

ANGELS, SATAN AND DEMONS

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ANGELS: A Summary

Angels are created beings and messengers of God, powerful beings that inhabit the heavenly spheres, and minister in both the heavenly and earthly realm.

Angels were present to praise God at creation (as implied by Job 38:4-7; Ps. 148:2-5). They were created good because God cannot create anything evil. Angels are responsible for their actions, and a number chose evil and disobedience rather than good and obedience (Matt. 25:41).

What can we learn about angels from Scripture?

1. Angels are intelligent beings

Matt. 18:10	They understand
I Peter 1:12	They are curious, especially about salvation
Psalms 148:2	They worship and speak, and intelligence is required for these activities

2. Angels are emotional beings

Luke 2:13-14	Praise
Luke 15:10	Rejoice
Rev. 12	Anger

3. Angels are volitional beings

II Peter 2:4	Chose to sin
Jude 9	They have plans

4. Angels are responsible beings

Jude 6
Matthew 25:41

5. Angels are creatures: they do not procreate

Colossians 2:18-19
Revelation 19:10
Rev. 22:8-9 Because they are creatures, they are not to be worshipped!

6. Angels are spirit beings with some type of spiritual body

Heb. 1:14 ministering spirits

7. Angels are contingently immortal, they will not cease to exist. In this regard they are similar to us Luke 20:36

8. Angels do not marry and do not propagate

Mark 12:25 (They are referred to in the masculine gender, the names given for angels are always masculine)

9. The angels are numerous

Job 38:7; Dan. 7:10; Rev. 5:11; Rev. 12:4; -- they are innumerable in number, as many as the stars

Classification of Angels

1. There are unfallen, elect angels (Mark 8:38; I Tim. 5:21)
2. There are fallen non-elect angels (Matt.25-41)
 - a. Some are loose (demonic powers) – Ephesians 6
 - b. Apparently some are already bound – II Peter 2:4
 - c. Apparently some are bound but will be released during the tribulation – Rev. 6-19 (esp. 9:1-6, 13-19).

Organization of Angels

1. Archangels – from arche (“chief”)

Catholics usually have 7 archangels (Angels named in various literature include Jeremiel, Saraquel, Raquel, Remiel, Raphael, Uriel, Michael, Garbriel [note the “el” endings – they belong to El, to God]).

Protestants usually have 1, who is Michael – Daniel 10:31; I Thess. 4:16; Jude 9. Only Michael and Gabriel are angels who are named in Scripture.

2. Perhaps the others are organized as listed below. This may be some type of hierarchy or it may simply be their function – Eph. 3:10; Col. 1:16; I Pet. 3:22
 - a. Thrones
 - b. Dominions
 - c. Principalities
 - d. Authorities
 - e. Powers
3. There are the Cherubim who are guardians of God’s holiness (Gen. 3:24; cf. Ezk. 10:20).
4. There are the Seraphim (lit. “Burning ones”) who are in the immediate presence of God (Is. 6:2-6).
5. There are the living creatures who praise God constantly (Rev. 4:6).

Note: It is possible that these last 3 are designations for the same group.

Function of Angels

1. Bring revelation – Daniel 9:21-23
2. They strengthen – Luke 22:43
3. They minister to God’s children – Matthew 4:11; Hebrews 1:14
4. They protect – Matthew 2:13
5. They dispense judgment – Revelation 8, 9, 16
6. They are always present at key events of revelation and redemption:
 - a. Creation – Job 38
 - b. Israel – Gen. 18:1-7
 - c. Law – Gal. 3:19
 - d. Christ’s birth – Matt. 1:20
 - e. Church – Acts 1:10
 - f. Millennium – Rev. 20

Who Are The Sons Of God Of Genesis 6?

