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Lesson Outline

The question is often asked, “Are there extraterrestrial beings? Is there life in outer space? According to the Bible, the answer is “yes” – though certainly not like anything that has been devised in the imaginations of men.

The Bible teaches the existence of a vast celestial world of spiritual beings, collectively referred to as angels. Though as real as you and I, they are rarely seen. Theirs is an unseen, immaterial, spirit world – extending from the third Heaven and the very throne-room of God to the Earth itself.

This study seeks to lift the “veil” of the unseen world as much as the Bible allows. Considerable fallacy and superstition surround this area of theology. Paganism has produced grotesque and fanciful legends of angles and demons. “Christian” art often portrays them as feminine beings long hair and wings, and today’s marketing of “guardian angels” has all the overtones of good-luck charms.

The word angel means messenger – one who has been sent on a mission. Strictly speaking therefore, the angels of God refer to only one group of spirit beings. There are other spirit beings, such as the cherubim and seraphim, who are not messengers. Furthermore, men, who serve as messengers, are called angles. Read:

- Revelation 1:20 ²⁰ *The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.*
- Revelation 2:1 ¹ *Unto the angel of the church of Ephesus write; These things saith he that holdeth the seven stars in his right hand, who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks;*

For the most part, we shall use the term “angel” to refer to all spirit beings collectively.

I The Origin of Angles - Where did these spirit beings come from?

A. They Were Created.

1. God commanded, and they were created. According to Psalm 148:2-5 ²*Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts.* ³*Praise ye him, sun and moon: praise him, all ye stars of light.* ⁴*Praise him, ye heavens of heavens, and ye waters that be above the heavens.* ⁵*Let them praise the name of the Lord: **for he commanded, and they were created.***

Also read Nehemiah 9:6 ⁶*Thou, even thou, art Lord alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and*

all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.

2. Read Colossians 1:16 *¹⁶For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:*

B. When Were They Created?

1. **Scripture does not give us the actual account of their creation.**
2. The angels were already present when God laid the foundations of the earth. Read Job 38:4-7 *⁴Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. ⁵Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? ⁶Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; ⁷When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?*

C. How Were They Created?

1. Read Matthew 22:30 *³⁰ For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven. This scripture indicates that angels do not marry.*
2. This means angels are a company – not a race. They do not reproduce themselves. When God created the angels, He called into existence the whole host at one time.

D. How Many Were Created? Read:

1. Deuteronomy 33:2 *²And he said, The Lord came from Sinai, and rose up from Seir unto them; he shined forth from mount Paran, and he came with **ten thousands** of saints: from his right hand went a fiery law for them.*
2. Psalm 68:17 *¹⁷The chariots of God are twenty thousand, **even thousands of angels**: the Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the holy place.*

3. Daniel 7:10 ¹⁰*A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: **thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand** stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.*
4. Matthew 26:53 ⁵³*Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? [a unit of 3,000–6,000 men in the ancient Roman army.]*
5. Luke 2:13 ¹³*And suddenly there was with the angel a **multitude of the heavenly host** praising God, and saying, ¹⁴Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.*
6. Hebrews 12:22 ²²*But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,*
7. Revelation 5:11 ¹¹*And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands;*

II The Nature of Angels - **What are angels like?**

A. They Are Spirit Beings

1. Read Hebrews 1:14 ¹⁴*Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*
Read Psalm 104:4 ⁴*Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:*
2. This means angels are “incorporeal” – i.e. they possess no material body. Keep in mind that man himself is a spiritual being housed inside a material body. Read:
 - II Corinthians 4:16 ¹⁶*For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.*
 - II Corinthians 5:1-4 ¹*For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. ²For in this we groan,*

earnestly desiring to be clothed upon with our house which is from heaven: ³If so be that being clothed we shall not be found naked. ⁴For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened: not for that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life.

- *II Peter 1:13-15 ¹³Yea, I think it meet, as long as I am in this tabernacle, to stir you up by putting you in remembrance; ¹⁴Knowing that shortly I must put off this my tabernacle, even as our Lord Jesus Christ hath shewed me. ¹⁵Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance.*
- *Ecclesiastes 12:7 ⁷Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.*

3. Angels do have the ability to materialize. Read:

- *Genesis 18:1-2 ¹And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; ²And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,*
- *Genesis 18:22 ²²And the men turned their faces from thence, and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the Lord.*
- *Genesis 19:1 ¹And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;*

B. They Are Super Human Beings.

1. Read Psalm 103:20 *²⁰Bless the Lord, ye his angels, **that excel in strength**, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.*

Read Revelation 18:1 *¹And after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, **having great power**; and the earth was lightened with his glory.*

2. Read II Peter 2:11 (from verse 9) *⁹The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished: ¹⁰But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. ¹¹Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.*

3. One angel is capable of destroying an entire army of Assyrian men. Read II Kings 19:35 from verse 34: *³⁴For I will defend this city, to save it, for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake. ³⁵And it came to pass that night, that the angel of the Lord went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses. ³⁶So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed, and went and returned, and dwelt at Nineveh.*

4. They are called **MIGHTY**. Read II Thessalonians 1:7 *⁷And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,*

5. Angelic power is a supervised power. Its always under God's control. Read:
 - II Samuel 24:16 *¹⁶And when the angel stretched out his hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, the Lord repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people, It is enough: stay now thine hand. And the angel of the Lord was by the threshingplace of Araunah the Jebusite.*

 - Matthew 26:53 *⁵³ **Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?***

 - Revelation 7:2-3 *²And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, ³ Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads*

- Revelation 16:1 *¹And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth.*

- 6. Read Daniel 9:20-23 *²⁰And whiles I was speaking, and 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; ²¹Yea, **whiles I was speaking in prayer**, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. ²²And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. ²³At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.*

Gabriel had the ability to travel from Heaven's throne room to Earth in less time than it took Daniel to pray.

