

- d. The Time Factor
- (1) The existence of the devil – If there was no original creation and destruction, then the devil could only predate man by no more than five days. This means that the following events must have occurred between the first day of the six-day creation and fall of Adam and Eve:
 - (a) Lucifer’s service to God as “the anointed cherub that covereth” (Ezekiel 28:11-15)
 - (b) The fall of Lucifer because of pride (Isaiah 14:12-15)
 - (c) The fall of the angels who followed Satan (Matthew 25:41)
 - (d) The origin of devils
 - (e) The preparation of everlasting fire for the devil and his angels (Matthew 25:41) Note: This fire must have been prepared after the fall of Satan created the need for it yet before the fall of man condemned him to the same place. Otherwise, Christ wouldn’t have stated it the way He did. NOTE: *“prepared for the devil and his angels.”*
 - (2) A short time – The evidence points to a short time between creation a man and his fall.
 - (a) From Adam’s creation to the birth of Seth was 130 years (Genesis 5:2-3)
 - (b) Between Adam’s fall and the birth of Seth, Cain and Abel were born (Genesis 4:1-2), grew to manhood (in a time when this must have been a lengthy process), began their separate occupations (4:2), and sacrificed to God (4:3-4). Cain then killed his brother Abel (4:8) and went from the presence of the Lord to start his own kingdom (4:16). This would seemly assure a relatively short stay in the Garden of Eden.
 - (c) Adam and Eve were sent from the garden specifically so that they could not eat of the tree of life and live forever (Genesis 3:22). They had evidently not yet eaten of the tree. This also points to a short stay in the garden.
 - (d) Certainly, all of the events of the early history of the devil could have occurred in a short time frame. However, such a scenario seems highly unlikely. For instance, Satan is called that “old serpent” (Revelation 12:9; Revelation 20:2). Would being five days older than man qualify him for such a title?
 - (3) Satan’s Claim on the World
 - (a) He is called “the prince of this world” by Christ (John 12:31)
 - (b) He is called “the god of this world” by Paul (2 Corinthians 4:4)
 - (c) Why would he have such a claim on this world and when did he get this claim?
 - i. In Luke 4:5-6, Satan told Christ that all the kingdoms of the world had been delivered unto him. Christ did not

contest him on this claim, in fact, he only answered him with that only God himself deserved worship (Luke 4:7-8). The devil's claim of having the kingdoms of the world delivered unto him is allowed to stand. But, when did this occur? When could this have happen? When Satan shows up in the Garden of Eden before the fall of man, he is already the serpent and is in opposition to God. Therefore, whenever this occurred it would have had to occur before that time. If Satan had some previous rule over the world, when did he practice this rule?

- ii. In (Isaiah 14:12-15) Satan's original rebellion is recorded. In this record the devil desired to exalt his throne above the stars of God (v.13). In order to exalt his throne, he would need a throne to exalt. A throne indicates a dominion, a place of rule and a kingdom. Yet, this kingdom which was ruled by Satan before the fall was below the stars of God and below the heights of the clouds. Therefore, what is left? The earth. Satan had a throne on the earth before he rebelled against God. This would explain how he was able to claim his rights to the it. The earth before Genesis 1:2 was Lucifer's domain. Given to him by God.

(4) Satan's Character from the Beginning

- (a) He was "a murderer from the beginning" (John 8:44) and he "sinneth from the beginning" (1 John 3:8). To what beginning does this refer?
- (b) This beginning must refer to the beginning of the six-day creation. Nothing else makes sense.
 - i. If there is no gap and the devil was created on the first day of the six days of creation, he must have been created as a sinner and a murderer—since he was these things from the beginning. But this is impossible for two reasons.
 - 1) First, this interpretation would make God the author of sin.
 - 2) Second, the Bible clearly states that the devil was perfect from his creation and that iniquity was not found in him until a later date (Ezekiel 28:15).
 - ii. He was perfectly created but was a murderer and sinner at the time of the beginning or creation as we experience it. Therefore, the devil had to fall in sin somewhere between the time of his creation and the beginning of the world as we find in chapter one of Genesis. Only the gap provides a time for all of this to occur. There is no other clear option.