

## Chapter – 07

## Devil

(شيطان)

In this chapter not only Devil will be talked about in detail but some discussions of Angels, Jinns and Iblis will also be taken up. Among them, the common factor is that all these creatures exist in this world but they are not visible. They are different than Human beings as man is made up of earth, whereas all these creatures are either made of light or fire. God says in Quran that:

وَإِذْ قَالَ رَبُّكَ لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ إِنِّي جَاعِلٌ فِي الْأَرْضِ خَلِيفَةً  
 قَالُوا أَتَجْعَلُ فِيهَا مَنْ يُفْسِدُ فِيهَا وَيَسْفِكُ الدِّمَاءَ وَنَحْنُ نُسَبِّحُ بِحَمْدِكَ وَنُقَدِّسُ لَكَ  
 قَالَ إِنِّي أَعْلَمُ مَا لَا تَعْلَمُونَ

{And (remember!) when your Lord said to the angles, “I am about to place My Caliph in the earth”; they said, “Will you place (as a Caliph) who will spread turmoil in it and shed blood? Whereas we glorify You with praise and proclaim Your Sanctity”; He said, “I know what you do not.” (02:30)}

This verse of Quran indicates that angels and others were present before the creation of Adam.

Angels are created through light. One kind of Angels is those who are busy in prayers all the time and their worship will continue forever. They do not have much connection with the management of this Universe. The second type of angels is those who are deputed on some special management affairs. There are four well-known angels who are engaged by the God for some special matters. Their names are Jabriel Mikael, Izrael and Israfeel (Peace be upon them). In this world different God’s glories are exhibited through these distinctive angels. For example, knowledge is transferred through Jabriel. The third kind of angels is those who are always connected with the humans. They carry out varied types of works in this world.

Jinns are the creatures who have wisdom. Hence, they understand things; they decide; and they have authority as well. They are made of fire therefore they are lighter as compared to Human beings. God says:

وَحَلَقَ الْجَانَّ مِنْ مَّارِجٍ مِنْ نَّارٍ

{And created Jinn from the flame of fire (55:15)}

Ordinary Human beings cannot see Jinns. However, if Jinns want that man should see them then they may be seen. Jinns can appear in many ways, for example, in the form of dog or snake etc. Some Jinns are those who have wings and can fly in the sky. Some Jinns are permanent residents of this earth. They often change their houses. They eat and drink as well. God has made their nature with some special qualities. For instance, they can move extraordinarily fast and can change their places quickly. As regards to the energy they are given added power. Quran says:

قَالَ عَفْرَيْتُ مِّنَ الْجِنَّ أَنَا آتِيكَ بِهِ قَبْلَ أَنْ تَقُومَ مِن مَّقَامِكَ وَإِنِّي عَلَيْهِ لَقَوِيٌّ أَمِينٌ

{Extremely evil Jinn said,

“I will bring it in your presence before you disperse the assembly;  
And I am indeed strong and trustworthy upon it.” (27:39)}

Jinn creatures may be ‘good’ and may be ‘bad’ as well. Even, some good natured jinn have faith on Islam and they are Muslims. They are considered as well-cultured. Quran says about such good Jinns that:

قُلْ أُوحِيَ إِلَيَّ أَنَّهُ اسْتَمَعَ نَفَرٌ مِّنَ الْجِنَّ فَقَالُوا إِنَّا سَمِعْنَا قُرْآنًا عَجَبًا

{Proclaim (O Prophet), “I have received the divine revelation that some Jinns attentively listened to my recitation, so they said, “We have heard a unique Quran.” (72:01)}

Bad natured Jinns are disbelievers and simultaneously malicious too. Shaytans are the malicious Jinns. They mislead the Human beings. With every man a Shaytan is attached. The leader of these Shaytans is Iblis. Iblis was born before the creation of Adam and will remain alive till the last day of this world. As regards to the nature of Iblis, Quran says:

وَإِذْ قُلْنَا لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ اسْجُدُوا لِآدَمَ فَسَجَدُوا إِلَّا إِبْلِيسَ كَانَ مِنَ الْجِنَّ فَفَسَقَ عَنْ أَمْرِ رَبِّهِ

{And recall when We commanded the angles, “Prostrate before Adam”, so they all prostrated, except Iblis; he was of the Jinn, he therefore rebelled against his Lord’s command; (18:50)}

For Shaytan it is said in Quran at two places that:

الشَّيْطَانُ يَعِدُكُمُ الْفَقْرَ وَيَأْمُرُكُم بِالْفَحْشَاءِ

{The devil scares you of poverty and bids you to the shameful; (02:268)}

وَيُرِيدُ الشَّيْطَانُ أَنْ يُضِلَّهُمْ ضَلَالًا بَعِيدًا

{And the devil wishes to mislead them far astray. (04:60)}

Therefore, Shaytan is that individual from which there is always a trial and test for the Human being. So God says:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ كُلُوا مِمَّا فِي الْأَرْضِ حَلَالًا طَيِّبًا وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ

إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُبِينٌ

{O mankind! Eat from what is lawful and clean in the earth; and do not follow the footsteps of the devil; undoubtedly he is your open enemy.