C. They Are Masculine Beings.

One of the unscriptural notions about angels is that they have a feminine appearance. Religious art often portrays the angels with long golden hair, flowing white robes, and with wings. In actual fact:

1. Read:
 - II Samuel 24:16 *¹⁶And when the angel stretched out **his** hand upon Jerusalem to destroy it, the Lord repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed the people, It is enough: stay now thine hand. And the angel of the Lord was by the threshingplace of Araunah the Jebusite.*

 - I Chronicles 21:15 *¹⁵And God sent an angel unto Jerusalem to destroy it: and as **he** was destroying, the Lord beheld, and he repented him of the evil, and said to the angel that destroyed, It is enough, stay now thine hand. And the angel of the Lord stood by the threshingfloor of Ornan the Jebusite.*

 - Matthew 28:1-5 *¹In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. ²And, behold, there was a great*

earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it. ³His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: ⁴And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men. ⁵And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

- *Acts 12:7 ⁷And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.*
- *Revelation 22:8-9 ⁸And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. ⁹Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.*

References to these angels in the above passages used the personal pronouns:

he, his, and him

2. Compare:

- *Matthew 28:1-5 (read c, page 7 above)*
- *Mark 16:1-5 ¹And when the sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome, had bought sweet spices, that they might come and anoint him. ²And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun. ³And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre? ⁴And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. ⁵And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a **young man** sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.*

Although glorious in appearance, the angel is referred to as a “young man.”

3. Read Genesis 18:2 *²And he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed himself toward the ground,*

Read Genesis 19:1 *¹And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;*

⁴But before they lay down, the men of the city, even the men of Sodom, compassed the house round, both old and young, all the people from every quarter: ⁵And they called unto Lot, and said unto him, Where are the men which came in to thee this night? bring them out unto us, that we may know them.

**The Lord and his two (2) attendant angels are called “three men.”
And, these three men were ATTRACTIVE.**

4. Read Zechariah 1:8-12 *⁸I saw by night, and behold a man riding upon a red horse, and he stood among the myrtle trees that were in the bottom; and behind him were there red horses, speckled, and white. ⁹Then said I, O my lord, what are these? And the angel that talked with me said unto me, I will shew thee what these be. ¹⁰And the man that stood among the myrtle trees answered and said, These are they whom the Lord hath sent to walk to and fro through the earth. ¹¹And they answered the angel of the Lord that stood among the myrtle trees, and said, We have walked to and fro through the earth, and, behold, all the earth sitteth still, and is at rest. ¹²Then the angel of the Lord answered and said, O Lord of hosts, how long wilt thou not have mercy on Jerusalem and on the cities of Judah, against which thou hast had indignation these threescore and ten years?*

The Angel of the Lord is described as a man.

5. Read Acts 10:1-3 *¹There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, ²A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway. ³He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius.*

Read Acts 10:30-31 *³⁰And Cornelius said, Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and, **behold, a***

man stood before me in bright clothing, ³¹And said, Cornelius, thy prayer is heard, and thine alms are had in remembrance in the sight of God.

Cornelius described the angel as a man in bright clothing.

6. Those spiritual beings whose names we have been given (Michael, Gabriel, Lucifer) each have a masculine name. [*also, the fact angels can have “names” is significant.*]

Note: These descriptions preclude wings. The only spiritual beings with wings are Seraphim and Cherubim.

Note: The only reference to a winged woman is found in Zachariah 5:5-11 ⁵Then the angel that talked with me went forth, and said unto me, Lift up now thine eyes, and see what is this that goeth forth. ⁶And I said, What is it? And he said, This is an ephah that goeth forth. He said moreover, This is their resemblance through all the earth. ⁷And, behold, there was lifted up a talent of lead: and this is a woman [“This is a woman” - Literally, “one woman,” all sin being concentrated and personified in one, as he goes on to speak of her as the, personified, wickedness.] that sitteth in the midst of the ephah. [a talent or weighty piece – 50 to 100 lbs] ⁸And he said, This is wickedness. And he cast it into the midst of the ephah; and he cast the weight of lead upon the mouth thereof. ⁹Then lifted I up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came out two women, and the wind was in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork: and they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heaven. ¹⁰Then said I to the angel that talked with me, Whither do these bear the ephah? ¹¹And he said unto me, To build it an house in the land of Shinar: and it shall be established, and set there upon her own base.

They are clearly distinguished from the angel. This passage seems to line up with the “Woman of Babylon (Shinar)” in Revelation 17 (the demonic creatures released from the bottomless pit are described as having the hair of women. Read Revelation 9:6-8 ⁶And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them. ⁷And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. ⁸And they **had hair as the hair of women**, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions.

D. They Are Intelligent, Personal Beings.

1. Read 2 Samuel 14:20 ²⁰*To fetch about this form of speech hath thy servant Joab done this thing: and my lord is wise, according to the wisdom of an angel of God, to know all things that are in the earth.*

Angles are considered to have great wisdom.

2. Angles are able to TALK with men. Read:

- Daniel 9:22 ²²*And he informed me, **and talked with me**, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding.*
- Zachariah 1:9 ⁹*Then said I, O my lord, what are these? And the angel that **talked with me** said unto me, I will shew thee what these be.*

3. Angles may be highly intelligent, but **they are limited in their knowledge**. Read:

- Matthew 24:36 ³⁶ *But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only.*
- 1 Peter 1:10-12 ¹⁰*Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: ¹¹Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. ¹²Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; **which things the angels desire to look into.** [understand]*

E. They Are Moral Beings [moral - concerned with the principles of right and wrong behavior and the goodness or badness of human character.]

1. Read II Peter 2:4 *⁴For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;*

This verse speaks about **angels that sinned**.

2. Read Matthew 25:31 *31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the **holy angels** with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:*

3. Read Mark 8:38 *38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the **holy angels**.*

Scripture speaks of the **HOLY ANGELS**.

Note: Although the Word of God has little to say about the matter, angles obviously were created with the capability of moral choice (Read Jude 1:6 *⁶And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.*). **We assume the fall of various angles into sin was associated with the fall of Lucifer.**

Speaking about Lucifer, read:

- Ezekiel 28:14-17 *¹⁴Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁵Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee. ¹⁶By the*

*multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁷Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness [**pride**]: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.*

- Isaiah 14:12-14 ¹²How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! ¹³For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: ¹⁴I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I will be like the most High.**

And, unlike the fall of man, must have been on an individual basis. Angels CANNOT be saved – therefore we would suppose their moral nature has been steadfastly confirmed.

III The Kingdom of Angles

The spirit world is an organized realm. There are some spirit beings singled out by their unique appearance and/or ministry. There are some spirit beings whose names we are told. Additionally, in several passages, **we see the host of heaven is arranged into an orderly kingdom.**

A. Unique Spirit Beings

1. The Cherubim - These creatures exercise a ministry of guardianship.

- Read Genesis 3:22-24 ²²And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil: and now, lest he put

forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever: ²³Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken. ²⁴So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden Cherubims, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep the way of the tree of life. Cherubim were set as sentinels at the east end of the garden of Eden.

