



Bible Student's Notebook™

The Herald of His Grace

Presenting every man perfect in Christ Jesus. Colossians 1:28

Volume 41
Issue 1016

Disruption Between the First and Second Eons

by — Danny Russino

In a beginning created by God were the Heavens and the Earth (Genesis 1:1, CV).

Key Points:

The Earth was created perfect by God, but a subsequent disruption led to its chaotic state.8547

The disruption is depicted as a cataclysmic event that fundamentally altered Earth's geological state and introduced evil, surpassing natural phenomena in its impact.....8549

The disruption, a significant cataclysmic event, is responsible for the Earth's current geological disturbances and the introduction of evil.....8550

Evil and Satan are integral to God's plan, serving to manifest His

glory and necessitate Christ's sacrifice, which was foreordained before the world's disruption.8552

The transition from the first to the second eon involves the restoration of the Earth by God, setting the stage for the cosmic battle between good and evil.....8554

Despite Satan's temporary influence over the Earth, his eventual defeat is assured within the framework of God's sovereign plan, leading to the ultimate victory of good over evil.8554

The Earth was unblemished in Genesis 1:1. God did not create it "without form and void." It was not chaotic, but was to be inhabited.

For thus says the Lord, Who created the Heavens (He is God), Who formed the Earth and made it (He established it; He did not create it a chaos, He formed it to be inhabited!) (Isaiah 45:18, RSV).



Greek word *katabolē*, which means down-casting. It is used ten times in connection with the world. The *Authorized Version (KJV)* wrongly translates it as "foundation." The RSV did not correct it. Below is a comparison between the RSV and CV of John 17:24.

*Father, I desire that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, may be with Me where I am, to behold My glory which Thou hast given Me in Thy love for Me before the **foundation** of the world (RSV).*

*Father, those whom Thou hast given Me, I will that, where I am, they also may be with Me, that they may be beholding My glory which Thou hast given Me, for Thou lovest Me before the **disruption** of the world (CV).*

(continued on page 8549)

So, what happened? Genesis 1:2 is the close of the first eon, caused by a disruption.

The Earth came to be a chaos and vacant, and darkness was over the surface of the abyssal expanse [the Earth's submerged surface].

I looked on the Earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the Heavens, and they had no light (Jeremiah 4:23, RSV).

What is disruption? The word disruption is from the

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Paul Our Guide – Christ Our Goal

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Scripture education in a weekly format!

This free electronic publication is dedicated to:

- the absolute sovereignty and deity of God (Romans 11:36);
- the proclamation of the riches of God's abundant, exceeding grace (Romans 5:20; 11:6; Ephesians 1:7);
- the affirmation that God will save all through the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (I Timothy 2:3, 4; 4:10; Titus 2:11);
- the universality of death and resurrection (I Corinthians 15:21);
- the unique gospel of Paul – which he calls “my gospel” (Romans 2:16; 16:25; II Timothy 2:8; I Corinthians 15:1-4; Acts 13-28; Acts 20:24);
- the “preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret in ages past” (Romans 16:25);
- the epistles of the present Secret Administration being Ephesians & Colossians (Ephesians 3:2, 9; Colossians 1:25);
- true freedom and liberty apart from law (Galatians 5:1);
- the organic nature of the One Body (Ephesians 4:16);
- the Secret Administration, being the operational revelation for today (Ephesians 3:9);
- the unprophesied, Celestial hope and calling of the One Body (Colossians 3:4);
- the distinct message and ministry of Paul, the apostle to the nations (Ephesians 3:1-3);
- the importance of receiving all whom Christ has received (Romans 14-15);
- the recovery of rich Biblical truth that has too long remained hidden under the veils of traditionalism, prejudice, misunderstanding and fear (Mark 7:7, 13);
- the completeness of the believer in Christ (Colossians 2:10), with:
 - total freedom from sins (Colossians 1:14);

- union in His death, burial and resurrection and ascended seated position among the celestials (Ephesians 2:6);
- adult sonship position (Ephesians 1:5).

