

ANGELS

Jesus

FALLEN ANGELS and DEMONS

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Introduction

Many of us have a conceptual understanding of angels. For some of us, our understanding of angels is based upon what we have read in the Bible, books, or seen in movies. For example, if you were asked to draw a picture of an angel and describe what the angel does...what would you draw and what would you say? (Think about your answer.)

Some may draw a human-like angel with a white flowing garment and wings as they fly around or play a musical instrument (likely a harp). I must admit this describes my conceptual understanding just a short time ago.

The intent of this writing is to replace our conceptual images with definitive scripture-based information that supports a more accurate, deeper and broader understanding of angels.

God's Creation

To begin, angels are God-created beings. **“For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.” Colossians 1:16**

Since Colossians 1:16 states all things were created by God, this means God created angels and He created us. What's interesting is that there are some similarities between humans and angels.

| Attribute | Angels | Humans |
|--|--------|--------|
| Created by God (Colossians 1:16) | Yes | Yes |
| Experience Emotions (Luke 15:8-10, Isaiah 6:3; Matt 8:29) | Yes | Yes |
| Have an Intellect (Rev 22:8-9, 19:9-10; Matt 4:1-11) | Yes | Yes |
| Have a Free Will (Rev 12:7-9; Jude 1:6) | Yes | Yes |
| Desire Relationship with God or Not (Ezekiel 28:12-19; Isaiah 14:12-15) | Yes | Yes |
| Salvation (John 3:16) | No | Yes |

For example, angels experience emotions, have an intellect, and have a free will. And like humans, they can decide to engage in a relationship with God or not. However, unlike humans, there is no means of grace or salvation for angels. The consequence of angelic sin is final and eternal—which occurred when Satan's sin resulted in an angelic rebellion towards God. Satan and the angels that participated in the rebellion were overcome by Michael (a warrior archangel), were banished from Heaven, and were cast down to earth. (Revelation 12:4, 7-9) As such, it is possible to segment angels into two broad categories: holy angels and fallen angels.

Introduction to Holy Angels

Holy angels decided not to participate in Satan's attempt to overthrow God; and did not lose their heavenly relationship with their Creator. In addition, holy angels:

- Are committed selfless servants of God.
- Minister on earth to those who:
 - Will receive God's grace in Jesus Christ.
 - Have received God's grace in Jesus Christ.
- Worship in Heaven with those who have received their inheritance.
- Reflect the character of God, the behavior of Jesus Christ, and are sinless.

Scripture describes different types of holy angels (explained after the following introduction to fallen angels).

Introduction to Fallen Angels

Fallen angels participated in Satan's attempt to overthrow God. Satan and 1/3 of the angels fought against Michael and his angels. The consequence of their rebellion is they forever lost their heavenly relationship with their Creator and were cast down to earth.

"And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." Revelation 12:7-9

"And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems on his heads. His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth." Revelation 12:3-4

Today, still driven by sin—and led by Satan—fallen angels seek to darken, divide, disrupt, destroy, devastate, and cause death to anything and everything on earth—especially towards God's chosen (Jews) and those who will inherit God's presence for eternity. When you consider the chaos on earth; incomprehensible killings of innocent people, and inexplicable events across the globe...it is important to realize this is all driven within the spiritual realm...through deceived persons who are manipulated by Satan, his fallen angels and demons.

"...In which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience." Ephesians 2:2

"We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one." 1 John 5:19

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." Ephesians 6:12

Take a few moments and consider the "big picture" as you look back throughout time—with enlightened understanding of scripture. When you contemplate the rationale, justification, and motivation...the same murderous spirit that darkened and deceived the minds of those who were responsible for initiating events that caused death...is the same spirit behind today's "radicalized" religions, tyrannical dictators, and recent murderous events (ranging from bombings to mass shootings). Every murderer perceives their actions are justified because they believe in a darkened, delusional and deceptive lie...propagated by evil spiritual forces.

Holy Angels

Different Types of Holy Angels

It is possible to broadly categorize five different types of holy angels described in the Bible: (1) throne room angels, (2) the Angel of the Lord, (3) archangels (4) messenger angels, and (5) ministering angels. The following content describes each type of angel in the order listed.

Throne Room Angels

There are three different types of throne room angels described in the Bible: Cherubim, Seraphim and living creatures. While there are similarities between the three, there are also unique differences. All three types are defined as directly serving God, worshipping God, being in His immediate presence or protecting the Garden of Eden. Although not specifically mentioned in the Bible, it is possible for one to conclude throne room angels are the highest “class” of angels because of their continued proximity to God.

Cherubim

Cherubim is plural for cherub. The first reference to Cherubim in the Bible is in Genesis. After the transgression and banishment of Adam and Eve, God assigned cherubim to protect man from discovering the Garden of Eden. “So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.” Genesis 3:24

Cherubim were described by Ezekiel. (Chapters 1 and 10)

“And this was their appearance: they had the likeness of a man. Each one had four faces, and each one had four wings. Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the soles of calves’ feet. They sparkled like the color of burnished bronze. The hands of a man were under their wings on their four sides; and each of the four had faces and wings. Their wings touched one another. The creatures did not turn when they went, but each one went straight forward. As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle. Thus were their faces. Their wings stretched upward; two wings of each one touched one another, and two covered their bodies. And each one went straight forward; they went wherever the spirit wanted to go, and they did not turn when they went.” Ezekiel 1:5-12

Some see the four faces of the cherubim as a representation of Jesus Christ, some see a correlation to the Gospels.

| Face | Representation of Jesus Christ | Gospels (Overall Emphasis) |
|-------|---|--|
| Human | He is the only God who took on the form of man and lived among us. (John 1:4) | Luke describes the manhood of Jesus. |
| Lion | King of animals. Jesus is the Lion of the tribe of Judah. (Revelation 5:5) | Matthew describes Jesus as Messiah and King. |
| Ox | Strongest animal for tasks of burden. Jesus took on the burden of the sins of the world. (1 Peter 2:24) | Mark describes Jesus as the Servant of God. |
| Eagle | King of birds, symbol of power, strength, flies high above keeping an eye on its domain. (Isiah 40:29-31) | John describes Jesus as the Son of God. |

“When they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of many waters, like the voice of the Almighty, a tumult like the noise of an army; and when they stood still, they let down their wings. A voice came from above the firmament that was over their heads; whenever they stood, they let down their wings. And above the

firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it.” Ezekiel 1:24-26

Note how Ezekiel described the position of the throne as above the cherubim: “And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne...” This is relevant because we will discover God’s throne is surrounded by the three types of throne room angels: below, beside and above.

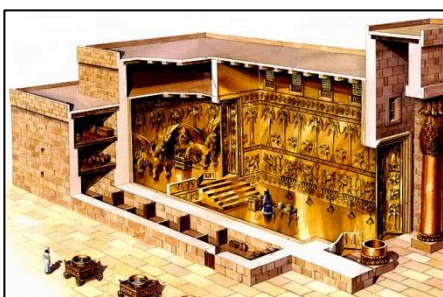
Built according to God’s specifications, the Tabernacle was a portable earthly dwelling place of God. Included in God’s instructions was the inclusion of cherubim on top of the Tabernacle’s Mercy Seat. (A cubit is an imprecise means to measure—used during a time when no standards existed. It is the distance between your elbow and the tip of the middle finger, or about 18-inches.)

“You shall make a mercy seat of pure gold; two and a half cubits shall be its length and a cubit and a half its width. And you shall make two cherubim of gold; of hammered work you shall make them at the two ends of the mercy seat. Make one cherub at one end, and the other cherub at the other end; you shall make the cherubim at the two ends of it of one piece with the mercy seat. And the cherubim shall stretch out their wings above, covering the mercy seat with their wings, and they shall face one another; the faces of the cherubim shall be toward the mercy seat. You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark, and in the ark you shall put the Testimony that I will give you. And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim which are on the ark of the Testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel.” Exodus 25:17-22



Cherubim Were Included in Solomon’s Temple

“In the Most Holy Place he made two cherubim, fashioned by carving, and overlaid them with gold. The wings of the cherubim were twenty cubits in overall length: one wing of the one cherub was five cubits, touching the wall of the room, and the other wing was five cubits, touching the wing of the other cherub; one wing of the other cherub was five cubits, touching the wall of the room, and the other wing also was five cubits, touching the wing of the other cherub. The wings of these cherubim spanned twenty cubits overall. They stood on their feet, and they faced inward. And he made the veil of blue, purple, crimson, and fine linen, and wove cherubim into it.” 2 Chronicles 3:10-14



“Inside the inner sanctuary he made two cherubim of olive wood, each ten cubits high. One wing of the cherub was five cubits, and the other wing of the cherub five cubits: ten cubits from the tip of one wing to the tip of the other. And the other cherub was ten cubits; both cherubim were of the same size and shape. The height of one cherub was ten cubits, and so was the other cherub. Then he set the cherubim inside the inner room; and they stretched out the wings of the cherubim so that the wing of the one touched one wall, and the wing of the other cherub touched the other wall. And their wings touched each other in the middle of the room. Also he overlaid the cherubim with gold. Then he carved all

the walls of the temple all around, both the inner and outer sanctuaries, with carved figures of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers. And the floor of the temple he overlaid with gold, both the inner and outer sanctuaries. For the entrance of the inner sanctuary he made doors of olive wood; the lintel and doorposts were one-fifth of the wall. The two doors were of olive wood; and he carved on them figures of cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers, and overlaid them with gold; and he spread gold on the cherubim and on the palm trees. So for the door of the sanctuary he also made doorposts of olive wood, one-fourth of the wall. And the two doors were of cypress wood;

two panels comprised one folding door, and two panels comprised the other folding door. Then he carved cherubim, palm trees, and open flowers on them, and overlaid them with gold applied evenly on the carved work.”
1 Kings 6:23-35

Seraphim

When God called Isaiah to his prophetic ministry, his divine vision included angels above the throne—whom he called seraphim. Seraphim is plural for seraph.