- Cherubim guard the **THRONE** of God. Compare:
 - (i) Psalm 80:1 *¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a flock; thou that dwellest between the cherubims, shine forth.*
 - (ii) Psalm 99:1 *¹The Lord reigneth; let the people tremble: he sitteth between the cherubims; let the earth be moved.*
 - (iii) Revelation 7:10 (from verse 9) *⁹After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands; ¹⁰And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. ¹¹And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four beasts, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshipped God,*

Note: The most famous cherub, Lucifer, was the “anointed cherub that covereth.” Read Ezekiel 28:14 *¹⁴Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy*

mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire.

- For a detailed description, read:
 - (i) Ezekiel 1:4-28 4And I looked, and, behold, a whirlwind came out of the north, a great cloud, and a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire. 5Also out of the midst thereof came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance; they had the **likeness of a man. 6And everyone had four faces, and every one had four wings. 7And their feet were straight feet; and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot: and they sparkled like the colour of burnished brass. 8**And they had the **hands of a man under their wings on their four sides**; and they four had their faces and their wings. 9Their wings were joined one to another; they turned not when they went; they went every one straight forward. 10As for the likeness of their faces, they four had the face of a man, and the face of a lion, on the right side: and they four had the face of an ox on the left side; they four also had the face of an eagle. 11Thus were their faces: and their wings were stretched upward; two wings of every one were joined one to another, and two covered their bodies. 12And they went every one straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went. 13As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps: it went up and down among the living creatures; and the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning. 14And the **living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning. 15**Now as I beheld the living creatures, behold one wheel upon the earth by the living creatures, with his four faces. 16The appearance of the wheels and their work was like unto the colour of a beryl: and they four had one likeness: and their appearance and their work was as it were a wheel in the middle of a wheel. 17When they went, they went upon their four sides: and they turned not when they

went. 18As for their rings, they were so high that they were dreadful; and their rings were full of eyes round about them four. 19And when the living creatures went, the wheels went by them: and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up. 20Whithersoever the spirit was to go, they went, thither was their spirit to go; and the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. 21When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up over against them: for the spirit of the living creature was in the wheels. 22And the likeness of the firmament upon the heads of the living creature was as the colour of the terrible crystal, stretched forth over their heads above. 23And under the firmament were their wings straight, the one toward the other: every one had two, which covered on this side, and every one had two, which covered on that side, their bodies. **24And when they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of great waters, as the voice of the Almighty, the voice of speech, as the noise of an host: when they stood, they let down their wings.** 25And there was a voice from the firmament that was over their heads, when they stood, and had let down their wings. 26And above the firmament that was over their heads was the likeness of a throne, as the appearance of a sapphire stone: and upon the likeness of the throne was the likeness as the appearance of a man above upon it. 27And I saw as the colour of amber, as the appearance of fire round about within it, from the appearance of his loins even upward, and from the appearance of his loins even downward, I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and it had brightness round about. 28As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake.

- (ii) Ezekiel 10:15 *¹⁵And the cherubims were lifted up. This is the living creature that I saw by the river of Chebar.*

(iii) Ezekiel 10:20 ²⁰*This is the living creature that I saw under the God of Israel by the river of Chebar; and I knew that they were the cherubims.*

- Cherubim had the likeness of a man. (Ezekiel1:5)
- Had four faces and four wings. (1:6, 1:10)
- Had feet like the soul of a calf. (verse 7)
- Were the color of burnished brass.
- had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides;
- Were translucent, with moving lights. (verse 13)
- Moved like flashes of lightning. (verse 14)
- Sounded awesome. (verse 24)
- Had bodies full of eyes. (verse 18)
- Were accompanied by strange, moving wheels. (verses 15-16)

Lucifer's description in Ezekiel 28:13 ¹³*Thou hast been in Eden the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold: the workmanship of thy tabrets and of thy pipes was prepared in thee in the day that thou wast created. [Some commentators say the tabrets and pipes are "the sockets and grooves used as the settings for the precious stones", but most every other place these words are used in the Bible they are referring to musical instruments.]*

- Sculptured cherubim guarded the mercy seat. Read Exodus 25:18-22 ¹⁸*And thou shalt make two cherubims of gold, of beaten work shalt thou make them, in the two ends of the mercy seat. ¹⁹And make one cherub on the one end, and the other cherub on the other end: even of the mercy seat shall ye make the cherubims on the two ends thereof. ²⁰And the cherubims shall stretch forth their wings on high, covering the mercy seat with their wings,*

and their faces shall look one to another; toward the mercy seat shall the faces of the cherubims be. ²¹And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee. ²²And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.

- Carved cherubim graced the temple (holy of holies) in Solomon's temple. Read I Kings 6:23-35 ²³And within the oracle he made two cherubims of olive tree, each ten cubits high. ²⁴And five cubits was the one wing of the cherub, and five cubits the other wing of the cherub: from the uttermost part of the one wing unto the uttermost part of the other were ten cubits. ²⁵And the other cherub was ten cubits: both the cherubims were of one measure and one size. ²⁶The height of the one cherub was ten cubits, and so was it of the other cherub. ²⁷And he set the cherubims within the inner house: and they stretched forth the wings of the cherubims, so that the wing of the one touched the one wall, and the wing of the other cherub touched the other wall; and their wings touched one another in the midst of the house. ²⁸And he overlaid the cherubims with gold. ²⁹And he carved all the walls of the house round about with carved figures of cherubims and palm trees and open flowers, within and without. ³⁰And the floor of the house he overlaid with gold, within and without. ³¹And for the entering of the oracle he made doors of olive tree: the lintel and side posts were a fifth part of the wall. ³²The two doors also were of olive tree; and he carved upon them carvings of cherubims and palm trees and open flowers, and overlaid them with gold, and spread gold upon the cherubims, and upon the palm trees. ³³So also made he for the door of the temple posts of olive tree, a fourth part of the wall. ³⁴And the two doors were of fir tree: the two leaves of the one door were folding, and the two leaves of the other door were folding. ³⁵And he carved thereon cherubims and palm trees and open flowers: and covered them with gold fitted upon the carved work.

