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Sermon Notes

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Satan's Past, Present and Future Defeat

Isaiah 14:12-15

In December of 1923, one of the most dedicated Satanists and occultists in Germany lay dying. His name was Dietrich Eckhardt. He was the head of the secret Thule Society, known to inner circle members as the Satanic Brotherhood of Death Society. Eckhardt had studied Black Magic and eastern mystic techniques, and he felt it was his calling from Satan to prepare an Anti-Christ who would rule the world.

As he lay dying he revealed plainly to those standing around him that his 34-year old apprentice, Adolph Hitler, was that man. Eckhardt said:

"Follow Hitler! He will dance, but it is I who have called the tune! I have initiated him into the 'Secret Doctrine', opened his centers of vision and given him the means to communicate with the Powers. Do not mourn for me: for I shall have influenced history more than any other German."

Hitler had been preparing himself for years for this moment... actually, I believe Satanic forces were preparing him. Back when he was a mere youth of 15 years old, he was with a friend, August Kubizek, when suddenly, he grabbed Kubizek's hands and held them extremely tight. His eyes turned feverish and he began to speak in a voice that was loud, hoarse, and raucous. Kubizek felt that some strange being had seized control of Adolf, and was inhabiting his body. Hitler began to speak eloquently about a Mandate to rule Germany, leading her back to her rightful glory.

From that point until Eckhardt's pronouncement, Hitler immersed himself in the occult and in all kinds of Black Magic practices. The political party he took over, the National Socialists, or Nazi party, was to be more than just a political party... it was to become a religion.

The Greek word "anti-Christ" doesn't literally mean "against Christ" but rather "in the place of Christ"... Hitler would offer himself as a Messiah to the German nation... and his soaring oratory, his frenzied speech-making, was the key to his demonic power. It would seize him and drive him to volcanic surges of power while he was speaking. The whole nation was sucked under his spiritual spell.

Hitler said privately to his closest followers, "I am going to become a religious figure. Soon I'll be the great chief of the Tartars. Already Arabs and Moroccans are mingling

my name with their prayers.” [Lutzer, *Hitler’s Cross*, p. 63; quoting Robert G. Waite, *Adolph Hitler: The Psychopathic God*, p. 29.]

Erwin Lutzer writes, “Hitler did become a god for millions.... At one of the Nuremburg rallies, a giant photo of Hitler was captioned with the words, ‘In the beginning was the word.’”

One of his followers, Alfred Rosenberg said, “Let it happen as it will and must, but I believe in Adolph Hitler; above him there hovers a star.”

Hitler’s hold over people and over the German nation was supernatural and demonic... the evidence is overwhelming if you know what to look for.

William L. Shirer, covering the Nazi Rally in Nuremburg in September of 1934, was astonished by the rabid fanaticism of the German people toward Hitler. This is what he wrote that night:

ABOUT TEN O’CLOCK TONIGHT I GOT CAUGHT IN A MOB OF TEN THOUSAND HYSTERIC WHO JAMMED THE MOAT IN FRONT OF HITLER’S HOTEL, SHOUTING: “WE WANT OUR FUHRER.” I WAS A LITTLE SHOCKED AT THE FACES, ESPECIALLY THOSE OF THE WOMEN, WHEN HITLER FINALLY APPEARED ON THE BALCONY FOR A MOMENT. THEY REMINDED ME OF THE CRAZED EXPRESSIONS I SAW ONCE IN THE BACK COUNTRY OF LOUISIANA ON THE FACES OF SOME HOLY ROLLERS WHO WERE ABOUT TO HIT THE TRAIL. THEY LOOKED UP AT HIM AS IF HE WERE A MESSIAH, THEIR FACES TRANSFORMED INTO SOMETHING POSITIVELY INHUMAN. IF HE HAD REMAINED IN SIGHT FOR MORE THAN A FEW MOMENTS, I THINK MANY OF THE WOMEN WOULD HAVE SWOONED FROM EXCITEMENT.