“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!’ And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.” Isaiah 6:1-4

Seraphim were described by Isaiah as having six wings: two to fly, two to cover their feet, and two to cover their faces. Isaiah described them as above God’s throne (possibly flying). One of the seraphim declared the holiness of God and His glory in a thunderous voice that shook the posts of the door and caused smoke to occur.

It is interesting to note Isaiah’s response to the presence of God was a declaration of his sin—because the thoughts and intents of our heart and soul are revealed by His absolute Holiness and glory.

“So I said: ‘Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, The Lord of hosts.’ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: ‘Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged.’” Isaiah 6:5-7

A divinely-convicted soul is unable to make excuses, justify behavior, or blame others. When in the presence of God there is only one thing we can truthfully state: “Woe is me, for I am undone.” Immediately after Isaiah remorsefully confessed his condition, he was introduced to the divine provisions of God’s altar. A seraph took a piece of hot coal from the altar, touched Isaiah’s mouth, and declared his iniquity is taken away and his sin purged (he was forgiven).

Living Creatures

Four living creatures were described by John in Revelation (which have a few similarities to Cherubim and Seraphim but are quite different).

“And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: ‘Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!’” Revelation 4:6-8

Note how the living creatures are in the midst and around God’s throne.

Throne Room Angel Comparison

The table below summarizes and compares the three different types of throne room angels.

| Prophet | Ezekiel | Isaiah | John |
|----------------------------|--|---|--|
| Named | Cherubim | Seraphim | Living creatures |
| Scripture | Ezekiel 1:5-12; 1:24-25, 10 | Isaiah 6 | Revelation 4 |
| Location to Throne | Below the throne | Above the throne | Around the throne |
| Likeness | Likeness of a man | Not described | One was like a lion, another like a calf, another had a face like a man, and the fourth was like a flying eagle |
| Legs/feet | Legs were straight, feet were like the soles of calves' feet | Has feet | Not described |
| Face | Each had four faces. Face of a man; face of a lion on the right side, face of an ox on the left side, face of an eagle | Has a face | Not described |
| Number of Wings | Each with four wings | Six: two wings covered their faces, two covered their feet, two for flying | Each having six wings |
| Hands | Hands of a man were under their wings | Then one flew to me, having in his hand a live coal. | Not described |
| Sound/Voice | I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of many waters, like the voice of the Almighty | They were calling: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory | And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!" |
| Additional Characteristics | Sparkled like the color of burnished bronze | Not described | Full of eyes in front and in back and under wings |

The Angel of the Lord

In scripture, when the word "the" precedes the word angel, it usually defines a special and unique angel that is separate from all other angels. The reason: the angel of the Lord identifies Himself with God; speaks as God; and exercises the responsibilities of God. The term that describe this type of appearance of the Lord is called theophany. Theophany is an appearance of God in an angelic form. Christophany is an angelic appearance of Jesus Christ.

So...a question may arise as to why God would appear in an angelic form...and not as Himself. The answer (which is this writer's opinion based upon prayer, logical and deductive reasoning) is derived upon the statement God made to Moses in that no person shall see Him and live.

"And he said, 'Please, show me Your glory.' Then He said, 'I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.' But He said, 'You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live.' And the Lord said, 'Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that

I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen.” Exodus 33:18-23

So, logically speaking (and I reinforce...this writer’s opinion) there are two possibilities that may explain the Angel of the Lord. First, God may have transformed His appearance into an angelic human form so that He could communicate directly with specific persons (so that they would not die). The second possibility is that God created a separate and distinct angel that is an absolute and complete expression of Himself (Theophany or Christophany). When you read the scriptures below, you will find the words spoken by the Angel of the Lord are the type of words that can only come from God Himself.

“Now the Angel of the Lord found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur. And He said, ‘Hagar, Sarai’s maid, where have you come from, and where are you going?’ She said, ‘I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai.’ The Angel of the Lord said to her, ‘Return to your mistress, and submit yourself under her hand.’ Then the Angel of the Lord said to her, ‘I will multiply your descendants exceedingly, so that they shall not be counted for multitude.’ And the Angel of the Lord said to her: ‘Behold, you are with child, And you shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, Because the Lord has heard your affliction. He shall be a wild man; His hand shall be against every man, And every man’s hand against him. And he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren.” Genesis 16:7-12

“But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, ‘Abraham, Abraham!’ So he said, ‘Here I am.’ And He said, ‘Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.’ Then Abraham lifted his eyes and looked, and there behind him was a ram caught in a thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram, and offered it up for a burnt offering instead of his son. And Abraham called the name of the place, The-Lord-Will-Provide; as it is said to this day, ‘In the Mount of the Lord it shall be provided.’ Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: ‘By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son—blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.” Genesis 22:11-18

“Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob’s hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. And He said, ‘Let Me go, for the day breaks.’ But he said, ‘I will not let You go unless You bless me!’ So He said to him, ‘What is your name?’ He said, ‘Jacob.’ And He said, ‘Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed.’ Then Jacob asked, saying, ‘Tell me Your name, I pray.’ And He said, ‘Why is it that you ask about My name?’ And He blessed him there. So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: ‘For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.” Genesis 32:24-30

“And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed.” Exodus 3:2

“Then the Angel of the Lord came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said: ‘I led you up from Egypt and brought you to the land of which I swore to your fathers; and I said, ‘I will never break My covenant with you. And you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall tear down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed My voice. Why have you done this? Therefore I also said, ‘I will not drive them out before you; but they shall be thorns in your side, and their gods shall be a snare to you.’ So it was, when the Angel of the Lord spoke these words to all the children of Israel, that the people lifted up their voices and wept.” Judges 2:1-4

“Now the Angel of the Lord came and sat under the terebinth tree which was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites. And

the Angel of the Lord appeared to him, and said to him, 'The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor!' Gideon said to Him, 'O my lord, if the Lord is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, 'Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?' But now the Lord has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.' Then the Lord turned to him and said, 'Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?' So he said to Him, 'O my Lord, how can I save Israel? Indeed my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.' And the Lord said to him, 'Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man.' Then he said to Him, 'If now I have found favor in Your sight, then show me a sign that it is You who talk with me. Do not depart from here, I pray, until I come to You and bring out my offering and set it before You.' And He said, 'I will wait until you come back.' So Gideon went in and prepared a young goat, and unleavened bread from an ephah of flour. The meat he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot; and he brought them out to Him under the terebinth tree and presented them. The Angel of God said to him, 'Take the meat and the unleavened bread and lay them on this rock, and pour out the broth.' And he did so. Then the Angel of the Lord put out the end of the staff that was in His hand, and touched the meat and the unleavened bread; and fire rose out of the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened bread. And the Angel of the Lord departed out of his sight. Now Gideon perceived that He was the Angel of the Lord. So Gideon said, 'Alas, O Lord God! For I have seen the Angel of the Lord face to face.' Then the Lord said to him, 'Peace be with you; do not fear, you shall not die.' So Gideon built an altar there to the Lord, and called it The-Lord-Is-Peace. To this day it is still in Ophrah of the Abiezrites." Judges 6:11-24

"And the Angel of the Lord appeared to the woman and said to her, 'Indeed now, you are barren and have borne no children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. Now therefore, please be careful not to drink wine or similar drink, and not to eat anything unclean. For behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. And no razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines.' So the woman came and told her husband, saying, 'A Man of God came to me, and His countenance was like the countenance of the Angel of God, very awesome; but I did not ask Him where He was from, and He did not tell me His name. And He said to me, 'Behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. Now drink no wine or similar drink, nor eat anything unclean, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb to the day of his death.'" Then Manoah prayed to the Lord, and said, 'O my Lord, please let the Man of God whom You sent come to us again and teach us what we shall do for the child who will be born.' And God listened to the voice of Manoah, and the Angel of God came to the woman again as she was sitting in the field; but Manoah her husband was not with her. Then the woman ran in haste and told her husband, and said to him, 'Look, the Man who came to me the other day has just now appeared to me!' So Manoah arose and followed his wife. When he came to the Man, he said to Him, 'Are You the Man who spoke to this woman?' And He said, 'I am.' Manoah said, 'Now let Your words come to pass! What will be the boy's rule of life, and his work?' So the Angel of the Lord said to Manoah, 'Of all that I said to the woman let her be careful. She may not eat anything that comes from the vine, nor may she drink wine or similar drink, nor eat anything unclean. All that I commanded her let her observe.' Then Manoah said to the Angel of the Lord, 'Please let us detain You, and we will prepare a young goat for You.' And the Angel of the Lord said to Manoah, 'Though you detain Me, I will not eat your food. But if you offer a burnt offering, you must offer it to the Lord.' (For Manoah did not know He was the Angel of the Lord.) Then Manoah said to the Angel of the Lord, 'What is Your name, that when Your words come to pass we may honor You?' And the Angel of the Lord said to him, 'Why do you ask My name, seeing it is wonderful?' So Manoah took the young goat with the grain offering, and offered it upon the rock to the Lord. And He did a wondrous thing while Manoah and his wife looked on—it happened as the flame went up toward heaven from the altar—the Angel of the Lord ascended in the flame of the altar! When Manoah and his wife saw this, they fell on their faces to the ground. When the Angel of the Lord appeared no more to Manoah and his wife, then Manoah knew that He was the Angel of the Lord. And Manoah said to his wife, 'We shall surely die, because we have seen God!'" Judges 13:3-22

"Therefore this is what the Lord says concerning the king of Assyria: He will not enter this city or shoot an arrow here. He will not come before it with shield or build a siege ramp against it. By the way that he came he will return; he will not enter this city, declares the Lord. I will defend this city and save it, for my sake and for the sake of David my servant. That night the angel of the Lord went out and put to death a hundred and eighty-five thousand in the

Assyrian camp. When the people got up the next morning—there were all the dead bodies! So Sennacherib king of Assyria broke camp and withdrew. He returned to Nineveh and stayed there.” 2 Kings 19: 32-36

Here are two interesting points regarding the Angel of the Lord:

- In several of these appearances, those who saw the angel of the Lord feared for their lives because they believed they had “seen the Lord” but yet did not physically die.
- The angel of the Lord is not mentioned anywhere in the New Testament (after the birth of Jesus Christ).

