



# SATAN'S THREE CHARGES



**1**

**Disputes the Supremacy of the Son of God. Questions the principle of Agape love.**

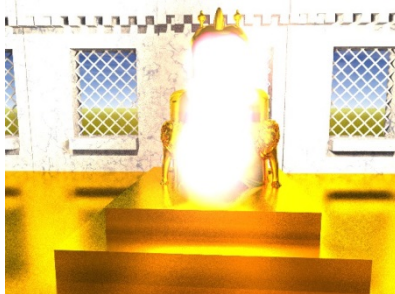
**Luke 4:3; John 5:18; Phil 2:5-11; John 5:23; 1 John 2:21-23**



**2**

**Disputes the need to be governed by law. Our own wisdom is a sufficient guide**

**John 8:44  
Romans 8:7  
2 Thess 2:8**



**3**

**Claims that God's character is inconsistent. Claims He can't be a God of justice and mercy due to His law.**

**Romans 3:1-4, 23-26  
Ps 85:10; Ps 86:15  
Rev 12:10  
Zech 3:1-4**

## Satan's Three Charges

AIM:	<p>(1) To show the central issues of the great controversy between Christ and Satan .</p> <p>(2) To show that these charges must be answered before God's kingdom can be fully established</p>
THEME:	<b>Christ in all His Roles.</b>
OUTLINE:	<p>In the chart <i>One God and One Lord</i> we established the attributes of the Father and His Son and their Omnipresent Holy Spirit. In the chart <i>The kingdom of God</i> we learned that God's kingdom is based on close relationships which are guarded by the Ten Commandments. In this chart we see Satan's challenge to the Son of God, the Law and the character of God and God's response to these charges.</p>
NOTES:	<p>Satan rebelled against God's kingdom with three specific charges. Satan's first charge is aimed at the Son of God, Jesus. God gave to His Son all power and authority and made Him equal with Himself. John 3:36; Phil 2:6. As we examine Scripture we see a recurring theme of the need to honour the Son even as the Father is honoured. John 5:23. The reason for this call is because Satan denied the fact that the Son of God was given a position equal with the Father. <i>"To dispute the supremacy of the Son of God, thus impeaching the wisdom and love of the Creator, had become the purpose of this prince of angels"</i> PP 36. The Great Controversy will not be over until "every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father" Phil 2:9-11</p> <p>Satan's challenge to the Son of God was contrary to the Father's will and the Father made it plain that every knee will bow to the Son. Satan refused to do this and thus broke God's law of love. He became an enemy of the law. Rom 8:7. He became a murderer and a liar John 8:44. Therefore Satan's second charge was against God's Law. <i>"Lucifer went forth to diffuse the spirit of discontent among the angels. He worked with mysterious secrecy, and for a time concealed his real purpose under an appearance of reverence for God. He began to insinuate doubts concerning the laws that governed heavenly beings, intimating that though laws might be necessary for the inhabitants of the worlds, angels, being more exalted, needed no such restraint, for their own wisdom was a sufficient guide"</i> PP 37. <i>By the same misrepresentation of the character of God as he had practiced in heaven, causing Him to be regarded as severe and tyrannical, Satan induced man to sin.</i> GC 500. This principle was carried to the earth by Satan. To answer this charge it must be shown that God's law is an expression of His character. The law forms a central issue in the Great Controversy and this is why God's faithful people are seen as this who keep the commandments of God. Rev 14:12. <i>"Satan has asserted that men could not keep the commandments of God. To prove that they could, Christ became a man, and lived a life of perfect obedience, an evidence to sinful beings, that man could keep God's law through the divine power that is abundantly provided for all that believe"</i> Signs of the Times 10/5/1899</p> <p>Satan was expelled from Heaven for his rebellion and consigned to this earth (since Adam and Eve had already fallen by this stage) to await judgment. As a final challenge to God, Satan charged that God cannot be loving and Just. He claimed that God's character was inconsistent. God's law is life and only those who walk that law will live. Satan twisted this fact to suggest God would kill those who resist His law thus making Him a tyrant. He therefore claimed that God could not be loving and Just. He is either one or the other. It is for this reason that Satan must be allowed to show his position to the universe. <i>"For the good of the entire universe through ceaseless ages, he must more fully developed his principles, that his charges against the divine government might be seen in their true light by all created beings, and that the justice and mercy of God and the immutability of His law might be forever placed beyond all question."</i> PP 42 When Jesus died on the cross this charge was answered. Rom 3:26. Jesus paid the penalty and He was merciful and loving toward us. <i>"Satan declared that it was impossible for the sons and daughters of Adam to keep the law of God, and thus charged upon God a lack of wisdom and love. If they could not keep the law, then there was fault with the lawgiver. Men who are under the control of Satan repeat these accusations against God, in asserting that men cannot keep the law of God. Jesus humbled himself, clothing his divinity with humanity, in order that he might stand as the head and representative of the human family, and by both precept and example condemn sin in the flesh, and give the lie to Satan's charges."</i> Signs of the Times 16/1/1896</p>
FURTHER STUDY:	<p>Read <a href="#">Patriarchs and Prophets</a>, Chapter 1 – "<a href="#">Why Was Sin Permitted?</a>" <a href="#">Education</a>, pages 99-102 – "God in Nature". <a href="#">The Loving Wrath of God</a> by Gary Hullquist.</p>