Identity	Sethities	Human Princes or Despots	Fallen Angels	Demon Possessed Rulers
Activity	Godly Sethites (line of Christ) marry wicked Cainites	Despotic chiefs who marry many wives (polygamy)	Fallen angels cohabit with beautiful women	Demon possessed rulers who marry many wives (polygamy)
Perversity	Godly line of Seth polluted by mixed (spiritual) marriage	Kings/princes use polygamy to expand rule and influence	Human race corrupted by mixed marriages with angels	Wicked princes use polygamy to expand rule and influence
Progeny	Wicked tyrants	Great rulers	Monstrous giants	Great rulers
Arguments For	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The context emphasis is men. 2. Human sin is the reason for the flood. 3. Fits the context of Genesis 4-5. 4. Fits the prohibition later in Genesis not to intermarry with the ungodly. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biblical usage of “god” for rulers (Ps. 82:6) emphasizes the development of wicked lines. 2. Near Eastern practice to call kings “sons of God”. 3. Reference in ancient accounts to origin of kingship prior to Flood. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An ancient Jewish view. 2. Phrase “sons of God” in O.T. (Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7) is usually angels. 3. The N.T. references to the angelic sin [of Gen. 6] seems to fit (I Pet. 3:18; II Peter 2:4; Jude 6). 4. The unnatural race of offspring (Heb. <i>Nephilim</i> or “fallen ones”). 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Sons of God” are fallen angels who possess men. 2. Reference to great men is supra-normal. 3. Accounts for ancient reference to kings before flood. 4. Avoids theological and physical difficulties of angel view. 5. Combines values of other views.
Difficulties	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exact phrase “sons of God” not used for believers in the O.T. 2. Doesn’t explain the origin of the giants and mighty men. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Doesn’t explain giants. 2. Fails to explain “sons of God” use in Scripture. 3. Doesn’t account for N.T. reference to angelic activity. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Angels do not marry (Matt. 22:30). 2. The theological and physiological difficulties of angelic/human marriages. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lacks support by many commentators. 2. Lacks support of Jewish tradition.
Proponents	Keil, Lange, Leupold, Matthews, Calvin	L. Birney, M. Kline, Kaiser	Delitzsch, Albright	J.A. Cline, H. Hirt, A. Ross

SATAN: A Summary

1. The Personality of Satan

- a. Intellect – Matthew 4
- b. Emotions – I Timothy 3:6
- c. Will – Jude 9
- d. Moral Responsibility – Matthew 25:41

2. The Titles of Satan

- a. The Wicked One – Ephesians 6:16
- b. Tempter – Matthew 4:3
- c. Prince of this World – John 12:31
- d. God of this Age – II Corinthians 4:4
- e. Prince of the Power of the Air – Ephesians 2:2
- f. Accuser of the Brethren – Revelation 12:10
- g. Deceiver of the Whole World – Revelation 12:9
- h. Prince of the Demons – Matthew 12:24-26
- i. Adversary – I Peter 5:8
- j. Enemy – Matthew 13:25
- k. Father of Lies – John 8:44
- l. Murderer – John 8:44

3. Pictures of Satan

- a. Serpent – II Corinthians 11:3
- b. Dragon – Revelation 12: 3-4
- c. Angel of Light – II Corinthians 11:4
- d. Roaring Lion – I Peter 5:8-9
- * Typical references to Satan are Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28

4. Character of Satan

- a. Murderer and liar – John 8:44
(Practically all forms of evil grow out of these two major violations)
 1. Violation of the sacredness of life
 2. Violation of the sacredness of truth
- b. Sinner – I John 3:8
- c. Accuser of the saints – Revelation 12:10
- d. Proudful – I Timothy 3:6

5. Limitations of Satan

- a. Accountable – Matthew 25:41
- b. Not omnipresent – Job 1:7

- c. Not omniscient – Job 1
- d. Not omnipotent – Revelation 12:7
- * He can be resisted (Ephesians 6:10-20; James 4:7)

6. Power of Satan

- a. Power over angelic realm – Matthew 25:41
- b. Power over physical realm – II Corinthians 12:7
- c. Power in the areas of human affairs
 - 1) in hearts and thoughts – Matthew 16:23
 - 2) in government – John 12:31
 - 3) in spiritual realm – Matthew 13:19
 - 4) in the church – I Timothy 4
 - 5) in death – Job 1:19