This publication is the product of humble efforts of ordinary men intended to stimulate the earnest study of Scripture. We do not claim infallibility for the contents of this publication; thus they are not meant to imply finality on any subject discussed, or that further research would not add further light from the Word of God. God's storehouse of truth is inexhaustible, so draw on its wealth by prayerful study. Our readers are asked to be as the Bereans and search the Scriptures (Acts 17:10-11; I Thessalonians 5:21).

This publication is not connected with any “church,” “denomination,” “movement,” “organization,” “mission,” “creed,” “meeting,” “school,” “conference” or “fellowship.”

We are always open for discussion, but never for disputation. – André Sneidar

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This same word *katabolē* occurs in the following verses:

*In everything, being afflicted, but not distressed; perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but not forsaken; **cast down**, but not perishing – always carrying about in the body the deadening of Jesus (II Corinthians 4:8-10, CV).*

It is assumed that the rain, and also the earthquake which caused the subterranean waters to rush forth on the surface of the Earth in Noah's day, and earthquakes throughout history, caused the present disturbance in the Earth's layers. True, there must have been deposits of soil from the rain and some displacements from the quakes, but these hardly could have broken and shifted the layers of the entire Earth as much as they appear now. In fact, the book of Revelation states that a great earthquake will occur of such great proportions that one like it has not occurred since mankind came to be on Earth. This implies that there was an earthquake, much greater than humanity has experienced, before man was on the Earth.

And lightnings and voices and thunders occurred. And a great earthquake occurred, such as did not occur since mankind came to be on the Earth; of such proportions was the quake and so great (Revelation 16:18, CV).

No – a great cataclysmic disruption can be the only cause of the Earth's present condition.

Peter writes of this *double* deluge. The following verse

relates to the flood in Noah's day, in the ancient eon:

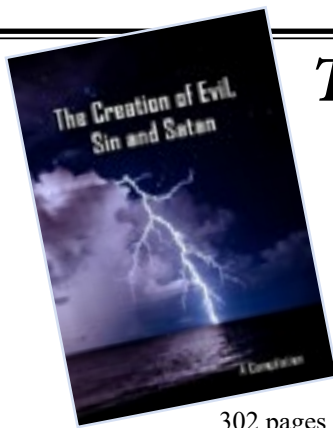
*For if God spares not sinning messengers, but thrusting them into the gloomy caverns of Tartarus, gives them up to be kept for chastening judging; and spares not the **ancient world**, but guards Noah, an eighth, a herald of righteousness, bringing a deluge on the world of the irreverent (II Peter 2:4-6, CV).*

The next verse relates to the "then world," which was also deluged by water. This world perished, but not in the same sense as it will be by fire, prior to the new creation. Peter refers to it as a "world," which means all was systematically and orderly arranged, and provision was made to support inhabitants.

We could literally and exactly say that the "world" was restored in six days, though it is quite plain even if we say it was the Earth.

*For they want to be oblivious of this, that there were Heavens of old, and an Earth cohering out of water and through water, by the Word of God; through which the **then world**, being deluged by water, perished. Yet the Heavens now, and the Earth, by the same word, are stored with fire, being kept for the day of the judging and destruction of irreverent men (II Peter 3:5-7, CV).*

Peter states that this "then world" perished. Becoming chaos and vacant conveys the same thought in different words. This is what occurred in Genesis 1:2, just one verse after the perfect creation. Below are



302 pages

See [order form](#) under "Compilations."

The Creation of Evil, Sin and Satan (A Compilation)

The truth laid forth in this work should help us greatly in our dealings with others, especially those who have failed in some way which may bring dishonor on His Name, or cannot accept His truth, or even oppose it and us, especially mature teachings such as is put forth in the pages of this book. It contains 19 authors, 49 works, spanning 150 years. Authors include: Arthur P. Adams, E.W. Bullinger, Alan Burns, Edward Clayton, John Essex, H.W. Fry, Vladimir Gelesnoff, Norman P. Grubb, Donald G. Hayter, A.E. Knoch, William Mealand, André Piet, Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., Ray Van Dyke, William H. Walker, and James Webb.

listed other verses that point to a disruption.

