"Now The Serpent Was More Subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God Had Made. And he said unto the woman, 'Yea, hath God said, ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?' And the woman said unto the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God Hath Said, ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.' And the serpent said unto the woman, 'Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." Genesis 3:1-5 KJV

Subtle: Sly; artful; cunning; deceitful; treacherous. We think "subtle" and we think "concealed," or "barely there." Something hinted at, but not obvious. The



Bible doesn't give us any indication of "the serpent's" appearance, but we know it could speak and walk upright for God cursed it saying, "upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life." Did God create the serpent? Yes. "By Him all things consist." It was a vocal species of Creation which Satan obviously manipulated to engineer the first temptation. Satan/Lucifer is still the most "subtil" of all Creation. He manipulates men by interjecting lying whispers of doubt into their minds. Satan can't know your thoughts as God does, but he has the ability to put them into your mind. First he questioned Eve, "Hast God said?" Then he lied to her. "Thou shalt not surely die!" Scripture does not say the serpent was forbidden to eat the fruit of knowledge as man was. Where God puts a fence, do not climb over. It is always cursed on the other side! Questions introduce doubt and while it may be helpful in ferreting out Truth from men, it is nothing short of blasphemous to question God's Word! God is perfect – Men are not! Always question men's motives! Eve knew Truth, but disregarded it, because the serpent introduced doubt. God's Word tells us of Lucifer, "Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering and gold: Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and...wast upon the holy mountain of God. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. (Ez. 28:12b-15) How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! For thou hast said in thine heart, 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.' Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit." (Is. 14:12-15) Does that sound like a red-tailed horned monster to you? Me either! Satan and his angels/demons are not grotesque slavering monsters, but beautiful creatures with the destruction of men their malevolent intent! Never act on impulse; it's usually satanic! Beautiful caskets still hold dead people!

> Temptation's serpent had his way, Condemning Adam in a day, By sin all men have death to pay, But Christ was made a better Way! –CGP

The deniers of God's Word do not offer verifiable alternatives to Truth, but just question it. The burden of proof doesn't rest with the believer but the denier! If there's no God, PROVE IT! I dare you! "I know Whom I have believed!" Like blind men with an elephant, men each have an opinion but absolutely no knowledge!

"The Fear of the LORD is the beginning of Knowledge: but fools despise Wisdom and instruction. The Fear of the LORD is the beginning of Wisdom: and the Knowledge of the Holy is Understanding. Let not thine heart envy sinners: but be thou in the Fear of the LORD all the day long." Proverbs 1:7-9:10-23:17 KJV