2. The Seraphim.

This is the only reference to seraphim in the Bible: Read Isaiah 6:1-7

*¹In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. ²Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain [definition: two] he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. ³And one cried unto another, and said, **Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.** ⁴And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵Then said I, 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 mine eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts. ⁶Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: ⁷And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged.*

- The seraphim are associated with the **HOLINESS** of God.
- The seraphim have one face and six wings (verse 2).
- The seraphim also have flight (verse 6).

3. The Four Beasts.

Read Revelation 4:6-9 *⁶And before the throne there was a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, **were four beasts full of eyes before and behind.** ⁷And the first beast was like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle. ⁸And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy,*

Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. ⁹And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever,

- The four beasts had eyes and faces were like the cherubim.
- The four beasts had wings and worship like the seraphim.

B. Named Spirit Beings.

Apart from Lucifer, only two spirit beings have their names revealed to us in the Bible (God's Word).

1. Michael

- Michael was described as one of God's **CHIEF PRINCES**. Read Daniel 10:13 [Daniel being visited by Michael – read all of Chapter 10!] *¹³But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the **chief princes**, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.*

Also, read the description of Michael: *⁵Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz: ⁶His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude.*

- **Michael is the prince who stands for the children of God – the Jews!**

Read Daniel 10:21 where Michael states: *²¹But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.*

Also, read Daniel 12:1 *¹And at that time **shall Michael stand up**, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.*

- Michael was the “funeral director” for Moses.

Read Jude 9 *⁹Yet Michael **the archangel**, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not **[didn't dare]** bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.*

Read Deuteronomy 34:5-6 *⁵So Moses the servant of the Lord died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the Lord. ⁶And he buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, over against Beth-peor: but no man knoweth of his sepulchre unto this day.*

- Michael will lead the angelic army of God against the armies of the great red dragon (Satan) in the middle of Daniel's 70th Week.
Read Revelation 12:7-9 *⁷And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, ⁸And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.*
- Michael is the only spirit being called an archangel. Read Jude 9 (above) and
- As such, Michael's voice will announce the RAPTURE. Read Thessalonians 4:16 *¹⁶For 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:*

2. Gabriel

Gabriel is the spirit being whose ministry has involved him bringing (and explaining in some cases) God's most important (history changing) messages to man.

- Gabriel explained the vision of the ram and the he goat [for this vision, read Daniel 8:4-11].
Read Daniel 8:15-21 *¹⁵And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, **and sought for the meaning**, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man. ¹⁶And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, **Gabriel**, make this man to understand the vision. ¹⁷So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision. ¹⁸Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright.*
- Read Daniel 9:20-24 *²⁰And whiles I was speaking, and 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; ²¹Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. ²²And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. ²³At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter,*

and consider the vision. ²⁴Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

- **Gabriel** announced to Zacharias the miracle birth of John the Baptist.

Read Luke 1:11-20 ¹¹And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him. ¹³But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. ¹⁴And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. ¹⁵For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb. ¹⁶And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. ¹⁷And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, 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. ¹⁸And Zacharias said unto the angel, Whereby shall I know this? for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years. ¹⁹And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings. ²⁰And, behold, thou shalt be dumb, and not able to speak, until the day that these things shall be performed, because thou believest not my words, which shall be fulfilled in their season.

- **Gabriel** announced to Mary the supernatural conception and birth of Jesus.

Read Luke 1:26-33 ²⁶And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, ²⁷To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. ²⁹And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. ³⁰And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. ³¹And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. ³²He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: ³³And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

It is **most likely Gabriel** who speaks with Daniel in Daniel 10:10-21.

Read Daniel 10:10-12 ¹⁰And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands. ¹¹And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. ¹²Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, **and I am come for thy words.** [to explain].

C. The Heavenly Host.

The celestial kingdom is an organized kingdom, one which apparently mirrors the kingdoms of the world.

1. Daniel 10 reveals that “spirit beings” are at work behind the human rulers of nations.

Read Daniel 10: ¹²*Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I [Gabriel] am come for thy words. ¹³**But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.** [wow!]*
¹⁴*Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.*

Also note Daniel 10:20 ²⁰*Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I [Gabriel] come unto thee? and now will I return **to fight with the prince of Persia:** and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of **Grecia** shall come.* [Alexander the Great?]

2. Read Daniel 11:1 ¹*Also I in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I [Gabriel], stood to confirm and to strengthen him.* [The angel Gabriel, in this chapter, performs his promise made to Daniel in the foregoing chapter, that he would "show him what should befall his people in the latter days," according to that which was "written in the scriptures of truth:"] **Gabriel states the spirit beings can confirm and strengthen world leaders.**

3. Read Daniel 12:1 *1And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. This scripture indicates spirit beings will stand up for their nations in times of crises.*
4. Spirit beings are called **watchers**. Read:
- Daniel 4:13 *13I [Nebuchadnezzar] saw in the visions of my head upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and an holy one came down from heaven;*
 - Daniel 4:17 *17This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men. [stated by Nebuchadnezzar]*
 - Daniel 4:23 [stated by Daniel] *23And whereas the king saw a watcher and an holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, Hew the tree down, and destroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him;*

5. Read Ephesians 6:12 (from verse 11) *¹¹Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For 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 speaks of spiritual, unseen warfare, in which God's people are arrayed:

- **against principalities,**
- **against powers,**
- **against the rulers of the darkness of this world,**
- **against spiritual wickedness in high places.**

6. Read Colossians 1:16 *¹⁶For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:*

- Thrones – spirit beings behind sitting rulers
- Dominions – domains of control
- Principalities – realm of a prince
- Powers

Also, many powers exist not evident or known. Read:

- Ephesians 1:21 (verses 19-22) *¹⁹And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, ²⁰Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹**Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:** ²²And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church,*

- **Jeremiah 13:18** ¹⁸Say unto the king and to the queen, *Humble yourselves, sit down: for your principalities shall come down, even the crown of your glory.*
- **Matthew 20:25** ²⁵But Jesus called them unto him, and said, *Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them.* [Jesus then lectures His apostles to be servant to others just as the Son of Man came to serve.]
- **Colossians 2:15** ¹⁵And having spoiled principalities and powers [Jesus through the cross], he [Jesus] made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.
- **Romans 8:38** ³⁷Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. ³⁸For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, ³⁹Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

IV The Activity of Angels

Angels are ministering spirits. Read to Hebrews 1:14 *¹⁴Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*

The object of their activities are the heirs of salvation. (saved individuals)

Read:

- Titus 3:7 *⁷That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*
- Colossians 1:12 *¹²Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:*
- Ephesians 1:11 *¹¹In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:*

Note: The expression “shall be” in Hebrews 1:14 alludes to the three tenses of our salvation:

- PAST (we are saved from sin’s penalty);
- PRESENT (we are being saved from sin’s power);
- PROSPECTIVE [forthcoming] (we shall be saved from sin’s presence).