7. Program of Satan

- a. Counterfeits – II Corinthians 11:14-15
- b. Slanderer – Genesis 3:4-5
- c. Attempt to destroy work of Jesus – I John 3:8
- d. Deceives – Revelation 20:3
- e. Blinds minds and spiritual eyes – II Corinthians 4:4
- f. Accuses – Revelation 12:10
- g. Hinders – I Thessalonians 2:18
- h. Sows tares – Matthew 13:38-39
- i. Incites persecution – Revelation 2:10
- j. Tempts to sin – Acts 5:3
- k. Seeks to establish a permanent kingdom which supplants and coexists with God's kingdom. In so doing, he employs certain devices: (II Corinthians 11:2-4).
 - 1) Focuses attention on God's restrictions.
 - 2) Tempts us to doubt the goodness of God.
 - 3) Presents attractive counterfeits to God's will and true worship (piety, religion, money, position, prestige).
 - 4) Focuses attention on the present, not the future values of eternity.

8. Our Attitude Toward Satan

- a. Never underestimate him – Jude 8-9
- b. Never overestimate him – Job 1:21
- c. Be on guard for attacks – I Peter 5:8
- d. Do not invite his attacks – Ephesians 4:27
- e. Be aware that God uses Satan – II Corinthians 12:7
- f. Be aware of our defenses against Satan – the finished work of Christ and our testimony – John 12:31; Revelation 12:11
- g. Be aware of the intercessory work of Jesus – John 17:15

- h. Be aware of his tactics – II Corinthians 2:11
- i. Be aware of the defense provided by humble submission to God – James 4:6-7
- j. Be aware of the defense provided by firm resistance to Satan – James 4:6-7
- k. Be aware of the defense provided by employing the spiritual armor – Ephesians 6:10-17
- l. Be aware of the defense furnished by prayer – Matthew 6:13; Ephesians 6:18

9. Our Response Toward Satan

- a. Be strong – Ephesians 6:10
- b. Put on armor – Ephesians 6:11
- c. Stand firm – Ephesians 6:11
- d. Take up the defensive and offensive weapons – Ephesians 6:13 ff

10. Our Resistance Toward Satan

- a. Declare your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Openly acknowledge that He is your Lord and Master; the One who has conquered the powers of evil at the cross.
- b. Boldly deny any and all allegiance to Satan, his demonic host and his world.
- c. Submit to God. Resist Satan!

Names of Satan

NAME	MEANING	CITATION
Satan	Adversary	Matthew 4:10
Devil	Slanderer	Matthew 4:1
Evil One	Intrinsically Evil	John 17:15
Great Red Dragon	Destructive creature	Revelation 12:3, 7, 9
Serpent of old	Deceiver in Eden	Revelation 12:9
Abaddon	Destruction	Revelation 9:11
Apollyon	Destroyer	Revelation 9:11
Adversary	Opponent	I Peter 5:8
Beelzebul	Lord of the fly (Baalzebub)	Matthew 12:24
Belial	Worthless (Beliar)	II Corinthians 6:15
God of this world	Controls philosophy of world	II Corinthians 4:4
Ruler of this world	Rules in world system	John 12:31
Prince of the power of the air	Control of unbelievers	Ephesians 2:2
Enemy	Opponent	Matthew 13:28
Tempter	Solicits people to sin	Matthew 4:3
Murderer	Leads people to eternal death	John 8:44
Liar	Perverts the truth	John 8:44
Accuser	Opposes believer before God	Revelation 12:10

WHO ARE DEMONS?

(A Theological Summation)

1. The spirits of a pre-Adamic evil race.
2. The spirits of evil men.
3. Product of angels cohabitating with women in Genesis 6:1-4.
- * 4. Fallen angels.

WHAT ABOUT DEMONS ?

1. Possible 1/3 of the angels fell with Satan (Rev. 12:4).
2. Some are free to roam now (Mark 1:21-34).
3. Some will be free to roam during the tribulation (Rev. 9:13-19).
4. Some are confined now never to roam (II Peter 2:4; Jude 6).
5. They are powerful but not omnipotent (Mark 1:24).
6. Their activity may have increased during the time of Christ, and also again in the coming end time (see Rev. 6-19).
7. They are set up under Satan's control (Eph. 6:11-12), probably in rank, possibly in geography (Dan. 10:10-12).
8. They have authority and can promote disunity, false doctrine, inflict disease, cause mental difficulties, and hinder Christian growth.
9. Demons can oppress but not possess believers.