

Contents

List of illustrations	page ix
List of abbreviations	xi
Introduction	1

Part I Hebrew backgrounds

1 The Old Testament	13
1.1 The first supernatural satan in the Hebrew Bible: the Angel of Yahweh and a talking ass	13
1.2 A Son of Elohims as a satan: the spy and tester of the Book of Job	21
1.3 A celestial satan as accuser: the trial of Joshua the High Priest in the Book of Zechariah	23
1.4 Revisions and translations: Satan and satans, DEVIL and devils	28
2 Apocryphal works and the Dead Sea Scrolls	32
2.1 Sins of Humans, sins of Angels: Genesis 1–11 and the <i>Book of Enoch</i>	32
2.2 Mastema/Satan and the Giant-Ghosts as punishers: <i>The Book of Jubilees</i>	35
2.3 Dueling dualisms at the Dead Sea: Belial, the Principle of Darkness, Lady Folly – but no Satan!	41

Part II The New Testament: Satan comes into his own

3 St. Paul, the first Christian writer	53
3.1 Thessalonians, 1 Corinthians: Satan as tester and punisher – and rehabilitator	53

3.2	2 Corinthians, Romans: Pseudo-Angel-of-Light, due for a crushing	59
3.3	Other sinister figures: Beliar, the God of this World, the Elements, the Powers	64
3.4	St. Paul and the Wisdom of Solomon: on Adam, Eve, the Serpent, and the arrival of Death	69
4	The four Gospels	80
4.1	Satan in Mark, the earliest Gospel: testing and obstructing Jesus	80
4.2	Satan and Jesus in dialogue: Matthew's three-act drama of temptation	84
4.3	Luke's two books (Third Gospel and Acts): Satan in charge, and his predicted fall "like lightning"	93
4.4	Satan according to John: homicidal liar, and Archon of this Cosmos	107
5	Later Epistles	114
5.1	Pseudo-Paul 1: 1-2 Timothy, 2 Thessalonians: Satan and/or DEVIL	114
5.2	Pseudo-Paul 2: Colossians and Ephesians: the Heavenly Powers and DEVIL	120
5.3	The Epistle to the Hebrews and the Epistle of Jude: DEVIL as the Angel of Death – who deserves respect	125
5.4	Excursus: the non-Diabolical fall of the Angels in Jude and 2 Peter	131
5.5	Ecumenical Epistles: 1 Peter and James: DEVIL as lion, DEVIL as coward	134
6	The Apocalypse of John the Divine	141
6.1	Satan and the Angels of the Seven Churches	141
6.2	Dragon-Satan-DEVIL and his predicted ouster from Heaven	147
6.3	Another John, another world-view: DEVIL and anti-Christ in the Epistles of John the Presbyter	159

6.4	Excursus: Jesus as the good Lucifer in Revelation and 2 Peter	164
7	Putting the New Testament together: a composite portrait of Satan in canonical order	168
7.1	Gospels and Acts	168
7.2	The Pauline Epistles	169
7.3	The other Epistles and Revelation	171

Part III Satan and Adam

8	Satan's original sin: felling Adam	175
8.1	The early post-Biblical explanation: Satan fell because of Adam, Adam fell because of Satan	175
8.2	Satan's jealousy in the <i>Life of Adam and Eve</i>	182
8.3	The history of Iblis in the Koran	184

Part IV The rise of the fallen Lucifer

9	Lucifer and the New Biography of Satan	191
9.1	Satan as the rebel Lucifer, well before Adam: the hijacking of Isaiah 14 by Origen of Alexandria	191
9.2	The slanderous New Biography of Satan: re-reading the Bible with Lucifer as God's enemy	199
9.3	Satan and his Angels as Pagan Gods: renouncing the Devil and his pomps	208
10	Satan and the Human Race	215
10.1	Mankind enslaved by Satan – and redeemed (<i>purchased back!</i>) by Christ	215
10.2	Satan and the Saints: straight man, fall guy, persistent meddler, bungling loser	218
10.3	Satan's last assignment: Superintendent of Hell and punisher – right now! – of damned souls	229

11	Theorizing Satan	242
11.1	Satan as a Pure Spirit: the synthesis of Thomas Aquinas	242
11.2	Satan and the Magical Malefactors: Sorcery Diabolized	249
12	Satan in literature and art	265
12.1	Literary and dramatic presentations of Satan: Dante, Milton, <i>et ceteri</i>	265
12.2	Satan in the visual arts: scary and suave	277
 Part V Satan in the modern world		
13	Temptation and possession	299
13.1	Satan as ever-present invisible Tempter: "The Devil made me do it!"	299
13.2	Pathetic marvels: the phenomena of Diabolical possession	303
14	Doubts and affirmations	308
14.1	Satan contextualized and demythified: the Reformed Reformer Friedrich Schleiermacher takes a hard look at the Bible	308
14.2	The many lives of Satan today	315
	 Summary and conclusion	 323
	 <i>Index of passages</i>	 329
	<i>General index</i>	336

Illustrations

Frontispiece: The Fall of Satan as Lucifer. Detail
(inverted) of Illustration 7, "The Fall of the Angels,"
by the Limbourg Brothers, from the *Très Riches
Heures du Duc de Berry*

- 1 Nuremburg Bible (Biblia Sacra Germanica 1483):
"The Angel of the Lord opposes Balaam and his
jenny" (in Hebrew: "as a satan"). page 278
- 2a "Satan smiting Job with sore boils" (1825), from
Illustrations to "The Book of Job" by William Blake. 279
- 2b "Satan smiting Job with sore boils" (ca. 1826),
William Blake. 280
- 3 "The Angel of the Lord against Balaam," from *The
Holy Bible* (1866), illustrated by Gustave Doré. 281
- 4 "Satan's third temptation of Jesus (Matthew 4.8–9),"
from *The Holy Bible* (1866), illustrated by Gustave
Doré. 282
- 5 "Apocalypse" (1498), Albrecht Dürer. 283
- 6 "Abaddon, King of the Locusts" (Rev. 9.11), identified
as Satan, from *Apocalypse of Saint-Sever* (ca. 1050) 284
- 7 "The Fall of the Angels," Limbourg Brothers, *Les Très
Riches Heures du Duc de Berry* (ca. 1415), fo. 64v. 286
- 8 "The Devil in Hell," Limbourg Brothers, *Les Très
Riches Heures du Duc de Berry* (ca. 1415), fo. 108r. 288
- 9 "The Fall of Eve and Adam, with Satan as womanized
Serpent," Limbourg Brothers, *Les Très Riches Heures
du Duc de Berry* (ca. 1415), fo. 25v. 289

X LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 10 | "Michael fights the Dragon (Rev. 12.7)," Limbourg Brothers, <i>Les Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry</i> (ca. 1415), fo. 195r. | 290 |
| 11 | "The Last Judgment, with Hell-Mouth," Limbourg Brothers, <i>Les Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry</i> (ca. 1415), fo. 34r. | 291 |
| 12 | "The Gates of Hell," Jean Colombe, <i>Les Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry</i> (ca. 1485), fo. 103v. | 292 |
| 13 | "Purgatory," Jean Colombe, <i>Les Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry</i> (ca. 1485), fo. 113v. | 293 |
| 14 | "The Grateful Dead," Jean Colombe, <i>Les Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry</i> (ca. 1485), fo. 90v. | 294 |