The ministry of unseen angels to God’s children extends all through life – until we are safe at Home in glory.

A. They Are Curious (and care) About the Salvation of Sinners

1. Read I Peter 1:12e *¹²Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with*

*the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; **which things the angels desire to look into.** They (the angels) desire to know your status.*

2. Read Ephesians 3:8-11 *⁸Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; ⁹And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: ¹⁰To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places [angels?] might be known by the church the manifold [many, numerous, multiple, diverse] wisdom of God, ¹¹According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:*

The manifold wisdom of God in salvation is made known to the principalities and powers (includes the angels) by the Lord.

3. Read:
 - Luke 15:7 ⁷ *I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance.*
 - Luke 15:10 ¹⁰ *Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repenteth.*

They (the angels) witness much JOY in HEAVEN over the salvation of sinners!

4. Read I Timothy 5:21 ²¹ *I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, **and the elect angels**, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.*

They (the angels) are ever-present, observing, and listening!

B. They Minister Among the Saved and Safe.

1. Read Hebrews 13:2 ²*Be not forgetful to entertain [show hospitality] strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. [example: Lot entertained the angels arriving at Sodom – did Lot know they were angels?]*
2. Read Matthew 18:10 ¹⁰*Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.*

Angels exercise spiritual oversight of “little ones”... Note: “beholding God’s face means they (the angels) see **God’s attitude toward children.** Read Matthew 18:4-6 ⁴ *Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven.* ⁵ *And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me.* ⁶ *But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.*

3. Read Psalm 34:7 ⁷*The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear [love and respect] him, and delivereth them.*
4. Read Psalm 91:9-11 ⁹*Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation;* ¹⁰*There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling.* ¹¹*For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.*
5. Angels are not to be WORSHIPPED! Read:
 - Colossians 2:18 ¹⁸*Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind,*
 - Revelation 22:8-9 ⁸*And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things.* ⁹*Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the*

prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

C. They Have on Occasions Manifested Themselves To Men.

1. To the discouraged Elijah afraid of Jezebel. Read: I Kings 19:5-8 ⁵*And as he (Elijah) lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat. ⁶And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again. ⁷And the angel of the Lord came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee. ⁸And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God.*

2. To the terrified servant of Elisha Read II Kings 6:15-17 ¹⁵*And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? ¹⁶And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. ¹⁷And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha. [angels]*

3. To Daniel in the den of lions. Read Daniel 6:22 ²²*My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.*

4. To the praying Daniel. Read:
 - Daniel 9:20-23 ²⁰*And whiles I was speaking, and 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; ²¹Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. ²²And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come*

forth to give thee skill and understanding. ²³At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision

- *Daniel 10:10-14 ¹⁰And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands. ¹¹And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. ¹²Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. ¹³But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. ¹⁴Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.*

- 5. *To the imprisoned apostles. Read Acts 5:17-20 ¹⁷Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, ¹⁸And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison. ¹⁹But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, ²⁰Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life.*

- 6. *To the obedient soul winner Phillip, directions/guidance... Read Acts 8:26 ²⁶And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert. ²⁷And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship,*

- 7. *To the condemned sleeper Peter... Read Acts 12:3-16 [from verse 1] ¹Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. ²And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. ³And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.) ⁴And when*

he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people. ⁵Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him. ⁶And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison. ⁷**And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.** ⁸And the angel said unto him, **Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.** ⁹And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision. ¹⁰When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him. ¹¹And when Peter was come to himself, he said, **Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.** ¹²And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying. ¹³And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhoda. ¹⁴And when she knew Peter's voice, she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate. ¹⁵And they said unto her, *Thou art mad. But she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, It is his angel.* ¹⁶But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished.

8. To the cheerful prisoner, Paul... Read Acts 27:21-25 ²¹But after long abstinence Paul stood forth in the midst of them, and said, *Sirs, ye should have hearkened unto me, and not have loosed from Crete, and to have gained this harm and loss.* ²²And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship. ²³**For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve,** ²⁴**Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.**

²⁵Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.

Note: Such manifestations of spiritual beings are not to be expected or sought after today. God's Word often gives us special cases examples to establish our faith in its "every day" promises.

Note: The tongues of angels is not some unknown "heavenly" language. In the Bible, whenever angles speak to men it's in their own language [not some special "heavenly" language.] The tongues of angels in I Corinthians 13:1 refers to the perfection of speech beyond the normal capabilities of men.

D. They Bear the Souls of The Saints to Glory.

The soul of a beggar was carried by angels to Paradise. Read Luke 16:22 ²²
And it came to pass, that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom: the rich man also died, and was buried;

E. They Will Accompany Believers at Christ's Return.

1. Angels will accompany Christ when He comes in His glory. Read Matthew 25:31 ³¹ *When the Son of man shall come in his glory, **and all the holy angels with him**, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:*
2. Angels will wreak God's judgment upon an unbelieving world. Read II Thessalonians 1:7-9 ⁷ *And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, ⁸ In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: ⁹ Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;*
3. Accompanying the King of Kings and His angelic host ... Read Jude 14-15 ¹⁴ *And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, ¹⁵To execute judgment upon all, and to convince all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him.*

Also: Read Revelation 19:13-14 ¹³And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called *The Word of God*. ¹⁴**And the armies which were in heaven [angels] followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.** ¹⁵And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

F. They Will Execute God's Judgements Upon Sin.

1. They will administer divine judgements during Daniel's 70th Week:

- a. **The seven trumpets judgements.** Read Revelation 8:2-9:2 ¹And when he had opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. ²And I saw the seven angels which stood before God; and to them were given seven trumpets. ³And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. ⁴And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand. ⁵And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, and thunderings, and lightnings, and an earthquake. ⁶And the seven angels which had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. ⁷The first angel sounded, and there followed hail and fire mingled with blood, and they were cast upon the earth: and the third part of trees was burnt up, and all green grass was burnt up. ⁸And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood; ⁹And the third part of the creatures which were in the sea, and had life, died; and the third part of the ships were destroyed. ¹⁰And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; ¹¹And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter. ¹²And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise. ¹³And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!

b. **The seven vial judgements.** Read Revelation 16:1-17 ¹And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. ²And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image. ³And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man: and every living soul died in the sea. ⁴And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. ⁵And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. ⁶For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy. ⁷And I heard another out of the altar say, Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are thy judgments. ⁸And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. ⁹And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory. ¹⁰And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain, ¹¹And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds. ¹²And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. ¹³And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. ¹⁵ Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. ¹⁶And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon. ¹⁷And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done.