Archangels

Archangels are warrior angels who are divinely assigned to confront, combat and control Satan and his fallen angels; and comprise the army of the Lord. The only named archangel is Michael (Jude 1:9), who is likely the leader of the archangels because he is described as a chief prince and great prince (Daniel 10:13).

The scripture below provides an insightful glimpse into the war between Michael and his angels, Satan and his angels. And, although this and other spiritual wars, battles, skirmishes, and confrontations (have, are, and will) take place, Satan, his fallen angels and demons succumb to God’s appointed protectors.

“And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.” Revelation 12:7-9

Jude 1:9 provides interesting insight into Michael’s source of power. Although Michael is a leader among archangels—he did not rely upon his own divinely appointed capabilities when confronting Satan over the body of Moses. Nor did he make condemning accusations—for Satan would agree and receive it as a reward. But rather, Michael relied upon the name and power of the Lord to rebuke him (which is an example for all of us to follow).

“Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, ‘The Lord rebuke you!’” Jude 1:9

Another insightful scripture of a spiritual confrontation is provided in Daniel chapter 10. A messenger angel (Gabriel) explains to Daniel why it took him an extended period of time to respond to Daniels prayers. (The prince of the kingdom of Persia is a fallen angel.)

“But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.” Daniel 10:13

Gabriel needed Michael to assist him in overcoming the prince of the kingdom of Persia. As such, this reveals angels have assigned purposes and varying degrees of combative capabilities.

Archangel Protection over Israel in the Last Days

As we digress into the last days, the archangel Michael will provide protection and deliver Israelites whose names are written in the Book of Life (Revelation 3:5).

“At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book.” Daniel 12:1

The Commander of the Army of the Lord

Michael and his angels collectively comprise the army of the Lord. In a similar manner in which earthly militaries have a leader, the army of the Lord has a commander.

“And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, ‘Are You for us or for our adversaries?’ So He said, ‘No, but as Commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.’ And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, ‘What does my Lord say to His servant?’”

“Then the Commander of the Lord’s army said to Joshua, ‘Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy.’” And Joshua did so. Joshua 5:13-15

To fulfill His promises...the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob sent the Commander of His army to prepare the way for the children of Israel by overcoming all who were living in their promised land.

There is an informative and spiritual relevance to the drawn sword in His hands. Since it is drawn (and not sheathed), the sword conveys an active posture of attacking, weakening, and causing fear among those in the promised land who worshiped other gods and participated in unimaginable wicked behavior. These are those whom God instructed the Jews to eradicate from the promised land, and these are those whom God was preparing to be delivered into the hands of the children of Israel. The Commander of God’s army was directing His angelic troops to significantly weaken the spiritual, emotional and physical defenses of Jericho (as well as other inhabitants in the promised land). Think about the following...the Jews were able to cause the protective walls of Jericho to fall by simply walking around it once for six days; seven times on the seventh day—followed by blowing seven trumpets of ram’s horns, and shouting. This miracle can only occur with divine preparation and intervention in the spiritual realm. This is another example of how God continually provided proof of His providence and promise fulfillment to the obedient children of Israel.

So...a question arises...who is the Commander of God’s army? The Commander of the army of the Lord is not an angel, nor the archangel Michael. Joshua describes a Christophany: a pre-incarnate manifestation of Jesus Christ. This statement is based upon the following:

1. Note how the Commander of God’s army instructed Joshua to remove his sandals because he was standing on holy ground. This is similar to the instruction given by God to Moses. (Exodus 3:5-6)
2. This is not God because he allows Joshua to see him clearly and Joshua lived. (Exodus 33:20).
3. Joshua called Him Lord.
4. Angels will redirect human worship towards God. The Commander of God’s army:
 - a. Accepted Joshua’s worship.
 - b. Did not correct his declaration of Lord.
 - c. Did not redirect Joshua’s response.
5. Jesus said: “Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.” John 8:58
6. When Jesus Christ returns he will lead His armies in heaven to fight in the battle of Armageddon—the final conflict between God and the forces of evil. (Revelation 19)

Here is an interesting point to ponder regarding the sword. Man thinks in a limited physical realm...where swords are weapons to kill humans. However, within the spiritual realm angels cannot be maimed by a sword. Angels—including fallen angels and demons—will never die and will live for eternity in either His presence or in the lake of fire—just like us.

So...another question arises...if human designed instruments of war are ineffective in the spiritual realm...what are the weapons used by archangels against Satan and his minions?

Power in the spiritual realm is derived from the spoken words of God.

- “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1
- God spoke the world into existence by His words (Genesis 1:3-26).
- Jesus used God’s word to overcome Satan in the wilderness (Matthew 4:1-11).
- Demons responded to Jesus with fear and obeyed His words. (Described in the section on demons.)
- “For the word of God is living and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” Hebrews 4:12

The evil one and his deceived followers can attack through sin, strife, hatred, division, accusations, and despair...but they cannot make a stand against God’s word. Satan knows God’s word and his pending doom...for God’s word specifically defines his demise. The armies in heaven will follow Jesus Christ—the Commander of God’s army—into battle as He delivers the wrath of God. It is important to note God’s armies are not dressed in military uniforms, but are clothed in righteousness. What’s more, their weapons are not physical, but are comprised of the words spoken by Jesus as He strikes the great deceiver and all who chose to be deceived.

“Now I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse. And He who sat on him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and makes war. His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself. He was clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses. Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.”

“Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, ‘Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great.’ And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the rest were killed with the sword which proceeded from the mouth of Him who sat on the horse. And all the birds were filled with their flesh.” Revelation 19

Messenger Angels

The angel Gabriel delivered messages and provided instruction from God. Gabriel visited David three times; informed Zacharias that he would be the father of John the Baptist; and informed Mary she would conceive a Son and shall name Him Jesus.

1st Visit: Daniel described Gabriel as having the appearance of a man.

“Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. And I heard a man’s voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, ‘Gabriel, make this man understand the vision.’” Daniel 8:15-16

2nd Visit: Daniel described Gabriel as the man Gabriel...being caused to fly swiftly.

“Now while I was speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy mountain of my God, yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, ‘O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand. At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision.’” Daniel 9:20-23

3rd Visit: Daniel’s third encounter includes a description that defines a more angelic entity. As such, it may be possible for angels, such as Gabriel, to change how they look to humans. To initially appear in his angelic state and countenance may have been too much for Daniel. And, there is another possibility. Gabriel had just arrived after being involved in a struggle with a fallen angel—which could explain Gabriel’s body color, face like the appearance of lightning, eyes like fire, arms and feet like burnished bronze, and his voice like the voice of multitudes.

“I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.” Daniel 10:5-6

“Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come.” Daniel 10:12-14

“Then he said, ‘Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come. But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. (No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince.)’” Daniel 10:20-21

Gabriel prepared the parents of John the Baptist and the parents of Jesus Christ. Gabriel informed:

- Zacharias (the father of John the Baptist) that he would have a son. Luke 1:1-25
- Mary she would conceive a Son and shall name Him Jesus. Luke 1:31
- Mary that the power of the Highest will overshadow her; that the Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Luke 1:35
- Mary that her relative (Elizabeth) has conceived a son. (Luke 1:26-38)

A messenger angel announced Jesus Christ had risen.

“Now after the Sabbath, as the first day of the week began to dawn, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to see the tomb. And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men.”

“But the angel answered and said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead, and indeed He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him. Behold, I have told you.’” Matthew 28:1-7

Ministering Angels

Do We Have Guardian Angels? The word ministering spirit (or angel) is used in the bible to define a type of angel. The word “guardian” is not used in the Bible to define a type of angel (although the actions of ministering angels includes guarding). Therefore, in order to stay close to scripture, I will use the words ministering angel in lieu of guardian angel.

Some say they have a ministering angel. Some say they have seen an angel. From a biblical perspective both are scripturally sound.