(02:168)}

Shaytan, who belongs to a Jinn community, and those Human beings who follow the footsteps of the devil, Allah (SWT) says for them:

وَلَقَدْ ذَرَأْنَا لِجَهَنَّمَ كَثِيرًا مِّنَ الْجِنِّ وَالْإِنسِ

{And indeed We have created many jinn and men for hell (07:179)}

In connection with Shaytan, in Christianity, the Bible describes as follows:

- Shaytan was created as a holy angle. {Joshua (يشوع) 12:14}
- Shaytan was considered as an angle, very closed to God. But he became proud for his desirability and status, and decided to sit on a high throne. {Joshua (يشوع) 13:14} and {Samuel (سموئيل) 15:28}
- Proudness of Shaytan was the main cause of his drop away. {Joshua (يشوع) 12:14}
- On account of the offence of Shaytan, God has pulled him out from the Heaven. {Joshua (يشوع) 12:15}
- Before falling down of Shaytan his name was Lucifer. {Samuel (سموئيل) 12:28}
- Shaytan made himself as king of the world and prince of the wind. {John (يوحنا) 02.31:12} {Corinthians (كرنتهيون) 04:04} {Ephesians (افسيون) 02:02}
- He who is the blame gamer. {Bible in Urdu (مكاشفه) 10:12}
- He is an inflaming tool. {Thessalonians (تهسليونيون)}
- He is a deception. {Corinthians (كرنتهيون) 04:04} {(مكاشفه) 03:20}

- In God's revelations it is shown to us that Shaytan is a spiritual individual. As we cannot see to God, we are also unable to see Shaytan. God says in His revelations that, "God is a Soul". God has created all the things but He is not created by anyone. He is eternal and He will remain forever. {John (يوحنا) 24:04}

Hence, after going through the Christian's mythology and Bible, the image of Shaytan appears as an angle who has been spelled out from Heaven on account of his misdeeds. And at present he is showing his aggression against God with his full energy. His name itself gives the meanings of "Hostile or "Compete against".

According to the Christian faith, although Shaytan has been spelled out from the Heaven but still he shows his intensions to go above the God's sovereignty. He tries to imitate the workings of God. He hopes that this world will worship him. He supports all the acts that are against the authority of God. Shaytan is against those who are religious and he is behind those who are on the wrong doings.

Christians ask this question that when God created the angels they were totally free of all evils, then how come this Shaytan existed? The literatures in which God's verses have been written, these depict Shaytan as "hostile" and Iblis as an individual who puts "allegations" or who spreads "false statements". ---- When a good man indulges himself in thefts he is called "Thief". Similarly, when an angel of God started doing on his wrong desires, then this angel became 'Shaytan' and 'Iblis'. ---- Hence, Christians give the name of 'Lucifer' to that angel who has been spelled out of the Heaven. Bible writes the name of 'Satan' to such characters, whereas the name of 'Devil' is given to that discrete who is a 'symbol of evil'.

In the holy book of 'Tanakh' or 'Hebrew Bible' of Jews, the description of Satan is given. In this, the word Satan has been depicted as "Rival", "Hurdle" and "Stone on the Way". However, they do not agree to it that Satan is an angle. Jews say that Satan is hurdle or a stone on the way is virtually a blessing to the mankind, because hurdles make the man to be careful and alert.

In Hindu religion, a race of Brahma is known as "Rakshas". In this generation some souls are sinful, and those souls are called as "Shaytan". According to a few other Hindus when their 'god' becomes angry then he is himself said to be as "Shaytan". A Hindu Pundit, Guru Jay Sri Ram says:

***“In fact, Hinduism denies the very idea of evil. Evil, according to the Hindu scriptures, is non-existent. There are three modes of nature - Sattvic, Rajas and Tamas. The demons and other cruel people are said to be possessed of Tamas, but even they can overcome this darkness by purifying their mind through association with Sattvic matter/personalities. Thus, the very foundation of a Satan finds no place in Hinduism”.***

In this way, the Hindu religion and Jewish mythology do not present that concept of Shaytan as Islam or Christianity present. According to Hindus and Jewish religions, angles are not created as ‘Evils’ by nature. Therefore, they cannot oppose to God or they do not have any potential to be converted as ‘Shaytan’. However, for these mythologies, they may be considered as ‘Individual’s Philosophies’ or ‘Personal View’. It is, therefore, not necessary to take them as factual.



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