2. They will separate the saved and the lost before the Millennium:

a. The tares from the wheat.

(i) Read Matthew 13:24-30 ²⁴ Another parable put he forth unto them, saying, The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: ²⁵ But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. ²⁶ But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. ²⁷

So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? ²⁸ He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? ²⁹ But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

- (ii) Read Matthew 13:36-43 ³⁶Then Jesus sent the multitude away, and went into the house: and his disciples came unto him, saying, Declare unto us the parable of the tares of the field. ³⁷He answered and said unto them, He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; ³⁸ The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; ³⁹ The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. ⁴⁰ As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. ⁴¹ The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; ⁴² And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

b. The sheep from the goats.

- (i) Read Matthew 25:31-34 ³¹ When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: ³² And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: ³³ And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:
- (ii) Read Matthew 25:41 ⁴¹ Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: Read Matthew
- (iii) 25:46 ⁴⁶ And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal..

3. An angel will bind Satan at the start of the Millennium reign of Christ. Read Revelation 20:1-3 *¹And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ²And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, and bound him a thousand years, ³And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.*

V The Kingdom of Darkness

There is another dimension to the unseen world – an invisible spiritual kingdom of darkness. Read Ephesians 6:11-12 *¹¹Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For 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.*

The believer engages this kingdom is constant spiritual warfare.

Notice this adversarial kingdom represents the “wiles of the devil.” In other words, we are not (normally) subject to the personal attention of Satan himself – he can only operate through his minions. **After all, Satan is not omnipresent.**

A. The Constituents of This Malevolent Kingdom.

The Lord Jesus Christ affirmed the existence of this kingdom of darkness in Matthew 12:26 *²⁶And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?* Scripture reveals the following concerning its citizens:

1. The Devil: Read I Peter 5:8 *⁸Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.*
2. The Devil's angels:
 - a. Matthew 25:41(d) *41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:*

- b. Revelation 12:7-9 ⁷ *And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought **and his angels**,* ⁸ *And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.* ⁹ *And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*
3. Devils or evil spirits. Read Matthew 8:16 ¹⁶ *When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick:*

Note: The KJ version accurately renders the Greek word “daimon” as “devils” rather than “demons” because it is they which give the DEVIL his façade of omnipresence.

4. The angels sinned and kept not their first estate. Read:
- a. II Peter 2:4 ⁴ *For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment;*
- b. Jude 6 ⁶ *And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.*

Note: These spirit beings are bound. Their exact sin is not mentioned in the Word of God.

The Bible does not tell us when this kingdom of darkness came into existence. We assume it is associated with the fall of Lucifer. Read

- Isaiah 14:12-14 ¹²*How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!* ¹³*For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:* ¹⁴*I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.*
- Ezekiel 28:15-17 ¹⁵*Thou [Lucifer] wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee.* ¹⁶*By the multitude of thy merchandise they have filled the midst of thee with violence, and*

thou hast sinned: therefore I will cast thee as profane out of the mountain of God: and I will destroy thee, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁷Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness: I will cast thee to the ground, I will lay thee before kings, that they may behold thee.

- Revelation 12:4 [from verse 3] ³*And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. ⁴**And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth:** and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.*
- Judges 5:20 ²⁰*They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera.*

These verses MAY indicate 1/3 of the angelic company joined Lucifer in his prideful rebellion.

Like the celestial kingdom, this infernal kingdom is structured. We see these principalities contesting the rise and fall of nations. Read:

- Daniel 10:13 ¹³*But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.*
- Daniel 10:20 ²⁰*Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come.*

Also, we see the powers working **in** the lives of the lost. Read:

- Ephesians 2:2 ²*Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:*

We the devils affecting men. Read

- Luke 8:2: ²*And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils,*

B. The Nature & Character of This Malevolent Kingdom.

1. They are unclean spirits [**dirty, morally impure; evil; vile: unclean thoughts**]. Read Luke 9:38-42 ³⁸And, behold, a man of the company cried out, saying, Master, I beseech thee, look upon my son: for he is mine only child. ³⁹And, lo, a spirit taketh him, and he suddenly crieth out; and it teareth him that he foameth again, and bruising him hardly departeth from him. ⁴⁰And I besought thy disciples to cast him out; and they could not. ⁴¹And Jesus answering said, **O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you, and suffer you? Bring thy son hither.** ⁴²And as he was yet a coming, the devil threw him down, and tare him. And Jesus **rebuked the unclean spirit**, and healed the child, and delivered him again to his father.
2. They are Legion. Read Mark 5:9 [from verse 8] ⁸ For he said unto him, **Come out of the man, thou unclean spirit.** ⁹ And he asked him, **What is thy name?** And he answered, saying, My name is Legion: for we are many.
3. They are **intelligent, personal beings** [as opposed to contemporary characterization of demons]. Why? Because...
 - a. **They besought the Lord Jesus.** Read Mark 5:10-12 ¹⁰And he besought him much that he would not send them away out of the country. ¹¹Now there was there nigh unto the mountains a great herd of swine feeding. ¹²And all the devils besought him, saying, Send us into the swine, that we may enter into them.
 - b. **They recognized Jesus as the Son of God.** Read Mark 1:23-26 ²³ And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, ²⁴Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. ²⁵And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. ²⁶And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.
 - c. **They obeyed the Lord Jesus Christ.** Read Matthew 8:16 ¹⁶When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick:

- d. **They knew their end was coming when they would be tormented in the Lake of Fire.** Read Matthew 8:29 [from verse 28 thru 32]
²⁸And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. ²⁹And, behold, they cried out, saying, What have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? art thou come hither to torment us before the time? ³⁰And there was a good way off from them an herd of many swine feeding. ³¹So the devils besought him, saying, If thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine. ³²And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters.