- The Bible states angels are ministering (tending, caring, comforting) spirits for those who will inherit salvation. [“But to which of the angels has He ever said: ‘Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool’? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?” Hebrews 1:13-14](#)

In addition, the Bible states His angels are given (appointed) charge (custody, care, responsibility) over us to keep (sustain, preserve) us in all of His ways. [“For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.” Psalm 91:11](#)

The Bible does not define how ministering angels are assigned. As such, here are some possible scenarios:

- We are not assigned a specific angel (angelic involvement is based upon need and availability).
 - We are assigned one or more specific angels (throughout our life).
 - We are assigned additional angels at various times (i.e. during critical periods in our lives).
- With regards to seeing an angel, there are numerous references to manifestations of angels in the Bible. Plus, it is possible for us to unknowingly extend hospitality to angels who have transformed themselves into human form. [“Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.” Hebrews 13:2](#)

Angel or Holy Spirit?

There are numerous accounts of angels—as God’s instruments—sent to fulfill His will.

- When Abraham sent his servant to find a wife for Isaac, God’s Angel was sent to go with him. Gen 24:7, 40
- An angel was sent to the Children of Israel to lead them out of Egypt. Numbers 20:16
- An angel was sent to guide the Israelites into the place God prepared. Exodus 23:20-23
- An angel was sent to destroy the king of Assyria. 2 Chronicles 32:1-23
- Angels comforted and strengthened Jesus after He was tempted in the wilderness by Satan. Matthew 4:11
- An angel was sent to open the prison doors for the apostles. Acts 5:17-32
- An angel instructed Philip to go to Gaza. Acts 8:26
- An angel freed Peter from prison. Acts 12:1-25
- An angel informed Paul of a pending shipwreck. Acts 27: 23-26
- Revelation reveals angels are involved when God pours His wrath upon the earth (during the Tribulation).

Therefore, based upon Hebrews 1:13-14, Psalm 91:11, the above listing of angelic activity, and rationalized speculation...it is possible for life events (from small to large) and experiences of Christians—attributable to the Holy Spirit—could have been executed by a ministering angel at the direction of the Holy Spirit. While there is no scripture to support Holy Spirit directed angelic activity, based upon the above scriptural references...it seems plausible. It is also safe to say angels do much more than simply “hang out” in the heavenly realms. Ministering angels are instructed and involved; proactive and reactive; influence and inspire; combatants and comforters. In fact, they are more involved with us than we realize.

Recognizing the Influence of Ministering Angels in our Lives

Ministering angels are appointed custody, care and responsibility over us to keep us headed in the “right direction” as we progress closer to becoming an unobstructed reflection of our Savior, and to the ultimate reception of our inheritance. However, think about the following...even though there are twice as many holy angels than fallen angels and demons (2/3 did not join Satan in the rebellion), which has the most recognizable influence around us and in the world...holy angels or fallen angels and demons?

It is my opinion we are more likely to recognize personal and worldly influence of fallen angels and demons than the influence of holy angels. The reason is because the consequences of darkness is easier to see than the unseen influences of holy angels. Consider our daily reminders of the detrimental consequences of sin: spiritual death, addiction, anger, hatred, internal turmoil, hardened hearts, and delusional minds. These consequences are expressed as behavior from persons we interact with; unimaginable atrocities depicted in the media; and increasing degree of chaos occurring globally. All attributable to condemned spiritual entities that seek to deceive and destroy.

Now take a few moments and consider the number of instances where things that have occurred in your life (or in the world) which are possibly attributable to holy angels—which for some may be difficult to identify. The reason is because our lives may have been clandestinely influenced by angels. A demonic attack may have been thwarted. A walk down a sinful path may have been misdirected back toward the light. A person’s darkened desire to harm you may have been circumvented in some way. A door may have opened when it seemed hopelessly closed. A decision (we thought was our own) routed us around unknown harm. Fulfillment of prayer may have been facilitated by a ministering angel. However, the influence of angelic activity that sustains and protects is more difficult to see because the consequences of their efforts preserves us in His ways...and does not destroy lives, or families, cities, countries, and nations...which is the objective of fallen angels and demons, and is easier to recognize.

Remember, holy angels are servants. They do not seek glory. They do not seek recognition. They seek to do the will of the Father. As such, their work may go unnoticed; but there will be a time when all will be revealed. For those who inherit salvation shall judge angels. **“Do you not know that we shall judge angels?” 1 Corinthians 6:3**

We Will Judge Angels

| |
|-----------------------|
| God |
| Angels |
| Earthly Bodies |

All humans are in a spiritual position below angels. This truth is revealed in Hebrews 2:7: **“You have made him a little lower than the angels.”** Jesus Christ became human (i.e. lower than the angels), walked among us, gave His life as perfect sacrifice, and returned to his position at the right hand of the Father. **“It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.” Romans 8:34**

Our position below angels will change after we leave our physical bodies. Those who are saved in Jesus Christ will be transformed from our earthly body into a glorified body that will be conformed (or similar) to the heavenly body of Jesus Christ. **“For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.” Philippians 3:20-21**

However, there’s a very interesting point to add here. Since 1 Corinthians 6:3 states we will judge angels...this means we will be given a spiritual assignment that is above angels.

| |
|-------------------------|
| God |
| Glorified Bodies |
| Angels |

Because the Bible provides no additional clarification on 1 Corinthians 6:3, there are different beliefs as to which angels will be judged. Most believe we will judge fallen angels and demons—which makes sense—but they are already judged and condemned. Jesus said: **“Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.” Matthew 25:41**

However, it may be possible we will also judge holy angels (which is this writer's logical speculation). Since Holy angels are sinless (and have a pure heart) they will not be judged not for sin—but rather—we may judge holy angels as to their effectiveness in achieving their assigned charge (responsibility) to keep us in His ways. In this scenario, our judgment may determine the number and/or degree of rewards our angelic overseers will receive for their efforts (as opposed to punishment).

My speculation for holy angel judgment is based upon the fact Christians (during the judgment seat of Christ) will be judged for rewards based upon the works in their life for Christ (and the intent of their heart in doing the works).

“Therefore, judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.” 1 Corinthians 4:5

“I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings.” Jeremiah 17:10

“For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.” 1 Corinthians 3:9-15

For those works done for personal gain (recognition, money, etc.) you have received your earthly reward...but these works will not endure the revealing fire. For those humble and obedient works done for the glory of Jesus Christ and to please the Father...will receive a reward because these works will endure the fire.

“Therefore, we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.” 2 Corinthians 9-10

In a similar manner in which we will be tested and judged for rewards, it may be possible we will judge and reward those holy angels who were given charge over us. Once again, this is speculation...but very interesting to consider.

With regards to rewards...my personal desire is to receive only (1) reward: hear my Savior and Lord say... “Well done, good and faithful servant.” This is the highest prize one can receive. Nothing else compares. If there are any rewards or crowns...they will be humbly placed at His feet...for He alone is worthy. As such, I believe angels desire to hear the same reward of recognition for what they have accomplished.

We Are Like Sheep and Ministering Angels Are Like Sheep Dogs

There are numerous correlations in the Bible to sheep and believers, shepherds and church leaders. These correlations provide us with greater insight into spiritual truths—including a greater understanding of the influence of ministering angels.

Believers in Christ

“But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd.” Matthew 9:36

“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.” Isaiah 53:6

“Know that the Lord, He is God; It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves; We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.” Psalm 100:3

Church Leaders

“Therefore, take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also, from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves.” Acts 20:28-30

“So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Feed My lambs.’ He said to him again a second time, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?’ He said to Him, ‘Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.’ He said to him, ‘Tend My sheep.’ He said to him the third time, ‘Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?’ Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, ‘Do you love Me?’ And he said to Him, ‘Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Feed My sheep.’” John 21:15-17

“Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.” 1 Peter 5:2-4

While lambs (baby sheep) are cute and cuddly, sheep are not considered on the high end of the animal intelligence spectrum. Words such as “Not smart enough to know better” are graciously used to describe their intellect. Some would say the words intellect and sheep are mutually exclusive and should not be used in the same sentence. Shepherders will describe their work as being primarily focused on making sure they do not wander off, eat the wrong food, injure themselves, or do something stupid. (Sound uncomfortably familiar?)

Sheep Dogs and Ministering Angels

Because of the nature of sheep, the interaction of a sheep dog and sheep can be used to gain insight into efforts of ministering angels to keep us in all His ways. As you read each bullet below identify the spiritual correlation.

A sheep dog will:

- Guard the sheep from predators.
- Bring individual sheep together in a group.
- Maintain the group.
- Move the group from one place to another.
- Act upon directions of the shepherd.



What does the gate and gatekeeper represent?

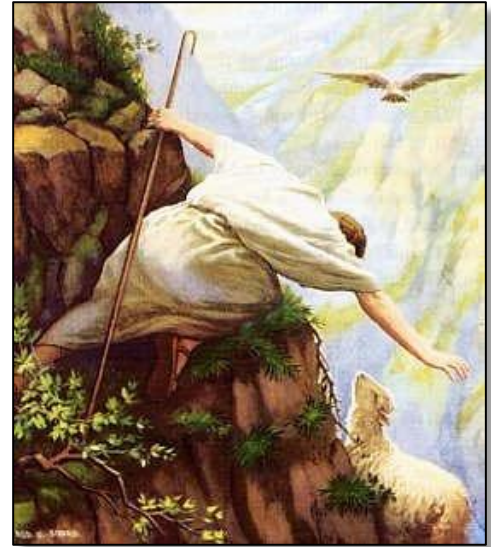
“Then Jesus said to them again, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who ever came before Me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not hear them. I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My

sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.” John 10:7-16

The Parable of the Lost Sheep

The Parable of the Lost Sheep (spoken by Jesus) reveals the heart of God, His love for us, and His desire for us to repent and turn away from the darkened lies that destroy us from within.

