

Thorns

2 Thessalonians 2:3–4 (NKJV)

³ Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, ⁴ who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

Isaiah 14:12–15 (NKJV)

The Fall of Lucifer

¹² “How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!
How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations!

¹³ For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven,
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation
On the farthest sides of the north;

¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’

¹⁵ Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.

2 Corinthians 12:7–10 (NKJV)

The Thorn in the Flesh

⁷ And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. ⁸ Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. ⁹ And He said to me, “**My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.**” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Job 2:6–7 (NKJV)

⁶ And the LORD said to Satan, “Behold, he *is* in your hand, but spare his life.”

⁷ So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head.

Matthew 23:12 (NKJV)

¹² **And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.**

1 Peter 5:6 (NKJV)

⁶ Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

2 Corinthians 12:6 (NKJV)

⁶ For though I might desire to boast, I will not be a fool; for I will speak the truth. But I refrain, lest anyone should think of me above what he sees me *to be* or hears from me.

Matthew 10:32–33 (NKJV)

³² **“Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.**

³³ **But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.**