

*Halloween – Sunday School Lesson  
For Youth (12-18 years old)*

Theme: Satan, the Defeated Foe

Teacher Pep Talk: Teenagers are going to have questions at Halloween: Questions about evil spirits, the devil, demons, angels, or even about God. Since these questions are inevitable, better to face them head on with reliable resources which are biblically based at your side.

The fact that Satan is a defeated foe is not one which is often discussed outside of the church setting. Occasionally this leads to the unfortunate misconception that Satan is on some sort of equal footing with God, locked in some eternal battle of good and evil... with the final outcome unknown. This of course, is not true. And it is important that we teach our children the truth of the matter, that Satan is a defeated foe. God bless you as you bring this message!

Major Points: God is the Creator of all things  
The devil (Satan) is a created being  
Satan was originally created as a beautiful angel (Lucifer)  
Lucifer sinned, rebelled against God, and was cast out of heaven.  
In the Garden of Eden, Satan deceived Eve, and Adam sinned  
God promised a Savior, who came later (Jesus Christ)  
Because of Adam's sin, all mankind was condemned to death  
Jesus crushed Satan's power over death at the cross  
Because of what Jesus did, we can have Eternal Life!  
Satan faces eternal punishment in the Lake of Burning Sulfur  
The LORD is God forever and ever! Satan is a defeated foe!

Scripture Verses: The scripture verses which support the major points of this lesson are included as a group in the appendix. It was thought that the verses might prove useful as a reference for future discussions.

You will also find the applicable scripture references for each major point contained within the lesson as you go along. You may wish to have students assigned to read the verses out loud as the class progresses.

In attempting to dispel the myths and to diminish some of the mystique surrounding Halloween, it is important to understand where the celebration of Halloween came from originally and what maintains its impetus now. Hopefully this brief explanation will help.

### The Origins of Halloween

Halloween (or All-Hallows-Eve) is the night before All Hallows Day. The word "All-Hallows-Even" can be found in the Oxford English Dictionary as early as the year 1556. So, the concept of Halloween has been around for a very long time!

All Saints Day (or All Hallows Day) is a holy day which is found on the Roman Catholic Church liturgical calendar and is celebrated each year on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Its official name is the "Solemnity of All Saints" and it is described as "a solemnity celebrated in honor of all the saints, known and unknown." (*In the Eastern Orthodox calendar, All Saints Day is celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost.*)

Since November 1<sup>st</sup> is considered to be such a holy day, in which all the saints are honored, the thought was that the night before would be the time when the spirits would act up, if they were going to. And so All-Hallows-Eve became a night of special interest.

Other ancient origins for Halloween may come from the Celts. The Ancient Celts thought that after Harvest time, when the nights began being longer than the days, came a time which they called Samhain or "Summer's End" during which the division between this world and the "Otherworld" became thin, allowing spirits (nice and not so nice) to pass over the division. While spirits of departed family members were welcome to visit, other "mean" spirits were frightened away by carved turnips, masks and costumes. (*The Celts hollowed out large turnips and placed them in the windows of their homes to ward off evil spirits.*)

Pumpkins, which grew in North America, were part of the Harvest time tradition there. This eventually melded with the Halloween rituals listed above in the 1800's.

So... that's how we got Halloween, with all its carved pumpkins and the thought that evil spirits might act up on that night... since the next day was considered so holy. Since All Saints Day (or All Hallows Day) is still celebrated, All-Hallows-Eve isn't going anywhere anytime soon.

TEACHER'S NOTE:

This lesson is arranged as a list of Major Points with applicable Bible references to back up each point. Read the major point **in bold print** and see how your class reacts. If the students seem to accept the point readily, then move on to the next point. If they have questions, or seem to wonder what you are talking about, be sure to read the applicable Bible verses together as a group. In general, it's better to address any questions as you go along. Skip sections if you need to. If there is too much information included for one lesson, you can always save it for discussion at a future date. (*You will find all of these scripture references listed as a group in the Appendix to this lesson. It is hoped that they might be helpful in future discussions.*)

Theme: Satan: The Defeated Foe

Lesson: Before we actually begin our lesson talking about who Satan is and where he came from, it's important for us to get one thing straight; otherwise the rest of the lesson won't make any sense!

**God is the Creator of all things.**

- That seems pretty simple, doesn't it? But it is central to understanding the rest of the lesson.
- Bible References: Genesis 1:1, Ephesians 3:9, Colossians 1:16 (Speaking of Christ) *For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.*
- Since we know and agree that God is the Creator of all things, the next point will make more sense.