“Then all the tax collectors and the sinners drew near to Him to hear Him. And the Pharisees and scribes complained, saying, ‘This Man receives sinners and eats with them.’ So He spoke this parable to them, saying: ‘What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!’ I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.” Luke 15:1-7



If you wandered and are lost...in the midst of all of the noise, and turmoil, and strife within your soul...is a loving and patient voice calling you. Listen with your heart, listen on your knees, and yield to the One who died for you so that you can live...for eternity.

Jesus said, “My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father’s hand.” John 10:27-29

Here is a simple prayer of salvation (from your heart). God...I am a sinner. Thank you for your Son Jesus Christ who died for my sins so that I may be forgiven. Jesus...I invite you into my heart as my Savior and Lord. Holy Spirit...transform me into the type of person you want me to be.

“I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.” John 10:10

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.” Revelation 3:20



Additional Angelic Attributes and Information

Do not worship angels.

- In Revelation, John was awestruck by what he saw and what he was told by an angel. Like most of us in this same situation...we would likely fall on our knees and worship the angelic messenger. However, he was instructed by the angel to stop, he was a fellow servant, and to worship God. (Revelation 22:8-9; 19:9-10)
- We are warned against worshipping angels. Colossians 2:18
- Satan offered the kingdoms of the world and their glory to Jesus if He would worship him. Jesus responded by saying "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve." Matthew 4:8-11

Angels can transform into a body that may be seen by humans.

There are multiple biblical accounts of angels appearing and directly communicating with persons.

- Three angels appeared as men and spoke to Abraham. Genesis 18:1-33
- Two angels—sent to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah—entered into Sodom and met with Lot. Genesis 19:1-29
- Angels (and the pre-ascended spirit of Jesus) appeared to Mary when she went to the tomb of Jesus. Matthew 28:1-8; John 20:11-13
- An angel informed Paul that he and the others aboard the ship would not die. Acts 27:21-26
- We are instructed to entertain strangers because some may be angels. Hebrews 12:2

Jesus Christ was lower than angels.

Even though Jesus Christ had every heavenly power bestowed upon Him...while He walked on earth, his position was lower than the angels.

"For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels. But one testified in a certain place, saying: 'What is man that You are mindful of him, or the son of man that You take care of him? You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, and set him over the works of Your hands. You have put all things in subjection under his feet.' For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him. But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone." Hebrews 2:5-9

There are only four named angels in the Bible: two holy and two fallen.

1. Michael (archangel)
2. Gabriel (messenger angel)
3. Lucifer/Satan (known as Lucifer before the rebellion and fall—now called Satan)
4. Abaddon/Apollyon (Abaddon is the Hebrew name, Apollyon is the Greek name)

Angelic emotion

The emotions experienced by holy angels reflect God, and the emotions experienced by fallen angels reflect Satan.

Holy angels experience joy when one repents.

"Or what woman, having ten silver coins, if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls her friends and neighbors together, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the piece which I lost!' Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." Luke 15:8-10

Seraphim experience awe and humility when worshipping God.

"And one cried to another and said: 'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!'" Isaiah 6:3

Demons expressed fear when they encountered Jesus.

“And suddenly they cried out, saying, ‘What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?’” Matthew 8:29

Angelic marriage/procreation

“Jesus answered and said to them, ‘The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage. But those who are counted worthy to attain that age, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage; nor can they die anymore, for they are equal to the angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.’” Luke 20:34-36

“At the resurrection people will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven.” (Matthew 22:30)

Number of angels

Hebrews and Revelation provide us with an insight into the vast number of angels:

- “But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels.” Hebrews 12:22
- “Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice: ‘Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!’” Revelation 5:11-12

Given what is revealed in scripture, the number of angels is too large to count. As such, John attempted to estimate what he saw. Ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands equates to: 10,000 x 10,000 = 100,000,000...plus, thousands and thousands more. So, it is safe to say there are more than 100 million in heaven.

Note: The estimation by John is after 1/3 were cast out of heaven with Satan. So, this provides a means to estimate the number of fallen angels (or a minimum of 33 million).

Fallen Angels

Fallen angels used their free will to follow Satan (who initiated a rebellion in heaven), fought against Michael and his angels, lost the battle, and were cast down to earth. All of the benefits of being in the presence of God was removed. Absolute love was replaced by hatred; trust replaced by fear; and light replaced by darkness. The consequences of banishment were catastrophic...and are evident in history and today...due to the ongoing workings of the prince of this earth and his minions.

Satan

Satan was an anointed cherub, was given much more than other angels, and may be considered one of the highest angels in heaven serving God directly. But evil developed within the core of his being.

“You were the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: the sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes was prepared for you on the day you were created. You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, till iniquity was found in you. By the abundance of your trading you became filled with violence within, and you sinned. Therefore, I cast you as a profane thing out of the mountain of God; and I destroyed you, o covering cherub, from the midst of the fiery stones. Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, that they might gaze at you. You defiled your sanctuaries by the multitude of your iniquities, by the iniquity of your trading. Therefore, I brought fire from your midst; It devoured you, and I turned you to ashes upon the earth in the sight of all who saw you. All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; you have become a horror and shall be no more forever.” Ezekiel 28:12-19

“How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’ Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, To the lowest depths of the Pit.” Isaiah 14:12-15

The angels that rebelled with Satan lived in the presence of God. Their existence was perfect. But yet, there was something in their inner being that caused them to believe the lie espoused by Satan. The angels that stayed committed to God and the angels that rebelled made a free will choice. This is how angels (and humans) were designed. The reason is because God does not want robotic decisions and responses. He desires a willing decision of the heart—regardless of our situation (perfect or imperfect)—and to love Him as He loves us. Praise God in that unlike angels (who do not get a second chance), we have a means of forgiveness for our inequity in His Son, Jesus Christ.

Chains of Darkness

Some believe the mobility of fallen angels is restricted because of the reference to imprisonment (in hell) and chains of darkness.

“For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment.” 2 Peter 2:4

[“And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day.” Jude 1:6](#)

Fallen angels once lived in the glorious light of God. They existed in His presence. They were able to accurately see all that was around them—including His holiness. They had it perfect...but they decided to believe a lie and did not keep their proper domain. The consequences of their decision were multifaceted. God removed everything they had. They were banished from Heaven, cast down to earth along with Satan, and bound into chains of darkness to wait for their final judgment.

Chains convey an inability to free oneself from that to which one is bound, weighed down, and under the control of something and/or someone. Darkness conveys torture from an inability to see and torment from all-encompassing sin. This existence defines the condition of the fallen angels as they await their final judgment...but worse...this also defines the existence of those who do not know Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. Although persons may think they can see, the prince of this world has blurred their vision. Although persons think they are free, they are weighed down by the chains of sin that bind their heart and soul. And although persons may think they are enlightened, sin continues to darken their perception of truth.

While it is plausible some fallen angels are completely bound by incarceration, it seems an unlikely existence for all fallen angels. Consider the following scripture:

[“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.” 1 Peter 1:8](#)

If Satan can move about seeking whom he may devour, it seems likely fallen angels are able to facilitate and assist Satan. This interaction is supported by Paul’s letter to the Ephesians—which reveals an unseen, ongoing, and dynamic spiritual battle for the hearts and souls of man.

[“For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” Ephesians 6:12](#)

The Abyss

Scripture reveals there is a place of incarceration for fallen angels and demons: called the Abyss. The Abyss is referred to in the Bible as the deep hole and bottomless pit. It is a place of bondage and torment for the most evil and worst fallen angels and demons.

- The legion of demons begged Jesus not to order them into the Abyss. (Luke 8:31)
- During the last days (the Tribulation)—as God increasingly pours out His wrath:
 - Those who are held captive in the Abyss will be released to wreak havoc upon the earth and torture those who do not have the seal of God on their forehead. (Revelation 9:1-4.)
 - A fallen angel named Abaddon (Hebrew) and Apollyon (Greek) is the king over the angles in the Abyss. (Revelation 9:11)
 - The beast will ascend out of the Abyss and will kill the Two Witnesses. (Revelation 11:7)
 - The Abyss is where Satan and all evil entities will be held during the Millennial Reign of Jesus Christ. (Revelation 20:1-3)

Thrones, Dominions, Principalities, Powers

There are multiple references in the Bible that reveal the angelic realm is organized into a hierarchical structure. Many have attempted to specifically define angelic classes, categories, and so forth—some with authoritative absolutes. However, the Bible only provides us with a “glimpse” of the angelic realm. Therefore, the objective of this section is not to specifically define each hierarchical structure. But rather, provide a conceptual understanding of a possible hierarchical structure—which is likely based upon geographic areas; and is similar to human government structure based upon city, state, country, coalition of countries, and so forth. In addition, edicts and commands are likely dispersed via a top down chain of command.

Primary terms used to describe different levels of organizational oversight and control include:

- Thrones
- Dominions
- Principalities
- Powers

Additional terms used to describe positions and/or characteristics of angelic entities within the hierarchical structure include:

- Might
- Authorities
- Rulers of the darkness of this world (multiple)
- Spiritual wickedness in high places

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.” Colossians 1:15-16

“He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.” Ephesians 1:20-21

“For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 8:38-39

“Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.” 1 Peter 3:21-22

While it is possible for these terms to define the organizational structure of holy angels, principalities and powers are primarily used in the context of fallen angels.