Historian George Bruce concluded that Hitler had mediumistic powers that linked him with Satanic forces which spoke through him and gave him specialized information

However great was the influence of this one demon-possessed ruler, it was a mere dress rehearsal for the future Antichrist who will come at the end of the world.

It will be the culmination of every tyrannical throne there has ever been... the final form of Babylon the Great that has ruled the world in various forms and in every era for thousands of years. And behind each of those tyrannical thrones has been the power of Satan himself... but above both the human tyrant Kings of Babylon and the Satan power behind those thrones is the power ABOVE every evil throne... the power of God Himself

This is the theme of Isaiah 14:12-15... the past, present, and future defeat of the “King of Babylon”... of Satan himself, the ruler of the kingdom of the air

Two weeks ago, we looked at Isaiah 13, the Fall of Babylon... we saw that it referred not just to the destruction of the city of Babylon by the Medes, but also to the wicked human empires that rise up from the earth, one after another in defiance of God

Last week, we looked at this same passage, Isaiah 14:1-23, and took it simply as the “King of Babylon”, the human tyrant who uses his influence to destroy the nations of the earth; we saw that it referred not just to one man but to any and every wicked tyrant who uses his power to oppose the Kingdom of God

This week, however, we are going to look at the spiritual force of evil in the heavenly realms, the spirit at work in those who are disobedient... we will look specifically at verses 12-15 and speak of the fall of Satan, the true “king of Babylon”

The key verse is verse 12:

Isaiah 14:12 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!

The KJV famously translates it this way:

Isaiah 14:12 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!

Because the language of these verses seems excessive to refer merely to the ambitions of a human king, I take a double meaning here... Isaiah 14 speaks of the human king of Babylon and the invisible spiritual power behind his throne... Satan himself, who rules the world by ruling the rulers of the world

Satan is the original rebel, whose pride and ambition introduced evil into a pristine universe

He sought to better his standing in heaven and raise his throne above that of all the others... even to the point of being worshiped as God himself

He was cast down to the earth, and decided to try to subvert God’s plan for the earth by recruiting man—the king of the earth—to join him in his rebellion

He was successful, and has been ruling the earth through sinful, ambitious human rulers ever since

I believe it is no coincidence that the two most powerful passages on the fall of Satan in the Old Testament are both in poetical passages written about human kings...

Here, Isaiah 14: “the King of Babylon”

Ezekiel 28: “the King of Tyre”

Tyre was an influential trading city in northern Palestine, which used its widespread influence as a port city and center of commerce to spread corruption through the world

Babylon the center of military and political power

These two things together make up the WORLD... lust for power and for pleasure, for conquest and for trade, for domination and for luxury... this is the world system

The “king of Babylon” rules the nations militarily... the “King of Tyre” rules the nation through commerce and trade

Satan, if he wants to rule the world must do it through them... and he does

This is the story of the world... the story of Satan and of his many falls

This morning we will look at Satan’s fall: past, present, and future

I. Satan’s Past Defeat

A. Satan’s Original Creation: Prefect in Beauty and Holiness

1. Isaiah 14 speaks of a fall from heaven

Isaiah 14:12 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!

2. it speaks of glory and beauty... like that of a morning star

- a. the Hebrew here is *heylal, ben shachar*... literally “shining one, son of the dawn”
- b. indications show that it refers to Venus, seen to be the morning star... it never reaches its zenith before the sun rises and apparently extinguishes it
- c. thus it is the brightest of all the stars, but nothing compared with the glory of the sun
- d. the Greek translation of this Hebrew expression was "heosphoros" which also means Venus as a morning star.
- e. When Jerome translated this into Latin for the Western church, he chose the Latin name for Venus, *Lucifer* or “light-bearer”
- f. Thus Isaiah 14 speaks of a glorious, beautiful being, like a star

The angels were created before the world began, and they watched God create the earth... they celebrated everything God did

The “morning star” of Isaiah 14 seems to have been the most glorious and beautiful of them all

Job 38:4-7 "Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. ⁵ Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? ⁶ On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone-- ⁷ while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?"