*I shall be opening My mouth in parables, I shall be emitting what is hid from the **disruption** (Matthew 13:35).*

*Then shall the King be declaring to those at His right, “Hither, blessed of My Father! Enjoy the allotment of the kingdom made ready for you from the **disruption** of the world” (Matthew 25:34, CV).*

*Father, those whom Thou hast given Me, I will that, where I am, they also may be with Me, that they may be beholding My glory which Thou hast given Me, for Thou lovest Me before the **disruption** of the world (John 17:24, CV).*

*Then we who believe are entering into the stopping, according as He has declared, “As I swear in My indignation, If they shall be entering into My stopping!” although the works occur from the **disruption** of the world (Hebrews 4:3, CV).*

*The wild beast which you perceived was, and is not, and is about to be ascending out of the submerged chaos, and to be going away into destruction. And marvel shall those dwelling on the Earth, whose names are not written on the scroll of life from the **disruption** of the world, when they observe the wild beast, seeing that it was, and is not, and will be present (Revelation 17:8, CV).*

WHAT CAUSED THIS DISRUPTION?

The Scriptures do not offer any full and definite account of the origin of Satan. Orthodox theology teaches that Satan was once perfect, then he rebelled and fell from Heaven. On the other hand, our Sovereign God has everything planned and in control, and He purposely created evil.¹ All is out of God. Evil was the probable cause for the disruption.

The following passages lead to false ideas of a morning star called Lucifer, a perfect creature fallen from

1. [Editor:] For more information on Evil see,
 - [The Creation of Evil, Sin and Satan: \(A Compilation\)](#); on the [order form](#) under “Compilations;”
 - [The Problem of Evil](#), A.E. Knoch. See [order form](#) under “Knoch.”

Heaven and becoming Satan.² Ezekiel 28 is used as proof that he was once perfect, but then fell.

The prince of Tyre was definitely a man. If it refers to Satan, then according to :19 he has come to an end. This is not true, for he is alive today and the god of this present wicked eon. The king of Tyre was judged in the sight of those who knew his glory.

Another popular passage to support the theory that Satan fell from a glorified place is Isaiah 14:12. Notice the RSV translation corrected “O Lucifer” to read “O Day Star.” However, this is still incorrect because in the Hebrew text, the word translated “O Lucifer” or “O Day Star” is the same word which is rendered “howl” or “wail” in Zechariah 11:2. In the same chapter of Isaiah it is found in the feminine, beginning with :31. It appears ten other times in Isaiah (13:6; 15:2-3; 16:7 twice; 23:1, 6, 14; 52:5; 65:14).

Below is the correct Concordant translation of Isaiah 14:9-17. This text does not point to Satan’s past fall, but depicts the future when the “Desolator,” the “Man of Lawlessness” who exalts himself above every deity, is brought down:

*The unseen, beneath, is disturbed for you to meet you at your coming. It rouses the Rephaim [healers] for you, all the he-goats of the Earth. It rouses all the kings of the nations to rise from their thrones, All of them respond and are saying to you: “Even you ailed as we! You are a proverb with us! Your pride is brought down to the unseen! The clamor of your zithers! Under you berths the worm, and covering you is the maggot. **How fall you from Heaven! Howl, son of the dawn!** You are hewn down to Earth, Overcomer of nations! For you say in your heart, “I will ascend to Heaven. Above the stars of deity will I exalt my throne, and I will sit in the mount of testimony in the lengths of the north. I will as-*

2. [Editor:] For more information about Satan, his creation and purpose, see:
 - Satan: A Brief Look at His Origin and Destiny, Clyde L. Pilkington, Jr., [Bible Student’s Notebook 750](#);
 - The “Fall” of Satan, A.E. Knoch, [Bible Student’s Notebook 547](#);
 - The Future of Satan, André Piet, [Bible Student’s Notebook 352](#);
 - The Role of the Adversary in God’s Purpose, James A. Webb, [Bible Student’s Notebook 280](#);
 - God and Satan, John H. Essex, [Bible Student’s Notebook 350](#).

ascend on the fane³ heights of a thick cloud; I will be like the Supreme. Surely you shall descend to the unseen, to the lengths of the cistern. Those who see you shall peer at you and understand you. Is this the **man** who disturbed the Earth, quaking kingdoms? Who placed the inhabited Earth as a wilderness, and doomed its cities? He opened not the house of his bound ones (CV).