“He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.” Colossians 2:13-15

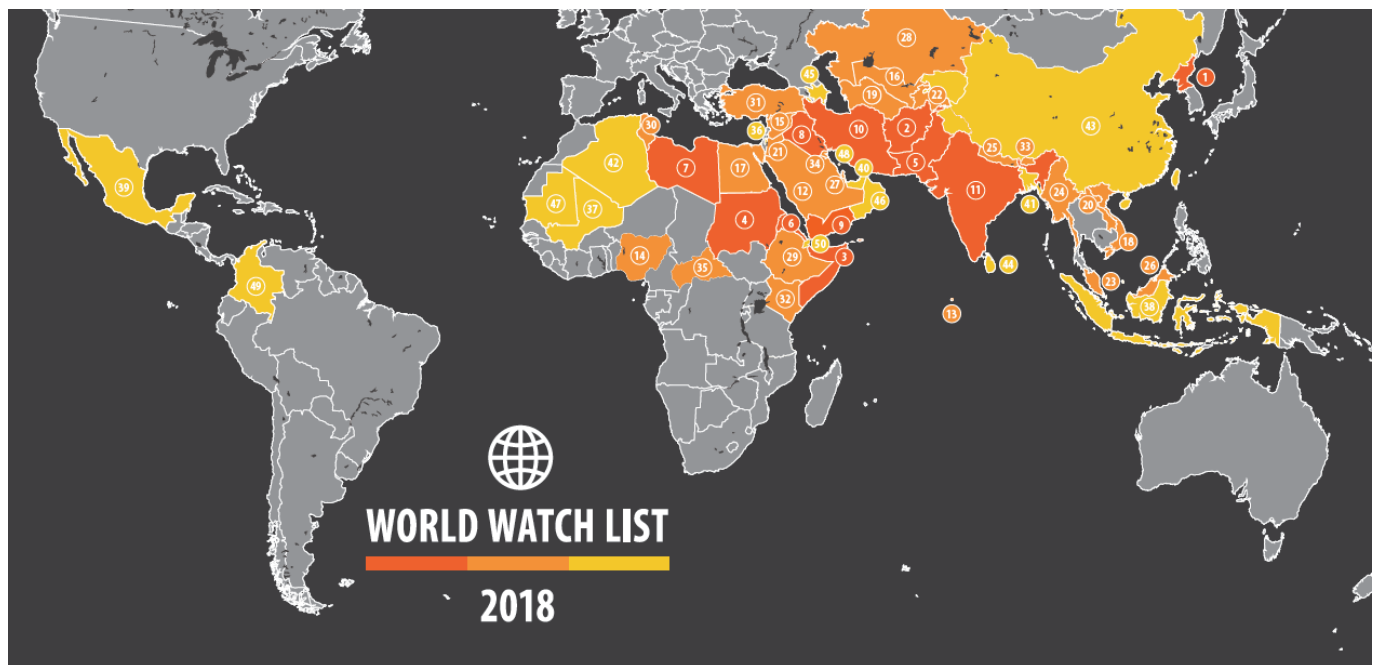
“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.” Ephesians 6:12

A principality may be defined as a state ruled by a prince, usually subordinate to an empire. Daniel chapter ten provides insight into a spiritual battle between the prince of the kingdom of Persia (a fallen angel), and two holy angels: Gabriel and Michael.

“But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.” Daniel 10:13

“...And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come. But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. (No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince.)” Daniel 10:20

Based upon what is said by Gabriel above, once the prince of Persia is defeated by holy angels, their attention would turn to a different fallen angel who is entering power: the prince of Greece. We know from history the Persian Empire was conquered by the Grecian Empire (ruled by Alexander the Great) in 331 BC. So, the above scriptures correlate with history and provide insight into a possible hierarchical structure of fallen angels assigned to geographic areas. It is also possible some fallen angels are stronger/more powerful than others. This overall concept may assist in explaining why some parts of the world reject Christianity—while other vehemently reject Christianity to the point of incarceration and death. If this concept is correct, the geographic areas depicted below are strongholds where rulers of darkness and wickedness are actively attempting to extinguish the light of Jesus.



The 50 countries where it is most dangerous to follow Jesus:

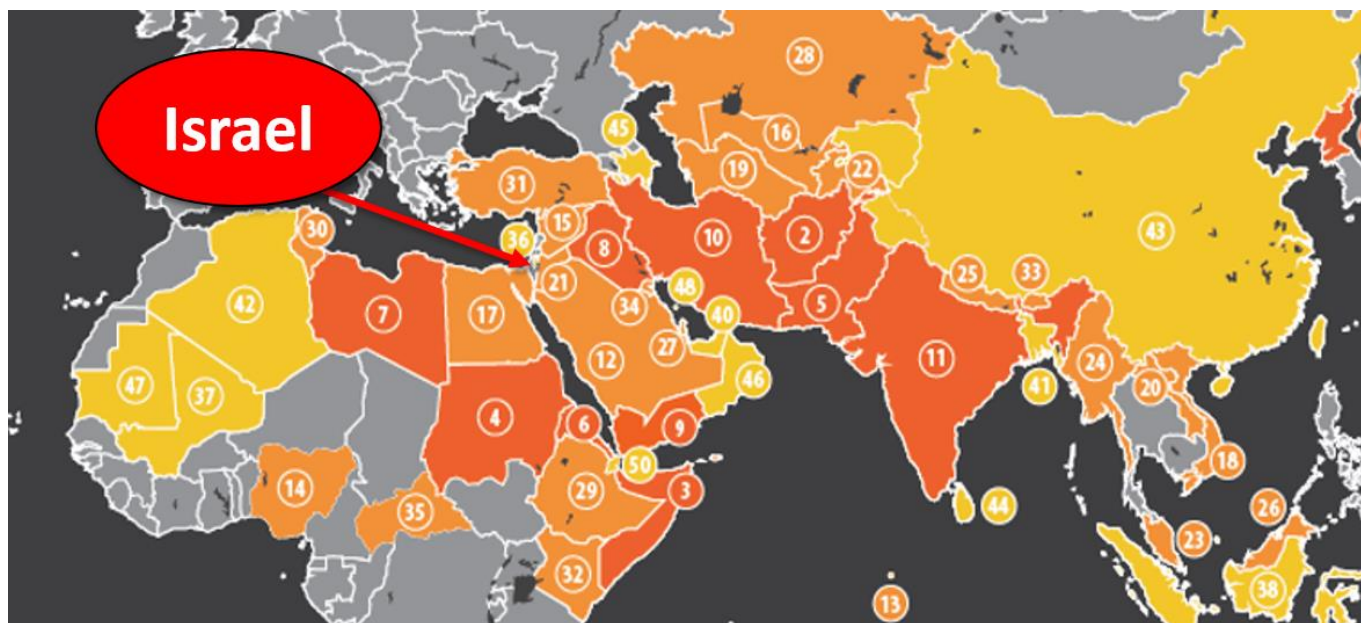
Source: www.opendoorsusa.org/

| Extreme Persecution | Very High Persecution | High Persecution |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 North Korea | 11 India | 31 Turkey |
| 2 Afghanistan | 12 Saudi Arabia | 32 Kenya |
| 3 Somalia | 13 Maldives | 33 Bhutan |
| 4 Sudan | 14 Nigeria | 34 Kuwait |
| 5 Pakistan | 15 Syria | 35 Central African Republic |
| 6 Eritrea | 16 Uzbekistan | 36 Palestinian Territories |
| 7 Libya | 17 Egypt | 37 Mali |
| 8 Iraq | 18 Vietnam | 38 Indonesia |
| 9 Yemen | 19 Turkmenistan | 39 Mexico |
| 10 Iran | 20 Laos | 40 United Arab Emirates |
| | | 41 Bangladesh |
| | | 42 Algeria |
| | | 43 China |
| | | 44 Sri Lanka |
| | | 45 Azerbaijan |
| | | 46 Oman |
| | | 47 Mauritania |
| | | 48 Bahrain |
| | | 49 Colombia |
| | | 50 Djibouti |

Here are examples of persecution that is occurring right now! Go to <http://www.opendoorsusa.org/> for more information.

| Country | Type of Persecution |
|-------------|--|
| North Korea | Imprisonment and torture occur to those who do not worship the nation's leader. |
| Afghanistan | Christians are rejected by family or killed. |
| Somalia | Islamist group al-Shabab seeking to eliminate all Christians. Will kill a suspected Christian. |
| Sudan | Converting from Islam to Christianity is punishable by death. |
| Pakistan | Christian women and children are targets of abuse. |
| Eritrea | Many Christians have been attacked, tortured, and imprisoned. |
| Libya | Islamic converts to Christianity risk being killed. Evangelism and Bibles are illegal. |
| Iraq | Public executions of Christians by Isis have occurred. |
| Yemen | Tribal leaders and al-Qaida have kidnapped and killed Yemeni Christians. |
| Iran | Christians are treated as second-class citizens. Government monitors churches. |
| India | Christians who converted from Hinduism have been attacked, homes destroyed. |

Sitting near the geographic center of these countries is the very small nation of Israel. It's not a coincidence. It's an indicator. Satan despises Jews, God's chosen people. He also hates those who have been purchased by the blood of the Lamb. Satan's mode of operation is to create absolute hatred and chaos—with the intent to destroy all humans—regardless of religion.