3. Isaiah 14 also speaks of power and influence... a throne

Isaiah 14:13 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.

4. no more details are given in Isaiah

5. other passages give us more information... especially Ezekiel's “King of Tyre” passage

Ezekiel 28:12-15 "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

a. “model of perfection” = lit. sealed in perfect proportions

b. “full of wisdom” = intellectual, mental ability and moral judgment

c. “perfect in beauty”... and there follows a listing of magnificent precious gemstones to describe the beauty of this cherub (vs. 14)

d. A created being... “on the day you were created” (vs. 13); “so I ordained you” (vs. 14); “from the day you were created” (vs. 15)

Notice: Satan was a created being, as such he was created by God, and God is infinitely more powerful than he is

We do not believe in a dualistic universe... God vs. Satan, light vs. darkness, good vs. evil, yin vs. yang battling it out on equal footing, equal terms

The very fact that God created Satan shows how much higher God is than Satan

- e. Location: in Eden, the Garden of God... places him there at the creation, when God was making a perfect place for man to live, and the angels were watching God make it, and celebrating its creation; also in the **holy mount of God**, walking among the fiery stones (vs. 14)... access to God Himself, walking amongst other glorious beings
 - f. Position: anointed as a guardian cherub... standing watch to protect it
 - g. Purity: blameless in your ways from the day you were created
6. summary
- a. Satan a created being...
 - b. Gloriously beautiful
 - c. Powerful, established in a position of great authority
 - d. Access to God Himself on the holy mountain
 - e. Blameless in holiness

B. Satan's Unsolvably Mystery: "Wickedness was found in you"

1. the most unanswerable question in theology... no one knows the answer to this one: WHAT IS THE ORIGIN OF EVIL??
2. God created a pure and holy universe, no evil in it, everything good... where then did the evil that covers this universe like the pox of a plague come from?
3. Ezekiel puts it down to this one moment:

Ezekiel 28:15 You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you.

- a. Ezekiel goes on to describe more of Satan's early thoughts

Ezekiel 28:17 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.

- b. He was apparently corrupted by pride... impressed by his own beauty, he corrupted his wisdom
4. Isaiah takes up the account from there

C. Satan's Pride and Ambition: Five "I will"s

Isaiah 14:13-14 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."*

1. "I will ascend to heaven...": an upward mobility stemming from pride
 - a. Satan had been set perfectly where God wanted him
 - b. But it wasn't enough for Satan... he wanted more
 - c. He wanted to be higher than all the other angels... to rule over them
 - d. He wanted to sit enthroned on the mount of assembly... basically
 - e. He wanted to take God's place and rule the universe and be worshiped as God
2. He wanted to BE GOD

D. Satan's Defeat: Thrown Down from Heaven

1. Revelation 12 speaks of the attempt to conquer heaven... and how Satan lost

Revelation 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. ⁸ But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. ⁹ 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.

2. Satan recruited a third of the angels to join him in rebellion... but the archangel Michael fought him and won
3. Satan lost his place in heaven, just as Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28 said:

Isaiah 14:15 But you are brought down to the grave, to the depths of the pit.

Ezekiel 28:16-17 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.

Jesus said: Luke 10:18 *"I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.*

E. The Warning to the Earth

Revelation 12:12 *Therefore rejoice, you heavens and you who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, because the devil has gone down to you! He is filled with fury, because he knows that his time is short."*

God clearly ordained that Satan's upward mobility, his pride, self-love, self-worship and his soaring ambition would be judged... Satan was cast down from his heavenly position... but God has ordained not just one fall for Satan; but that Satan would keep falling and falling and falling forever

So when Satan was cast down to the earth, he began the present phase of his fall... by recruiting the king and queen of the earth to join him in his failed rebellion