Contemplating this text exposes how ineffectual the attempts are to uncover evidence for the “fall” of Satan. Also, the word “*Lucifer*” is a misnomer by human fabrication and is not found in the original.

Still another passage which tries to support the fall of Satan in the past is found in Luke.

Now the seventy-two return with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Thy name!” Yet He said to them, “I beheld Satan, as lightning, falling⁴ out of Heaven. Lo! I have given you authority to be treading upon serpents and scorpions and over the entire power of the enemy, and nothing shall be injuring you under any circumstances (Luke 10:17-19, CV).

This passage deals with the ministry of the seventy-two whom Jesus sent forth prior to entering a certain place. Satan’s lightning descent from Heaven refers to his swiftness in response to the ejected demons in Christ’s name. This is not in reference to his casting out.

It takes celestial beings a very short time to travel from Heaven to Earth. The messenger Gabriel, who stands before God (Luke 1:19), visited Daniel with a message while Daniel was still speaking his brief prayer.

And as I am still praying and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and causing my supplication to fall before Jehovah, my God, on the holy mountain of my God, and as I am still

3. [Editor:] “a temple; a place consecrated to religion; a church; used in poetry.” – Webster, *American Dictionary of the English Language* (1828)

4. [Editor:] The Greek word for “fall” is defined, in part, as “to descend from a higher place to a lower” (TGL), or “alighting” (G4098, SEC), and is thus translated as “light” in this phrase “neither shall the sun **light** on them” in the KJV rendering of Revelation 7:16.

speaking in prayer, Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the start, faint with flight, touches me at the time of the evening present. And he is causing me to understand and is speaking with me, And he said, “Daniel, I come forth now to cause you to be intelligent on understanding. At the start of your supplications came forth the word, and I come to tell, for you covet these things. Now understand the word and cause the sight to be understood” (Daniel 9:20-23, RSV).

Another false misconception about the Adversary is his residence. Traditionally he is known to be in the fiery depths of so-called “hell,” but Scripture identifies him as the chief of the authority of the air.

*And you, being dead to your offenses and sins, in which once you walked, in accord with the eon of this world, in accord with **the chief of the jurisdiction of the air**, the spirit now operating in the sons of stubbornness (Ephesians 2:1-2, CV).*

*... for it is not ours to wrestle with blood and flesh, but with the sovereignties, with the authorities, with the world-mights of this darkness, with **the spiritual forces of wickedness AMONG THE CELESTIALS** (Ephesians 6:12, CV).*

In Daniel 10:13 we see the Adversary’s mighty operations through his chiefs by withstanding Gabriel for twenty-one days. He is not restricted to Heaven only, but is going “to and fro in the Earth and walking in it” (cf. Job 1:6-11).

There is a time in the future when Satan will fall from Heaven. After he and his wicked messengers are defeated in battle, they will be cast out of Heaven, down to Earth during the middle of the tribulation period.

And a battle occurred in heaven. Michael and his messengers battle with the dragon, and the dragon battles, and its messengers. And they are not strong enough for him, neither was their place still found in Heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, the ancient serpent called Adversary and Satan, who is deceiving the whole inhabited Earth. It was cast into the Earth, and its messengers were cast with it. And I hear a

loud voice in Heaven saying, "Just now came the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of His Christ, for the accuser of our brethren was cast out, who was accusing them before our God day and night. And they conquer him through the blood of the Lambkin, and through the word of their testimony, and they love not their soul, until death. Therefore, make merry, ye Heavens, and those tabernacling in them! Woe to the land and the sea, for the Adversary descended to you having great fury, being aware that brief is the season that he has" (Revelation 12:7-12, CV).

WAS SATAN PURPOSELY MADE FOR EVIL?

God is omnipotent. He brought creation into existence. Let us not rob Him of His Sovereignty and purpose by making it appear that evil somehow slipped into existence. God knew about sin and evil before the disruption of the world, for He provided Christ as a Sacrifice.

Men! Israelites! Hear these words: Jesus, the Nazarene, a Man demonstrated to be from God for you by powerful deeds and miracles and signs, which God does through Him in the midst of you, according as you yourselves are

aware: This One, given up in the specific **counsel and foreknowledge** of God, you, gibbeting by the hand of the lawless, assassinate (Acts 2:22-23, CV).

