Sabbath Afternoon, April 26

Memory Text:

"Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth. KJV. — Psalm 46:10

"Lucifer's disposition to serve himself instead of his Creator aroused a feeling of apprehension when observed by those who considered the glory of God should be supreme. It hovered like a cloud of darkness over the angelic host. Lucifer's ambitious desires, his envy, his jealousies, and the goodness of the Creator, and the sanred, unchanging nature of his law, God Himself had established the order of heaven, and in departing from it, Lucifer would dishonor his Maker and bring ruin upon himself. But the warning, given in infinite love and mercy, only aroused a spirit of resistance. Lucifer allowed his jealousy of Christ to prevail, and became the more determined." Patriarchs and Prophets, page 35, paragraph 3.

"Like the angels, the dwellers in Eden had been placed upon probation; their happy estate could be retained only on condition of fidelity to the Creator's law. They could obey and live, or disobey and perish. God had made them the recipients of rich blessings; but should they disregard His law, the just penalty of sin would be inflicted. Adam and Eve were surrounded by many things which might delight and bless them; yet they were not happy. Patriarchs and Prophets, page 53, paragraph 1.

"The angels warned them to be on their guard against the devices of Satan, for his efforts to ensnare them would be unwearied. While they were obedient to God the evil one could not harm them, for God and His holy angels were their protection. Satan could not tempt them to transgress the first commandment, they would be as secure as the heavenly messengers. But should they once yield to temptation, their nature would become so depraved that in themselves they would have no power and no disposition to resist Satan." Patriarchs and Prophets, page 53, paragraph 2.

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Sunday, April 27

The Very First Commandment

Read Genesis 2:9-17. What was the first command, a prohibition, that God gave to humanity, and why was it so important?

Satan, we are told, was not the only sinner in Heaven, for with him were cast out "Heaven a third of the angels host. Revelation 12:4. These were cast out of Heaven because they gave heed to the words of Lucifer, in a man in Heaven, rather than being joined to the word of God. This was the angelic character, that God had where to appeared to Eve.

These two sins – trust in man, and desire to exalt self – are still the leading sin elements now here on earth, and they are the sins that will bring the world to ruin. The angelic character, which God had given to Eve, was that of faith. The angelic character, which Satan presented, was that of self-exaltation. The angelic character, which Satan presented, was that of self-exaltation. The angelic character, which Satan presented, was that of self-exaltation