II. Satan's Present Defeat

A. Recruiting Man to Rebellion

Genesis 3:1-5 *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'?" ² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, ³ 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.'" ⁴ "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."*

1. interesting... just like the "King of Babylon" passage and the "King of Tyre" passage, Satan isn't mentioned here at all!! He's hiding behind a snake, making it talk
2. so he does with the human race
3. he approaches Adam through Eve and tempts them with the same thought that dragged him down

"You will be like God"

4. remember the five I wills

- ***"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."*

a. He wanted to BE GOD

5. this is the same ambition he sold to Adam and Eve

6. this corrupting influence has ruled in the hearts of all men since then, but especially in the hearts of the empire builders, the Kings of Babylon, who yearn to set their thrones on the utmost heights and be worshiped as gods

7. God defeats Satan by separating the alliance between the serpent and the woman and his seed and her seed

Genesis 3:15 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."

8. God predicts the coming dragon-slayer... Christ

B. The Power Behind Every Evil Throne

1. from that moment forward, Satan has sought to dominate this planet through human rulers

2. look what is said about him in the New Testament

a. he offers Jesus all the kingdoms of the world if He will consummate Satan's desire to be worshiped as God

Luke 4:5-7 The devil led him up to a high place and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And he said to him, "I will give you all their authority and splendor, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷ So if you worship me, it will all be yours."

b. Notice that he says the kingdoms of the world are his and he can give them to anyone he wants

c. How then does he rule? Quietly, behind the scenes, with his evil, organized kingdom

Ephesians 2:1-3 As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the

kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.
³ *All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.*

3. That includes the kingdoms of this world and their rulers
 - a. Bottom line... a political leader in this world is either indwelt by the Holy Spirit, or dominated by Satan
 - b. An unsaved President, King, Emperor, Dictator, Premier, Prime Minister, Prince, Chieftain, etc. is following the ruler of the kingdom of the air
4. He is the wicked “king of kings”
 - a. This includes whatever is the most powerful nation on earth at that time
 - b. The “King of Babylon” was an actual man at one point, Nebuchadnezzar, Evil-Merodach, Belshazzar... or perhaps he was the ruler of whatever nation conquered Babylon... like Cyrus the Great of Persia or Alexander the Great of Macedonia
 - c. But in Revelation 18, it seems that Babylon represents the evil human kingdoms of this world that stand in opposition to God
 - d. The true “king of Babylon” then must be not only a man but the Satanic force behind him
5. Prince of Persia in Daniel
 - a. Daniel, Prime Minister in the Persian kingdom... the most powerful nation on earth at that time
 - b. Seeking God daily for the future of his own people, the Jews... praying three times a day that God would restore the Jews to the Promised Land and rebuilt its desolate temple
 - c. God dispatches a mighty and holy angel who’s presence sends Daniel and the men with him into sheer terror
 - d. But this mighty angel took twenty-one days to get past the “Prince of Persia”... he needed help from the archangel Michael just to get the message to Daniel

Daniel 10:13 But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia.

- e. Hinting at the Satanic influence in the rise and fall of the world, he speaks of the next major world empire, the Greeks under Alexander the Great

Daniel 10:20 Soon I will return to fight against the prince of Persia, and when I go, the prince of Greece will come

- f. The “Prince of Persia” and the “Prince of Greece” seem to refer to demonic powers, principalities who rule under Satan’s overall plan for world domination
- g. So Paul uses governmental language to refer to Satan’s organized kingdom

Ephesians 6:12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

C. The Destruction of the Earth: Laying Low the Nations

Isaiah 14:12 You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations!

