

# **Angels and Demons**

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*<sup>37</sup> Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, <sup>39</sup> 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. (Rom. 8:37-39)*

## **Introduction**

Any discussion about angels and demons (devils) is a fascinating topic whether or not one is a believer in God. This has been the subject of many books and movies. We see in the Bible that angels and demons are very real. Many biblical passages refer to these beings and their power. Some people deny the existence of angels and demons. They believe these beings are fairy-tale figures made up by authors writing fiction. Some who believe in the biblical accounts of these beings do not believe they are active in our present day.

As we think about angels and demons we need to understand at the beginning that we are not talking about two separate classes of beings. Demons are angels too. Perhaps a better way of defining them is to call them either angels who did not fall and those who did fall, referred to as fallen angels or demons. How did these angels fall?

I wanted to write a book on this subject to address some of these issues and to share what knowledge we have from the Bible regarding angels and demons. My hope is that the skeptic will see that these beings are real and that angels have a present day purpose and ministry for our good. Demons, on the other hand, seek their own selfish ends and try to do great evil to mankind. It is important that we recognize their existence to help us be on guard against them.

## Chapter 1

### The Creation of Angels

#### **In the Beginning....**

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Gen. 1:1)*

It is not in the scope of this book to get into a discussion of creation versus evolution. I do discuss that in a limited way in my e-book [Key Social Issues Facing Christians](#) also on free-ebooks.net.

In the biblical account we see that it was God who created the heavens and the earth. We know from the Bible that God created man on day six.

*Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup> So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup> Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ... Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day. (Gen. 1:26-28, 31)*

## **When Were the Angels Created?**

We do not have a definitive answer to that question. God created heaven on the second day.

*And God called the firmament heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day. (Gen. 1:8)*

Sea creatures and birds were created on day five. (Gen. 1:21-23) Land animals and man were created on day six. The angelic hosts are not specifically mentioned. Many have speculated that the angels were created on one of the days 2 through 6. God decided not to mention when He created angels. Since He didn't mention it we can safely assume this information was not important for us to know. God reveals to us in His Word the things we need to know about Him. He chooses what to reveal and gives us only the information we need for our betterment. Our finite minds cannot understand the infinite God and His actions.

*Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! (Rom. 11:33)*

## **What Are Angels?**

Angels are ministering spirits.

*Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? (Heb. 1:14)*

We see in this verse that one of the main purposes of angels is to minister to God's people who will inherit salvation. As Christians, this should be a comfort to us knowing that angels protect us. How many times have we narrowly

escaped an accident that could have been serious or fatal? Think about all the close calls we have had driving a car. Perhaps you escaped many accidents because an angel intervened on your behalf.

After Jesus was tempted by Satan and had endured 40 days and nights of fasting, God sent angels to minister to Him.

*<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him. (Matt. 4:11)*

When Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane right before His arrest and crucifixion, God sent an angel to help Him in His agony.

*<sup>41</sup> And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, <sup>42</sup> saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done." <sup>43</sup> Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. (Luke 22:43)*

### **Do Angels Procreate?**

Angels are not made of flesh and blood. Angels are eternal spiritual beings. They do not marry, have sexual relations, or procreate. They are without gender.

*Jesus answered and said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage. <sup>35</sup> But those who are counted worthy to attain that age, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage; <sup>36</sup> 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)*



Angels were created as finished beings. They were not babies who grew up to be adults as do humans. They never age or die. This is because they are spirits without bodies like we have.

### **Were Angels the Sons of God in Gen. 6:1-4?**

*Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, <sup>2</sup> 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.*

*<sup>3</sup> 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." <sup>4</sup> 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.*

It is my opinion that angels are not being referred to here. We know from Luke 20:34-36 that angels don't marry and these women are referred to as wives. Angels are also spirits, not flesh and blood, so they could not have had sexual relations with these women. Some think that angels possessed these men and had sexual relations with the women which produced an evil race of beings who were the giants. I would disagree with that explanation. The holy angels in heaven do not possess people, only demons do so. While the holy angels and believers in Christ are referred to as the sons of God, I don't think that demons would ever be referred to as the sons of God. The following verse in Job does not include Satan as one of the sons of God who came before the Lord that day to discuss Job. It just says he also came there.

*<sup>6</sup> Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. (Job 1:6)*

Perhaps the sons of God refer to those men that came through the line of Seth rather than the evil line of Cain. Over time these godly men became indiscriminate in their choice of women to marry. Instead of marrying believers or godly women, they took as wives any among the daughters of men thus producing an evil line that eventually led to the flood, a punishment from God.

### **How Many Angels Are There?**

We can conclude then that God created all the angels at one moment in time. There are a finite number of angels which are neither increased nor decreased. How many angels are there? They are innumerable.

*But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels,... (Heb. 12:22)*

*"I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; <sup>10</sup> A fiery stream issued And came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. (Dan. 7:9-10)*

In this vision, Daniel saw one hundred million angels before the throne of God. This probably did not include all the angelic beings as there are no demons here.