C. The Activities of This Malevolent Kingdom.

1. They influence spiritual perversion

- a. **They foment false doctrines.** Read I Timothy 4:1-3 *¹Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and **doctrines of devils;** ²Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; ³Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.*
- b. **Every doctrine must be tested by the Word of God.** Read I John 4:1-3 *¹Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. ²Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: ³And every spirit that **confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist,** whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.*

c. **They are behind idolatry.** Read:

- (i) Deuteronomy 32:17 *¹⁷They sacrificed unto devils, not to God; to gods whom they knew not, to new gods that came newly up, whom your fathers feared not.*

- (ii) I Corinthians 10:20-21 *²⁰But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. ²¹Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils.*

d. **They seek to discredit the Gospel.** Read Acts 16:16-18 *¹⁶And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: ¹⁷The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. ¹⁸And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.*

e. **They are capable of working miracles.** Read Revelation 16:13-14 *¹³And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. ¹⁴For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.*

Watch: "GOD...Please Buy Me A Jet | Today`s Church...Years Later"

Youtube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-p9oKKkOTeA>

2. They are capable of causing physical and mental affliction in men.

- a. Dumbness Read Matthew 9:32-33 ³²As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil. ³³And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel.

- b. Blindness Read Matthew 12:22 ²²Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw.

- c. Torment and physical harm. Read Mark 9:17-27 ¹⁷And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit; ¹⁸And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not. ¹⁹He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me. ²⁰And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming. ²¹And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child. ²²And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us. ²³Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. ²⁴And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief. ²⁵When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him. ²⁶And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead. ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand, and

lifted him up; and he arose. ²⁸And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out? ²⁹And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.

- d. Mental anguish and insanity. Read Luke 8:29 ²⁷And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not. ²⁹(For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.) ³⁰And Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him.

Note: The Bible does NOT support the concept that “demons” are merely superstitious explanations of certain diseases. While these spirit beings could cause physical affliction, they could be spoken to and dealt with separately from the affliction. Both conditions (the affliction and the demons) are distinguished.

D. What About “Demon Possession?”

There has been considerable interest over recent years in the subject of demon possession. So-called “deliverance ministries” specialize in casting out demons, and their **assertions** are very concerning. For example, they claim:

- Christians can become demon possessed.

- Persistent and deliberate indulgence in the sins of the flesh or spirit “opens one up” to demon possession.
- Failure to surrender completely to God invites demon possession.
- Substance abuse make demon possession more likely.
- Involvement in role playing games such as Dungeons and Dragons leads directly to demon possession.
- People made be possessed and not even be aware of it. Therefore a “test” must be performed to determine whether they have a demon.

Perhaps the most damaging aspect of modern-day “Christian exorcism” is that **demons are commonly blamed for sin**. People are told they are possessed by the “spirit of lust”, or “the spirit of envy”, or “the spirit of anger”, etc. [the devil mad me do it.] This is nothing more than a cop-out. The Bible calls these things the “works of the flesh.” – i.e. SIN!

Read Galatians 5:19-21 [verses 18-23] *¹⁸But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, ²⁰Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, ²¹Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

Consider what the Bible does teach on this matter:

1. Demon Possession Means Evil Spirits Actually Inhabit Human Beings.
 - a. Read Matthew 12:45 *45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, **and they enter in and dwell there:** and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.*

- b. Read Matthew 8:16 ¹⁶When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he **cast out the spirits** with his word, and healed all that were sick:
- c. Read Mark 5:8 ⁸For he said unto him, **Come out of the man**, thou unclean spirit.
- d. Devils desire to indwell people but it is NOT an easy matter for them to do so... (“seeking rest and finding none.”) Read Matthew 12:43-45 ⁴³ When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he **[the unclean spirit]** walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. ⁴⁴ Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. ⁴⁵ Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.
- e. Demons not only possess but totally control the individual. Read Mark 9:18-20 ¹⁸And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not. ¹⁹He answereth him, and saith, O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me. ²⁰And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.
- f. More than one devil and occupy a person at one time. Read: Mark 5:9 ⁹And he asked him, What is thy name? And he answered, saying, My name is Legion: **for we are many**.

2. Demon Possession is Very Noticeable.

- a. Control the vocal cords of their victim – to speak, or to refrain from speaking. Mark 5:7 ⁷ *And cried with a loud voice, and said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of the most high God? I adjure thee by God, that thou torment me not.*
- b. Give their victim superhuman strength. Mark 5:3 ³ *Who had his dwelling among the tombs; and no man could bind him, no, not with chains:*
- c. Cause their victim to self-mutilate. Mark 5:5 ⁵ *And always, night and day, he was in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.*
- d. Produce extreme wildness. Matthew 8:28 ²⁸ *And when he was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way.*
- e. Sorely vex (torment) their victims. Read:
 - Luke 6:17-19 ¹⁷ *And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases; ¹⁸ **And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed.** ¹⁹ *And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed them all.**

- Acts: 5:16 ¹⁶ *There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.*

A consideration of the examples of possession in the New Testament shows that even the unsaved has no problem identifying the affliction., so dreadful was it. The idea that demons can **secretly inhabit** (and that a test is needed to determine this) **IS NONSENSE**. Read:

- Mark 7:25-26 ²⁵*For a certain woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell at his feet: ²⁶The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter.*
 - Mark 9:17-18+ ¹⁷*And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit; ¹⁸And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not. ¹⁹He answereth him, and saith, **O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him unto me.** ²⁰And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming. ²¹And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child. ²²And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us. ²³Jesus said unto him, **If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.** ²⁴And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with*

tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief. ²⁵When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, Thou dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him. ²⁶And the spirit cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead. ²⁷But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.

3. Demon Possession Is Not Brought on By Human Actions

- a. **Children were possessed.** Read: Mark 7:26-30 ²⁶ *The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter. ²⁷ But Jesus said unto her, Let the children first be filled: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast it unto the dogs. ²⁸ And she answered and said unto him, Yes, Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs. ²⁹ And he said unto her, For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter. ³⁰ And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.*
- b. **Note:** Jesus (or the Apostles) never rebuked an individual for having an evil spirit.

4. What about Demon Possession Today?

There are several points to note:

- a. There was an obvious outbreak of demon possession during the period of Christ's earthly ministry.
- (i) This was surely the occasion for Satan's greatest opposition.