America is a blessed nation. For more than 200 years Christians have been free to worship God without fear. However, this will radically change as the world digresses into the last days (the Tribulation). This change is reflected as a precursor in the above graphics. The mark of the beast (Revelation 13:16-17, 14:9-11) will drive social and economic segmentation, verbal attacks, physical abuse, and incarceration. But worse, murder will be justified within the delusional minds of those who believe the propagated lies of spiritual wickedness in high places.

“And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands.” Revelation 20:4

Demons

Origin of Demons

The Bible is not specifically clear regarding the origin of demons. As such, I will first summarize different characteristics between demons and fallen angels. I will then provide two common beliefs regarding the origin of demons. My objective is to provide different views so that you can develop your own understanding, belief (and foundation for additional research if you choose to do so).

Different Characteristics of Demons and Fallen Angels

From an overall biblical perspective, there is more scripture on demons than fallen angels. The Bible uses terms such as demon, devil, or unclean spirit to describe these spiritual entities. Whereas, fallen angels are not referred to as demon, devil, or unclean spirit. But rather, fallen angels are described in a negative context. For example, fallen angels are those who sinned, those who did not keep their proper domain, left their own abode, and so forth.

“For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment.” 2 Peter 2:4

“And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day.” Jude 1:6

The table below provides specific New Testament references to unique characteristics of demons. These behaviors are not associated with nor explained as being performed by fallen angels in the Bible.

| Unique Characteristics of Demons | Mat 8: 28-34 Mark 5: 1-13 Luke 8: 26-33 | Mark 1: 23-26 Luke 4: 31-41 | Mark 9: 17-29 | Luke 9: 37-42 |
|--|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| <i>Scenario</i> | <i>Legion</i> | <i>Synagogue</i> | <i>Mute Child</i> | <i>Child</i> |
| Inhabit Physical Bodies | X | X | X | X |
| Exhibit Strange and Abnormal Behavior | X | | X | X |
| Some Host Multiple Demons | X | X | | |
| Spoke | X | X | X | X |
| Recognize and Declared Deity of Jesus Christ | X | X | X | |
| Afraid of Christ | X | X | | |
| Violently Leave Body | | X | X | |

In each scenario where Jesus confronts demons...he seems to be annoyed with them...like a persistent fly that bothers and distracts you. He would simply swat at them by commanding them to leave...to the amazement of believers...and to the disdain of the Jewish religious leaders.

“As they went out, behold, they brought to Him a man, mute and demon-possessed. And when the demon was cast out, the mute spoke. And the multitudes marveled, saying, ‘It was never seen like this in Israel!’ But the Pharisees said, ‘He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons.’” Matthew 9:32-34

“Then one was brought to Him who was demon-possessed, blind and mute; and He healed him, so that the blind and mute man both spoke and saw. And all the multitudes were amazed and said, ‘Could this be the Son of David?’ Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, ‘This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons.’” Matthew 12:22-24

The miracles performed and demonstrated powers of Jesus Christ threatened the delusional, misguided, and darkened perceptions of the Jewish leaders. Given what they saw—the quick and effective removal of demonic entities from persons based upon His spoken word—they could either declare Jesus Christ is the Messiah or seek a means to undermine the truth. They chose the latter by declaring Jesus was casting out demons through an evil power.

“But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: ‘Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. Or how can one enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house. He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.’” Matthew 12:25-30

Here are the most common beliefs regarding the origin of demons:

1. Demons are fallen angels who participated in Satan’s rebellion, and are either:
 - Identical to other fallen angels.
 - A different type of fallen angel. Since there are different types of heavenly angels (throne room, archangel, messenger, and ministering), it is possible the design and purpose of demons were unique to other angels.
2. Demons are disembodied offspring from the procreation of fallen angels and human females. Their offspring were different (giants) and commonly referred to as Nephilim.

Nephilim

“Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, that the sons of God saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. And the Lord said, ‘My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.’ There were giants on the earth in those days, and also afterward, when the sons of God came in to the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty men who were of old, men of renown.” Genesis 6:1-4

This belief is based upon the following:

1. The “sons of God” in Genesis 6:1 refers to fallen angels.
2. It was possible for fallen angels to take on a human form and have intercourse with females.
3. The offspring of fallen angel/human copulation were:
 - Not born under Adam’s lineage (like all of humanity).
 - A creation that is disconnected from God’s original plan/intent.
 - Not able to receive God’s grace.
 - Not able to enter Heaven after their death.
 - Instrumental in driving the wickedness that increased on earth prior to the flood.

All flesh (except that which was on the Ark) died during the flood. Based upon the aforementioned, the souls of the Nephilim (i.e. demons) are unable to transition to an afterlife. So, they remain on earth—awaiting their final demise in the lake of fire. Meanwhile, they seek to take residence in human bodies—as they seek to destroy and kill their host.

Demonized

A common term used to describe one who is under the control of a demon is demon possession. The word demon-possessed is used in Matthew 9:32-34 and Matthew 12:22-24. However, possession implies the concept of ownership...but demons are unable to own anything. They are simply squatters, or ones who illegally inhabit territory that does not belong to them. The New Testament Greek word used to describe one who is influenced, controlled, or tormented by an unclean spirit is "daimonizomai." Daimonizomai is translated as demonized—which more accurately reflects the condition of one who has been inhabited by one or more unclean spirits.

Mark 5:1-17 provides us with a spiritually insightful interaction between Jesus and demons who took residence (and control) of a tormented man.

"Then they came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gadarenes. And when He had come out of the boat, immediately there met Him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit, who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no one could bind him, not even with chains, because he had often been bound with shackles and chains. And the chains had been pulled apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces; neither could anyone tame him. And always, night and day, he was in the mountains and in the tombs, crying out and cutting himself with stones."

"When he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and worshiped Him. And he cried out with a loud voice and said, 'What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me.' For He said to him, 'Come out of the man, unclean spirit!' Then He asked him, 'What is your name?' And he answered, saying, 'My name is Legion; for we are many.' Also he begged Him earnestly that He would not send them out of the country."

"Now a large herd of swine was feeding there near the mountains. So all the demons begged Him, saying, 'Send us to the swine, that we may enter them.' And at once Jesus gave them permission. Then the unclean spirits went out and entered the swine (there were about two thousand); and the herd ran violently down the steep place into the sea, and drowned in the sea."

"So those who fed the swine fled, and they told it in the city and in the country. And they went out to see what it was that had happened. Then they came to Jesus, and saw the one who had been demon-possessed and had the legion, sitting and clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. And those who saw it told them how it happened to him who had been demon-possessed, and about the swine. Then they began to plead with Him to depart from their region." Mark 5: 1-17

Reason for Multiple Demons

Jesus Christ explained why a person may have multiple demons.

"When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. Then he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came.' And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order. Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation." Matthew 12:43-45

Based upon the words of Jesus, once a person is rid of an unclean spirit(s), they must replace the void created by the exercised demon(s) with God's spirit. As such, it is very important for the person to have reached the point where they have a heart-felt desire to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord...and are willing to yield to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Otherwise, the person will experience a much worse condition when the unclean spirits return and find their prior dwelling place empty.

Power of Fasting and Prayer

The disciples unsuccessfully attempted to cast out a demon from a deaf and mute child. This scenario provides insight some demons are stronger than others.

“When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, ‘Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!’ Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, ‘He is dead.’ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, ‘Why could we not cast it out?’ So He said to them, ‘This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.’”
Mark 9:25-29

Demons and Christians

Some persons believe it is possible for a demon to take residence in a born-again Christian. Scripture proves otherwise. Born-again Christians are property of God, purchased by the blood of the Lamb.

- “Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.” 2 Corinthians 1:21-22
- Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. 2 Corinthians 5:5
- “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.” 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

However, it is possible for demons to harass, oppress and create temptations for Christians. Every born-again Christian can attest to various times in their lives when they have encountered the strong opposing desires associated with sin; experienced gut-wrenching emotions such as fear, anger and hatred; and have been stymied by inappropriate thoughts. For all of these experiences were common place (and we were unaware of their existence because it all seemed “normal”) before we accepted Jesus Christ into our lives. We were living in darkness, unable to see, and were unknowingly “played” by forces beyond our control.

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.” 2 Corinthians 5:17

Part of our “newness” involves changes within our heart: including a desire to abstain sin and obey the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

“No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.” 1 Corinthians 10:13

“For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.” 2 Corinthians 3-5

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.”

“Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.” Ephesians 6:10-20

Deceptional Doctrines of Demons

As the world digresses into the Tribulation, and as unimaginable stresses are experienced by all...those who are not deeply rooted upon the foundation of God’s grace in Jesus Christ will be more willing to embrace the deceptions of deceiving spirits, and believe in the doctrines declared by demonically possessed “religious” leaders.

“Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.” 1 Timothy 4:1

Testing False Doctrine

Christians must base their faith upon sound doctrine; they need to know God’s word (by reading the Bible); and must continually watch and test every spirit.

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God, and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.” 1 John 4:1-3

“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. Therefore, it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.” 2 Corinthians 11:13-15

True spiritual leaders will focus on Jesus Christ (God’s Son), who came in the flesh, lived among us, and gave His life as a sacrifice for our sins—so that we can be eternally forgiven. False leaders will dilute and distract from His truth. Test their words and behavior against scripture. Do not consider personality, intellect, nor physical attributes. True doctrine is based upon the life, death, blood, and resurrection of Jesus Christ for the atonement of our sins.