Known from the eon to the Lord is His work (Acts 15:18, CV).

... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a flawless and unspotted lamb, **foreknown**, indeed, **before the disruption of the world**, yet manifested in the last times because of you, who through Him are believing in God (I Peter 1:19-20, CV).

And all who are dwelling on the Earth will be worshipping it, everyone whose name is not written in the scroll of life of the Lambkin **slain from the disruption of the world** (Revelation 13:8, CV).

... since then He must often be suffering **from the disruption of the world**, yet now, once, at the conclusion of the eons, for the repudiation of sin through His sacrifice, is He manifest (Hebrews 9:26, CV).

God chooses whomever He wants, whenever He wants.

Now we are aware that God is working all together for the good of those who are loving God, who are called according to the purpose that, whom He foreknew, He designates beforehand, also, to be conformed to the image of His Son, for Him to be Firstborn among many brethren. Now whom He designates beforehand, these He calls also, and whom He calls, these He justifies also; now whom He justifies, these He glorifies also (Romans 8:28-30, CV).

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who blesses us with every spiritual blessing among the celestials, in Christ, according as He chooses us in Him before the disruption of the world, we to be holy and flawless in His sight, in love designating us beforehand for the place of a son for Him through Christ Jesus; in accord with the delight of His will, for the laud



The Problem of Evil and The Judgments of God

by — A.E. Knoch

346 pages (See [order form](#) under "Knoch.")

This book traces the divine function of evil from its inception to its consummation, by presenting scriptural solutions to the various long-debated questions concerning God and His sovereignty. Here is what one of our readers has written about *The Problem of Evil*:

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of the glory of His grace, which graces us in the Beloved (Ephesians 1:3-6, CV).

God even subjected creation to vanity.

For the premonition of the creation is awaiting the unveiling of the sons of God. For to vanity was the creation subjected, not voluntarily, but because of Him Who subjects it, in expectation that the creation itself, also, shall be freed from the slavery of corruption into the glorious freedom of the children of God (Romans 8:19-21, CV).

God created Satan with the power to sin from the beginning. God uses evil. If the Adversary was not a sinner from the beginning, then he must have been called by some other title if he was once righteous. Such is not revealed. The Adversary sinned from the beginning.

Yet he who is doing sin is of the Adversary, for **from the beginning is the Adversary sinning.** For this was the Son of God manifested, that He should be annulling the acts of the Adversary (I John 3:8, CV).

Former of light and Creator of darkness, Maker of good and **Creator of evil.** I, Yahweh Elohim, made all of these things” (Isaiah 45:7, CV).

Behold, I have created the smith who blows the fire of coals, and produces a weapon for its purpose.

I have also created the ravager to destroy (Isaiah 54:16, RSV).

By His spirit He hath garnished the Heavens; **His hand hath formed the crooked serpent** (Job 26:13).

Now the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and **an evil spirit from the Lord** tormented him. And Saul's servants said to him, “Behold now, **an evil spirit from God** is tormenting you” (I Samuel 16:14-15, RSV).

And on the morrow **an evil spirit from God**

rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house, while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day (I Samuel 18:10, RSV).

And Micaiah said, “Therefore hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on His throne, and all the host of Heaven standing beside Him on His right hand and on His left; and the Lord said, ‘Who will entice Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead?’ And one said one thing, and another said another. Then a spirit came forward and stood before the Lord, saying, ‘I will entice him.’ And the Lord said to him, ‘By what means?’ And he said, ‘I will go forth, and will be **a lying spirit** in the mouth of all his prophets.’ And He said, ‘You are to entice him, and you shall succeed; go forth and do so.’ Now therefore behold, **the Lord has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these your prophets; the Lord has spoken evil concerning you**” (I Kings 22:19-23, RSV).

If you believe that God created all things, then any struggling thoughts about God's purpose for Satan and the eons will begin to clarify themselves.

All came into being through it [the Word], and apart from it not even one thing came into being which has come into being (John 1:3, CV).

