



Daily Verse and Comment

Isaiah 14:12-15

(12) How you have fallen from heaven,
O morning star, son of the dawn!
You have been cast down to the earth,
you who once laid low the nations! (13) You said in your heart,
"I will ascend to heaven;
I will raise my throne
above the stars of God;
I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly,
on the utmost heights of the sacred mountain. (14) I will ascend above
the tops of the clouds;
I will make myself like the Most High." (15) But you are brought down
to the grave,
to the depths of the pit.

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Probably all of us have thought that we know better than those in charge. Watch out! Thinking like this is not wrong in itself, but it is something that lodged itself in the mind of [Helel](#) (the name of the "covering cherub" before he became [Satan](#)): "I know better than the one in charge," and in this case, it was [God](#).

We can begin to see how his pride was beginning to exalt itself against God. It was moving to break the relationship between them. It was coming between Helel and God so that their relationship could not continue. Helel could not continue to serve God.

Most have felt that we have been overlooked, neglected, or abused. Most of us have felt rejected a time or two. Of and by themselves, these feelings are not wrong. But, again, we must beware, because these feelings can begin to generate pride. Such a thing fed Helel's feelings about himself. They

simmered in him and made him angry, and he desired to assert his will to control the governance of all that was happening. "I will ascend to heaven," he said, and he tried to. We see the pattern here; we can see the process involved from beginning to end.

It ends in warfare against God, which is why a person of pride cannot have a good relationship with Him. A proud person cannot have [faith](#) in God, at least not very much. A small amount of faith can be there, but pride will definitely be a hindrance. This is why the Parable of the Pharisee and the Publican in [Luke 18:9-14](#) follows immediately after of the Parable of the Importunate Widow ([Luke 18:1-8](#)), which [Jesus](#) ends with, "When the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on earth?"—because humility is essential to faith.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[Faith \(Part Six\)](#)



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