1. one leader after another influenced by demonic power... whether they recognize it or not
2. some of them are very clearly dominated by Satan
3. perhaps the clearest example in history is Adolph Hitler, as we’ve mentioned at the beginning of the message
4. however, the actual influence of Satan over human tyrants cannot be accurately traced out until we are in heaven and have the sovereign Lord teach us true history
5. by his influence over tyrants, one after another, Satan has laid low the nations
6. he is a liar and a murderer... and that is the central work of all the Kings of Babylon

John 8:44 You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

D. Christ Destroys Satan by Humbly Dying

1. Satan fell by upward ambition... wanting to go up, up, up
2. he built a kingdom of demons who wanted to join him in his soaring ambition, going up, up, up

3. he recruited the human race through Adam, promising that he could be like God and we could ascend, always up, up, up
4. but Christ came into the world to destroy the devil and the works of the devil

1 John 3:8 The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work.

5. he did this by going down, down, down... by humbling himself

Philippians 2:6-8 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, ⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

This is the exact opposite of Satan... who sought to elevate himself and to be honored and worshiped

Christ in dying on the cross destroyed Satan... cast him down forever

Hebrews 2:14-15 by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death-- that is, the devil-- ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.

E. Christ Plunders His Kingdom... for Two Thousand Years

1. the advance of the gospel is a Satanic defeat day after day
2. there's nothing Satan can do to stop it!!

Luke 11:21-22 When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. ²² But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armor in which the man trusted and divides up the spoils.

Luke 10:17-18 The seventy-two returned with joy and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." ¹⁸ He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven.

III. Satan's Future Defeat

A. One Final "King of Babylon": The Antichrist

1. the final form of human tyranny will be the closest collaboration between Satan and a human ruler ever... the "Beast" of Revelation 13... the antichrist
2. the link between them couldn't be stronger

3. Revelation 13 begins with the dragon—Satan—standing by the sea as if summoning the beast, who is the antichrist

Revelation 13:1 And the dragon stood on the shore of the sea. And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. He had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on his horns, and on each head a blasphemous name.

4. the ultimate end of them both is worship... being like God

B. Satan Finally Gets Worshiped by the World

Revelation 13:4 Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, "Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?"

1. the tyranny is extreme... if anyone will not worship the beast, he will be executed

Revelation 13:15 all who refused to worship the image [would be] killed.

The ultimate blasphemy of the beast... the final King of Babylon... and of Satan, the power behind the throne is the open worship of the antichrist in the temple:

2 Thessalonians 2:4 he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God.

C. Christ Returns and Destroys them Both

2 Thessalonians 2:8 the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming.

Revelation 19:11-16 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Revelation 19:20 the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.

D. Isaiah 14 Consummated in the Lake of Fire

1. the final King of Babylon—the antichrist—is thrown into the Lake of Fire
2. after a thousand years, Satan is also thrown into the Lake of Fire
3. and then at last, the celebration comes

E. Final Celebration: Liberty forever for God’s People!!

1. never again will we feel the influence of Satan’s wicked reign
2. never again will we be pulled away from Christ by his temptations
3. never again will we have to suffer under the lash of his henchmen, the tyrants who ruled in his name as the “King of Babylon” or the “King of Tyre”
4. then at last will we bow down in worship to the true King of kings, Jesus Christ, and enjoy peace forever
5. this will be the consummation of the taunt song of Isaiah 14

IV. Application

A. Come to Christ

B. Understand the Satanic Influence over the Politics of this world and do not trust too much in human leaders or fear them too much either

Driving to church this week, saw a decal on someone’s rear windshield... it had an artistic rendition of a candidate for president with the word “Hope” under it

Do not trust in human kings, princes, politicians...

I do not here assert that every politician is an instrument of Satan... not at all; some godly men are truly our servants in the Romans 13 sense

But do not put the word HOPE under any human leader

C. Hate Pride and Humble Yourself

D. Seek Godly Ambitions... not Satanic Ones

Matthew 5:6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Romans 15:20 It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation.

2 Corinthians 5:9 Therefore we also have as our ambition, whether at home or absent, to be pleasing to Him.

E. Worship God for His Power Over Satan and Human Tyrants

F. Anticipate Shouting for Joy when Satan is Thrown Down Forever