When Peter cut off the ear of the servant of the high priest when Jesus was arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane, the Lord spoke the following words to him:

*"Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. <sup>53</sup> Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?" (Matt. 26:52-53)*

In Jesus' day, a Roman legion could consist of 3,000 to 6,000 soldiers. Therefore, twelve legions of angels could have been anywhere from 36,000 to 72,000 angels. That would have been much more than enough to handle the small force of Roman soldiers and Jewish leaders who arrested Jesus that night, especially when you consider one mighty angel could have protected Jesus from them all.

### **Who Are the Elect Angels?**

*I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality. (1 Tim. 5:21)*

Before God created angels, He had already chosen those angels who would never rebel against Him. These are called the elect angels. Those angels whom God did not choose before their creation are not elect of God. They became the fallen angels or demons (devils). The purpose of election, concerning angels or mankind, is to show God's sovereignty, rule, and power over His creatures. God is in charge of everything which includes the destiny of angels and men. Can the elect angels ever fall or rebel against God? The answer is no. They would never have been elected by God if they would fall later. For a more in depth

treatment of election, read my book Free Grace or Free Will – God’s Free Salvation Plan also on [www.free-ebooks.net](http://www.free-ebooks.net).

These elect angels are called holy.

*For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father’s, and of the holy angels. (Luke 9:26)*

## Chapter 2

### Messengers of God

God created angels to serve and worship Him. The word angel means messenger. God sometimes sends messages to mankind by angels. Angels normally appear as men when giving their messages to people. The following are some of the more notable messages God sent to people through angels.

#### **God's Message to Mary about Jesus**

Perhaps the most important message God sent to mankind was by His angel named Gabriel who informed Mary, a virgin, that God had chosen her to be the mother of the Son of God, Jesus Christ.

*Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"*

*<sup>29</sup> But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. <sup>30</sup> Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. <sup>32</sup> He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. <sup>33</sup> And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."*

*<sup>34</sup> Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?"*

*<sup>35</sup> And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup> For with God nothing will be impossible."*

*<sup>38</sup> Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her. (Luke 1:26-38)*

What an amazing message from God to a lowly young Jewish girl. Mary must have been stunned after this angelic visit. Chosen to be the mother of the Son of God, the Jewish Messiah, was the greatest honor any Jewish girl could have dreamed for. It must have taken some time for her to work through her emotions after this visit from the angel Gabriel.

### **Message to the Shepherds of the Birth of Christ**

If you were God, how would you share the message of the birth of your Son? You probably would send it to a king, ruler, or someone of royalty. God's ways are so different than man's ways.

*Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. <sup>10</sup> Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. <sup>11</sup> For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe*

*wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.”<sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!” (Luke 2:8-14)*

It is very interesting that this announcement by the angel about the birth of the Christ was made to lowly shepherds instead of to royalty. This shows the humility of our Savior. It also shows how His coming was not just for the privileged but also for the common people. Christ’s first coming was in poverty and with little fanfare. His second coming will be in power, glory, and majesty for all people to see and be amazed.

*<sup>16</sup> For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: (1 Thess. 4:16)*

*<sup>30</sup> Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. (Matt. 24:30)*

## **Message Concerning John the Baptist**

God sent a message to the father of John the Baptist by the angel Gabriel telling him he would have a son in his old age who would prepare the people for the coming of the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

*Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense.<sup>12</sup> And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.<sup>13</sup> But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.<sup>14</sup> And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.<sup>15</sup> For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother’s womb.<sup>16</sup> And he will*

*turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. <sup>17</sup> He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."*

*<sup>18</sup> And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years." <sup>19</sup> And the angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings. <sup>20</sup> But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time." (Luke 1:11-20)*

Since Zacharias, who was a Levite and had temple duties in service to God, did not have faith in the words of the angel Gabriel, God gave him a sign. He was struck with muteness until the child was born.

## **The Resurrection of Christ**

After Jesus died by crucifixion, He was laid in a nearby tomb. On the third day he arose from the grave in a bodily resurrection. Two angels were at the tomb after Jesus arose and gave the message that He had arisen from the dead.

*Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. <sup>2</sup> But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. <sup>3</sup> Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. <sup>4</sup> And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. <sup>5</sup> Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? <sup>6</sup> He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, <sup>7</sup> saying, 'The Son of*



*Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.” (Luke 24:1-7)*

*But Mary stood outside by the tomb weeping, and as she wept she stooped down and looked into the tomb. <sup>12</sup> And she saw two angels in white sitting, one at the head and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain. <sup>13</sup> Then they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “Because they have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid Him.” (John 20:11-13)*

Mary would then turn around, see, and speak to the risen Lord!

## **The Ascension of Christ**

Right after Jesus’ final message to His disciples, He ascended into heaven before their very eyes.

*Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, <sup>11</sup> who also said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:9-11)*

Two angels appearing as men who were standing by gave the Lord’s disciples the message that Jesus was coming back one day in the clouds just as He left them going into the clouds to heaven.

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