In addition, Holy Spirit-led church leaders will not allow nor accept praise and worship directed towards them. Out of courtesy they may thank you but will humbly redirect praise and worship to the only one who is worthy...Jesus Christ. Deceitful “spiritual” leaders desire praise and worship, relish in it, and may “appear” to give God the glory.

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore, God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Philippians 2:5-11

Here are 4 additional “filters” to test doctrine.

| Filter | Sound Doctrine | Deceiving Doctrine |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Origination of Doctrine | Originates with God | Originates with man/demon |
| 2. Based upon the Word of God | Authoritative source is the Bible | Human precepts and teachings. Some content source outside Bible |
| 3. Consistency with the Bible | Consistent / total Bible | Inconsistent and will discount or disagree with parts of Bible |
| 4. Spiritual Status | Drives healthy and godly living | Weak and ungodly living |

There is one more final test, which for lack of a better term I call the “uncomfortable” test. This is when deep in your heart and soul you have a feeling of uneasiness, a discordance, and a feeling that “something does not seem right” with this person/group. This internal response is difficult to explain, but most of us can relate to this scenario or remember experiencing this type of situation. This is when we need to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to provide us with insightful revelation of the truth, wisdom, and guidance.

Encountering a Demonized Person

Here is basic information everyone should understand.

1. Do not attempt to confront a demon unless you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord and are guided by the Holy Spirit. The sons of Sceva found out the hard way.

“God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them. Some Jews who went around driving out evil spirits tried to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who were demon-possessed. They would say, ‘In the name of the Jesus whom Paul preaches, I command you to come out.’ Seven sons of Sceva, a Jewish chief priest, were doing this. One day the evil spirit answered them, ‘Jesus I know, and Paul I know about, but who are you?’ Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding.” Acts 19:11-16

2. If you need to confront a demonic entity, it is important to seek the help of someone who is trained and experienced in this type of spiritual warfare. You may start with your church pastor for guidance.
3. The person affected by a demon must be willing to go before the Lord in sincere and heartfelt prayer; and:
 - a. Ready to accept Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. (John 6:35; Rev 3:20)
 - b. Willing to confess their sins. (1 John 1:9)
 - c. Willing to repent and renounce their sins. (Acts 3:19)
 - d. Willing to follow the Holy Spirit. (Romans 8:14)

If the person does not receive God’s indwelling Spirit (Ephesians 1:13-14), demons will return stronger than before (Matthew 12:45).

“You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” 1 John 4:4

Judgment of Satan and His Fallen Angels

Sinful, irredeemable, cast down to earth, and bound by chains of darkness...Satan, his fallen angels, and demons know their eternal demise. There is no means of salvation. They lived in God's presence; they knew the absolute truth; and they choose to rebel against God, followed Satan, and died a spiritual death—consequences that are also relevant to every person.

“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.”

“Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’ Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’”

“Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, **into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels**: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’ Then they also will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’ Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.” Matthew 25:31-46

Satan Bound 1,000 Years

“Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.” Revelation 20:1-3

“Now when the thousand years have expired, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations which are in the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle, whose number is as the sand of the sea. They went up on the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city. And fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them. The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.” Revelation 20:7-10

The Great White Throne Judgment

“Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.” Revelation 20:7-15

Conclusion

Born again Christians know God loves us unconditionally. We also know we were unworthy to receive God's grace and love; we were unworthy to receive eternal forgiveness; we were unworthy to receive the rewards bestowed upon us as inheritors of His promise. But what will be even more amazing...is when we hear our name read from the Book of Life and acknowledged by our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ...before God and the angels. This will be the first time when we will fully understand what Jesus Christ did for us on the cross. What's more, this is when we will experience indescribable joy as we join our brethren and angels in glorious worship of our Savior and Lord.

"After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!' All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, thanksgiving and honor and power and might, be to our God forever and ever. Amen.'" Revelation 7:9-12

May you be richly blessed in knowing Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord; witness the cleansing of your heart and soul by the transformational power of God's love; and hear your name read from the Book of Life and acknowledge before God and the angels by the one who paid the price for our entrance into the heavenly realms.

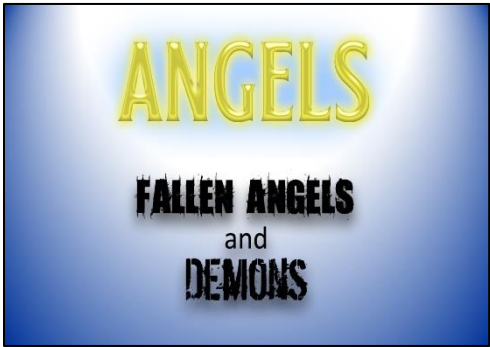
All for His Glory,
Harold D. Thomas

"He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments,
and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life;
but I will confess his name before My Father
and before His angels."
Revelation 3:5

Summary of Angels, Fallen Angels & Demons

- All angels are God-created, including holy and fallen angels.
- Holy angels may be categorized: throne room, the Angel of the Lord, archangel, messenger, and ministering.
 - Throne Room angels include Cherubim, Seraphim and Living Creatures.
 - The Angel of the Lord in the Old Testament spoke with words that can only come from God.
 - Michael is the prince of archangels.
 - Gabriel was instrumental in delivering messages to Daniel, the father of John the Baptist, and to the mother and earthly father of Jesus.
 - There are multiple instances of ministering angels fulfilling God's will and influencing history.
 - Angels will be involved in delivering God's wrath during the last days.
- Additional angelic information:
 - We are to worship God only and not angels.
 - Angels can transform into a physical body.
 - Angels experience emotions.
 - Angels do not marry or procreate.
 - There are at least 100 million holy angels.
- Fallen angels are those who decided to follow Satan in a rebellion against God.
 - Satan and his angels were defeated by Michael and were cast down to earth.
 - Satan was an anointed cherub.
 - Fallen angels and demons:
 - There is a hierarchy of fallen angels (thrones, dominions, principalities, and powers).
 - Fallen angels and demons have different characteristics.
 - Demons may have a different origin than fallen angels.
 - God's spirit within a born-again believer precludes Christian demonization.
 - Demons will attempt to harass, oppress and create temptations for Christians.
 - Satan, his fallen angels, death, hell, and those not found written in the Book of Life will be cast into the lake of fire for eternity.

Bible Study Thought-Provoking Questions



The purpose of the questions is to facilitate a deeper understanding of the Bible, this Bible study topic and ourselves. The questions may be answered by each reader, or used by a Bible study group leader or church pastor. The following questions should be answered or discussed after reading “Angels, Fallen Angels and Demons.”

There are two types of questions: lesson and opinion. Lesson questions (preceded by a number) are provided an answer. Opinion questions (preceded by an ⓐ) are designed to enhance learning via the determination of opinions and/or discovering how the lesson content illuminates our personal lives. As such, no answers are provided.

Questions

- ⓐ Why would God create angels with a free will?
- 1. What are the three types of throne room angels?
- 2. Which of the three types of throne room angels:
 - Are assigned to protect man from discovering the Garden of Eden, represented on top of the mercy seat; and included in the Temples Most Holy Place (inner sanctuary)?
 - Were described as being above God’s throne; cried “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory”; and touched Isaiah’s mouth with live coal to purge his sin?
 - Have eyes in front and in back; one like a lion, one like a calf, one has a face like a man, and the other like a flying eagle; and said “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come.”
- ⓐ Because the Bible is not specifically clear, the lesson provided an opinion-based explanation of the identity of the Angel of the Lord (pages 8-11). What is your opinion? Explain.
- 3. Which angels are warriors; assigned to confront, combat and control Satan and his fallen angels; and comprise the army of the Lord?
- 4. Who is the Commander of God’s army?
- 5. What are the spiritual weapons used by angels to defeat Satan and his minions?
- 6. Can you recall at least 2 examples of messages delivered by messenger angels?
- ⓐ It says we will judge angels (1 Corinthians 6:3). Why do you think God designed it this way?
- ⓐ The lesson provided a comparison between sheep (humans) and sheep dogs (ministering angels). Do you agree with the spiritual relevance? Explain?
- 7. There are only 4 named angels in the Bible: two holy and two fallen. Who are they?
- ⓐ The Bible provides insight into the positive emotions expressed by holy angels as they worship and rejoice. What type of emotions do you think are (and will be) experienced by fallen angels and demons?
- ⓐ The lesson stated there is no salvation for fallen angels and demons. Do you agree or disagree? Explain.
- ⓐ Why do you think some evil spirits are held in the Abyss while others are not?
- 8. Where will each fallen angel, demon, death, Hades, and those whose names are not found in the Book of Life reside for eternity?

Answers

1. Page 5: Cherubim, Seraphim and living creatures
2. Page 5-7: Cherubim, Seraphim and living creatures
3. Page 11: Archangels
4. Page 12: Jesus
5. Page 12-13: God's word
6. Page 13-14: Gabriel visited David 3 times; Gabriel notified Zacharias he would have a son (John the Baptist); Gabriel notified Mary the power of the Highest will overshadow her, she will conceive a Son, she shall name Him Jesus, and her relative Elizabeth had conceived a son; a messenger angel announced Jesus had risen.
7. Page 20: Holy: Michael (archangel) and Gabriel (messenger); fallen: Lucifer or Satan, and Abaddon/Apollyon (Hebrew/Greek name).
8. Page 33 & 35: Lake of fire