**The devil (Satan) is a created being.**

- The devil, Satan, is a created being. And since someone had to create him, and God created all things, it stands to reason that God created Satan. (*I know, I know...*)
- But why would God do such a thing? Satan is evil. Did God create evil? (*Of course not! As we will see in the next major point, the reality is that God created Lucifer originally as a beautiful angel, but Lucifer who was very proud because of his beauty, sinned against God and became evil.*)
- (See next major point for supporting Bible verses.)

**Satan was originally created as a beautiful angel (Lucifer)**

- The answer is that God created all angels and that Satan was originally created as the most beautiful of all the angels. In fact, he was so beautiful and bright that his name back then was Lucifer, or "son of the morning". (*It has to do with the idea that the last star you can see when the sun comes up in the morning is the brightest of all the stars.*)

- Bible References: Isaiah 14:12 (King James Version) *How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!*  
Ezekiel 28:15 (KJV) *Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.*
- Unfortunately, Lucifer did not stay a perfect, beautiful angel as he was created.

### **Lucifer sinned, rebelled against God and was cast out of heaven**

- Lucifer (who we now call the devil or Satan) was originally created as a beautiful angel. He was perfect in his ways from the day he was created until sin was found in him.
- Bible Reference: Ezekiel 28:12-15 (NIV) " *You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz and emerald, chrysolite, onyx and jasper, sapphire, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared. You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you.*
- What happened then is that Lucifer was very proud because of his beauty. In his heart he began to promote himself higher and higher until he presumed to say he would become like God the Most High. (Basically to supplant God.)
- Bible Reference: Isaiah 14:12-15 KJV *How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.*
- The words in this Bible reference are often referred to as the 5 "I"s. It is the basis for Lucifer's sin and his subsequent fall. God cast Lucifer out of heaven.
- Bible References: Isaiah 14:16-17 (NIV) *Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings.*  
Luke 10:18 (Jesus is speaking) *He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.*

**Garden of Eden: Satan deceived Eve; Adam and Eve sinned**

- Satan was in the Garden of Eden where Adam and Eve were created. He deceived Eve by asking her about the forbidden fruit and telling her that she would *“not surely die”* if she ate it, as God had said. Instead he told her that she would *“be like God, knowing good and evil.”* Satan used his favorite sin on Eve. He tempted her to be proud, to try and be *“like God”*. He also tempted her not to believe what God had said. In the end, Eve ate the fruit and then gave some to Adam who also ate. Adam and Eve sinned.
- Bible Reference: (See Genesis 3:1-24 for the whole story.)  
Genesis 3:1-6 *Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.' " "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.*
- So... Adam and Eve sinned and were cast out of the Garden of Eden. (Just like Lucifer sinned and was cast out of heaven.) But (unlike Lucifer) Adam and Eve received a Promise of Hope first!

**God promised a Savior, who would come later (Jesus Christ)**

- In the story of the Garden of Eden, God curses the serpent (*Satan*) because of what he has done. And then God makes a wonderful promise! He says that some day One of Eve's offspring will come and crush Satan's head (*even though Satan will strike at His heel.*) This promise was fulfilled with the coming of Jesus Christ, God's One and Only Son, (*who was also one of the descendants of Eve!*)
- Bible Reference: Genesis 3:14-15 *So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."*

**Because of Adam's sin, all mankind was condemned to death**

- God was right, of course. When Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit they died spiritually on that very day (they were expelled from the presence of God.) And, also just like God had said, they would now die physically as well, like their descendants after them.
- Bible References: Genesis 3:17-19 *To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,' "Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."*  
Romans 5:12 *...sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men...*

**Jesus crushed Satan's power over death at the cross**

- When Jesus came and died on the cross, He completely triumphed over Satan, who had been the prince of this world and had held the power of death.
- Bible References: John 12:31-33 *Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. But I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to myself." He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die.*  
John 14:30-31 *I will not speak with you much longer, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold on me, but the world must learn that I love the Father and that I do exactly what my Father has commanded me.*  
John 16:11 *...the prince of this world now stands condemned.*  
Colossians 2:15 *And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.*  
Matthew 28:18 *Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.*  
Rev. 1:17-18 *"Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.*

**Because of what Jesus did, we can have eternal life!**

- From the time of Adam, death had reigned over mankind. But now that reign was ended. Jesus died on the cross and was raised to life. We had been held in slavery by our fear of death. But now, because of what Jesus did at the cross, we can have eternal life!

