab to go to battle at Ramoth Gilead. 2nd Chron. 18:18-19
3. Satan was the energizing force behind the pride of the king of Tyre. Ez. 28:14
4. The devil prompted Herod to kill off all kids under 2 years of age in an attempt to kill the Lord Jesus. Matt. 2:16-18; Rev. 12:4
 - a) The word "stood" is the Greek verb histami (per. Act. ind.) notes that he was that from birth.
 - b) "Before" is enopion -- the presence of
 - c) "Devour" or kaesthio -- to eat up; destroy. Cf.
5. Spirit beings manipulated the crowd to crucify Jesus. Mk. 15:15 (Pilate was used); Lk. 23:23; Acts 2:23,36 (the chief priest were used); 1st Co. 2:7-8

B. Satan has changed his tactics in this dispensation.

1. Satan sows his sons into his kingdom today. Matt. 13:38-39

a) A tare is "**a kind of darnel, resembling wheat except the grains are black.**" -- Joseph Thayer.

(1) Used eight times in Matt. 13 only.

(2) The tares are said to be the sons of the evil one (satan).
Vs. 38

b) Scripture provides illustrations of Satan's usage of men to operate his plans.

(1) They are used to oppose God's quality of righteousness throughout the execution of God's plan and purposes. Cf. Acts 13:10; 1st John 3:12

(2) Satan uses his sons to impact the day to day life of all men. Cf. Eph. 2:2-3

c) Satan provides energizing power for his sons to operate. Cf. Eph. 2:2

(1) The word used for energizing is "energon"

(2) Ergon is the word used for "work"

(3) En is the preposition used in the Greek to denote location.

(4) The word is used in composition of an inner power

provided for motivation and operation. Cf. Rom. 7:5 (of the passions of the sin nature working in those under law)

(5) A pres. Act. part. is used in verse 2 to note the persistency of which he operates in his sons.

(a) The word "now" is an adverb of time emphasizing the changed nature of Satan's activities.

(b) "Disobedience" is *apeitheias* -- **those who are unpersuaded by what God provides and are driven by self-effort to do what they deem should be pleasing to God.** cf. Nu. 14:22; Acts 7:38-39

2. The energizing effect of Satan's sons impact the "conversation" of those in the world. Cf. Eph. 2:3

C. Satan will use other tactics during the Tribulation Period.

1. He prompts the second beast to restrict the use of the world system during the Tribulation Period.

2. Satan gives the beast the three controls that govern the world. Rev. 13:2

a) Power -- ability for operation. Rev. 17:14; cf. Eph. 3:20

b) Seat -- a place for operation.

c) Authority -- the right to operate. Cf. Acts 8:27 (used of the Ethiopian eunuch)

3. The second beast, which has the same authority as the first, restricts the use of the world system. Rev. 13:16-17

CONCLUSION