

***VITA ADAE ET EUAE 12-17 (adapted from Charles, APOT)***

12. (1) And with a heavy sigh, the devil said: ‘O Adam! All my hostility, envy, and sorrow is for you, since it is because of you that I have been expelled and separated from my glory which I possessed in the heavens among the angels, and because of you I was thrown onto the earth.’ (2) Adam answered, ‘What do you tell me? (3) What have I done to you or what is my fault against you? Seeing that you have received no harm or injury from us, why do you persecute us?’

13. (1) The devil replied: ‘Adam, what do you tell me? It is on account of you that I have been hurled from that place. (2) When you were formed, I was hurled out of the presence of God and banished from the company of the angels. When God blew into you the breath of life and your face and likeness were made in the image of God, Michael brought you and made (us) worship you in the sight of God; and the Lord God said: “Here is Adam. I have made you in our image and likeness.”

14. (1) And Michael went out and called all the angels saying: “Worship the image of the Lord God as the Lord God has commanded.” (2) And Michael himself worshiped first; then he called me and said: “Worship the image of the LORD God.” (3) And I answered, “I have no (need) to worship Adam.” And since Michael kept urging me to worship, I said to him: “Why do you press me? I will not worship an inferior and younger being (than I). I am his senior in the creation, before he was made I was already made. It is his obligation to worship me.”

15. (1) When other angels who were under me heard this, they refused to worship him. (2) And Michael said: “Worship the image of God, but if you will not worship him, the Lord God will be angry with you.” (3) And I said: “If He gets angry with me, I will set my seat above the stars of heaven and will become like the Most High.”

16. (1) And the Lord God became angry with me and banished me and my angels from our glory; and on your account we were expelled from our abodes into this world and hurled onto the earth. (2) And immediately we were overcome with grief, since we had been despoiled of so great a glory. (3) And we were grieved when we saw you in such joy and luxury. (4) And with guile I deceived your wife and caused you to be expelled through her (doing) from your joy and luxury, just as I have been driven out of my glory.’

17. (1) When Adam heard the devil say this, he cried out and wept and said: ‘O Lord my God, my life is in Your hands. Banish this Adversary far from me, who seeks to destroy my soul, and give me his glory which he himself has lost.’ (2) And at that moment, the devil vanished before him. (3) But Adam persevered in his penance, standing for forty days in the water of Jordan.