- **Bible References:** Hebrews 2:14-15 *Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.*  
Romans 5:17 *For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.*  
John 3:16 *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

### **Satan faces eternal punishment in the Lake of Burning Sulfur**

- Even though Jesus has already defeated Satan at the cross and taken away the power that Satan had over death and over mankind as the prince of this world, Satan continues to make war with the children of God. However, soon God will crush Satan and punish him forever in a place prepared especially for Satan and the other fallen angels. This place is called the Lake of Burning Sulfur or the Lake of Fire. *(Fallen angels are about 1/3 of all the created angels. Those who followed Satan and fought with him against God. They were also cast out of heaven.)*
- **Bible References:** Romans 16:20 *The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.*  
Matthew 25:41 (Jesus is speaking) *"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.*  
Rev. 12:3-4 also Rev. 12:7-9 *And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.*  
Rev. 20:10 *And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.*

### **The LORD is God forever and ever! Satan is a defeated foe!**

- God (the Creator) is God forever! Satan is a defeated foe and faces eternal punishment. **Therefore, follow God!!**
- **Bible Reference:** Psalm 90:2 *...you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.*

Prayer: Be sure to pray with and for the children after today's lesson. If you like, you may follow the prayer printed below, which is the one I offer for you and your class as you complete this lesson.

God bless you,  
*Sharon*

Dear God,

Thank you for this day that you have made. Thank you for the students and teachers in this room. Thank you that they were brave enough and fearless enough to go through this lesson today. Please be with them, Father, as they go about their day. Guard them and keep them safe. Protect them from the wiles of the evil one, who comes only to kill and destroy. Satan does not like to be unmasked, Father, but prefers to masquerade as an angel of light. Grant that we may see and follow the true light of the world, your Son, Jesus Christ.

It is in His name we pray.

Amen.

**Appendix – Satan: The Defeated Foe.**

*Supportive Scripture Verses for this Sunday School Lesson for Youth.*

*All verses from the NIV Translation of the Holy Bible, unless otherwise indicated.*

**God is the Creator of all things.**

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

Ephesians 3:9 ...God, who created all things.

Colossians 1:16 (Speaking of Christ) For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.

**The devil (Satan) is a created being. He was originally created as a beautiful angel (Lucifer) But he sinned, rebelled against God, and was cast out of heaven.**

Isaiah 14:12-14 (King James Version) 12How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! 13For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: 14I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

Ezekiel 28:15 (KJV) Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.

Ezekiel 28:12-19 (NIV) 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: "You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. 13 You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone adorned you: ruby, topaz and emerald, chrysolite, onyx and jasper, sapphire, turquoise and beryl. Your settings and mountings were made of gold; on the day you were created they were prepared. 14 You were anointed as a guardian cherub, for so I ordained you. You were on the holy mount of God; you walked among the fiery stones. 15 You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you. 16 Through your widespread trade you were filled with violence, and you sinned. So I drove you in disgrace from the mount of God, and I expelled you, O guardian cherub, from among the fiery stones. 17 Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendor. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings. 18 By your many sins and dishonest trade you have desecrated your sanctuaries. So I made a fire come out from you, and it consumed you, and I reduced you to ashes on the ground in the sight of all who were watching. 19 All the nations who knew you are appalled at you; you have come to a horrible end and will be no more."

(NOTE: Although these words in Ezekiel 28 are written prophesying against the King of Tyre, it has been long believed that these words also describe the real "power behind the throne" of the king of Tyre: Satan. For a great discussion on this, visit this webpage: <http://www.goodseed.com/learning/article/isaiah-14-ezekiel-28/> )

### **In the Garden of Eden, Satan deceived Eve, and Adam and Eve sinned**

Genesis 3:1-6 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'" "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

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Genesis 3:14-15 <sup>14</sup> So the LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all the livestock and all the wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup> And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

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Romans 5:17 For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

### **Satan faces eternal punishment in the Lake of Burning Sulfur along with the fallen angels**

Romans 16:20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

Matthew 25:41 (Jesus is speaking) "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

Rev. 12:3-4 <sup>3</sup>Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. <sup>4</sup>His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth.

Rev. 12:7-9 <sup>7</sup>And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. <sup>8</sup>But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. <sup>9</sup>The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Rev. 20:10 <sup>10</sup>And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

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