THE SECOND EON

Next, we come to the second eon. This eon starts with a restoration of the Heavens and Earth of old.

For they want to be oblivious of this, that there were Heavens of old, and an Earth cohering out of water and through water, by the Word of God (II Peter 3:5, CV).

We are presently living in the “second” of the Heavens and Earths.

Yet the Heavens now, and the Earth, by the same Word, are stored with fire, being kept for the day of the judging and destruction of irreverent men (II Peter 3:7, CV).

The second eon – known as the ancient eon, or as

referred to by Peter, the ancient world – begins in the latter part of Genesis 1:2. Notice how God starts the restoration process of the disrupted world: His Spirit moves over the waters. Here is further proof of a disruption and deluge *before* Noah’s day.

God is perfect. He did not make this waste and barren Earth which is submerged in water as His primal creation. No, it is the result of a cataclysm. So, what purpose does this tiny Earth have in relationship to the vast Universe? Remember, the Heavens and Celestial hosts were created before the Earth.⁵ Satan maneuvers his power over **the Earth, which was made to become the scene on which the great struggle between good and evil was to be enacted.**

Once again, the Adversary is the god of this eon.

*... in whom the **god of this eon** blinds the apprehensions of the unbelieving so that the illumination of the evangel of the glory of Christ, Who is the Image of the invisible God, does not irradiate them* (II Corinthians 4:4, CV).

We have a Sovereign God. He is Spirit, invisible to His creation. Therefore, the need for a visible Image was necessary, which is Christ. Through Him God revealed His innermost heart. Yet to accomplish this, He needed the Adversary, the opposite of good. Now God’s goal is underway. His love will eventually be recognized by the heavenly hosts and all mankind.

5. [Editor:] “Where were you when I founded the earth? ... When the stars of the morning jubilated together, and all the sons of Elohim shouted with joy? (Job 38:4-7, CV).

The scene is set. Earth is the stage. A fundamental truth found in Corinthians is that we became a theater to the world!

... for we became a theater to the world and to messengers and to men (I Corinthians 4:9, CV).

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— [God’s Truths Recovered – Beyond the Reformation](#)
Chapter 2: Eon and Eonian; The Divine Calendar

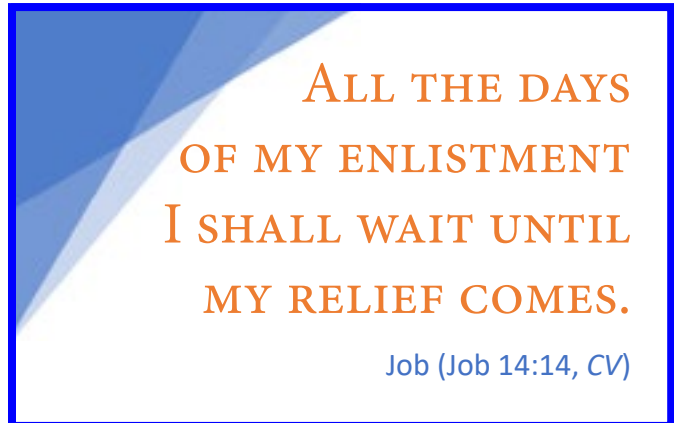
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- Love, [Bible Student’s Notebook 197](#);
- The Setting of Thessalonians (Part 1); [Bible Student’s Notebook 499](#);
- The Setting of Thessalonians (Part 2); [Bible Student’s Notebook 500](#);
- The Rapture Theory; [Bible Student’s Notebook 501](#);
- The Letters of Paul; [Bible Student’s Notebook 502](#).

TOPICS:

- Major:** Disruption; Evil; Gap; Satan ...
- Minor:** Creation; Sovereignty ...



Select Writings of Stanislas Van Mierlo (Volume 1)

Stanislas Van Mierlo (1888-1962)

Van Mierlo was born in Antwerp, Belgium. He was a student of E.W. Bullinger (1837-1913), an associate of A.E. Knoch (1874-1965) and Charles H. Welch (1880-1967), and co-editor along with G.J. Pauptit (1889-1962) of the Dutch monthly periodical *Uit de Schriften* (*Out of the Scriptures*, 1920-1960), as well the author of several books.

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