(ii) The miracles of Christ (including those of casting out devils) were **primarily for the purpose of authentication**. Read:

- Mark 1:26-28 ²⁶And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him. ²⁷And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him. ²⁸And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee.
- John 5:36 ³⁶ *But I have greater witness than that of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, **bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me.***
- Luke 7:18-22 ¹⁸And the disciples of John shewed him of all these things. ¹⁹And John calling unto him two of his disciples sent them to Jesus, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another? ²⁰When the men were come unto him, they said, John Baptist hath sent us unto thee, saying, Art thou he that should come? or look we for another? ²¹And in that same hour he cured many of their infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many that were blind he gave sight. ²²Then Jesus answering said unto them, **Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.**

b. Casting out demons was one of the signed gifts given to authenticate the preached word of God. Read Mark 16:17 (from verse 16) ¹⁶ *He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not*

shall be damned. ¹⁷ And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

- The gift passed as the written Word of God was completed.
 - Biblical recorded incidences of demon possession decreased to zero after Acts 19.
 - The epistles were silent on this matter.
- c. Paul's casting out of evil spirits were called **special miracles**. These were apostolic signs. Read Acts 19:11-12 *¹¹And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: ¹²So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.*
- d. Christ has "spoiled principalities and powers" (including evil spirits) – Like Satan, they are a defeated foe. Read Colossians 2:15 *¹⁵And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*
- e. The Bible speaks of another massive outbreak of demonic activity during the events associated with of Daniel's 70th Week (Read Revelation 9:1-11 *¹And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. ²And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit. ³And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. ⁴And it was commanded them that they should not hurt the grass of the earth, neither any green thing, neither any tree; but only those men*

which have not the seal of God in their foreheads. ⁵And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment was as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man. ⁶And in those days shall men seek death, and shall not find it; and shall desire to die, and death shall flee from them. ⁷And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. ⁸And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. ⁹And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. ¹⁰And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months. ¹¹And they had a king over them, which is the angel of the bottomless pit, whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, but in the Greek tongue hath his name Apollyon. ¹²One woe is past; and, behold, there come two woes more hereafter.)

The Restrainer of the coming Antichrist [the Holy Spirit] evidently is also restraining the activity of these evil spirits.

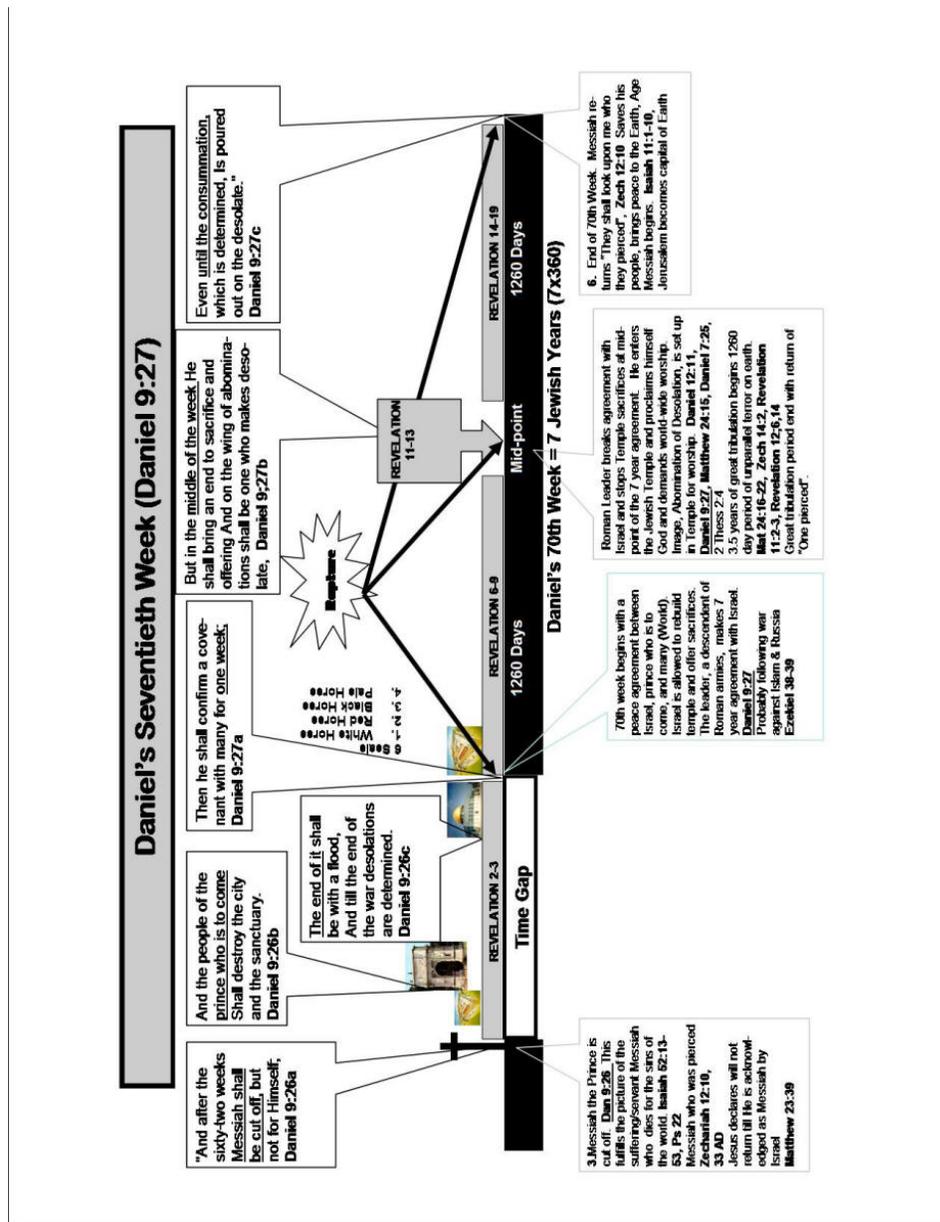
Read:

- II Thessalonians 2:3 ³Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

- II Thessalonians 2:6-10 ⁶And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. ⁷For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. ⁸And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his

mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming:
 9Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all
 power and signs and lying wonders, 10And with all
 deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish;
 because they received not the love of the truth, that they might
 be saved.

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5. What About “Casting Out” Demons?

- a. Christ and the apostles had no “method” of casting out devils.

Sometimes, Christ spoke to the demons - such as in:

- (i) Matthew 8:16 *¹⁶When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick:*
- (ii) Mark 1:25-26 *²⁵And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. ²⁶And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.*

Sometimes, Jesus did not even see the one who was possessed – read Mark 7:29. *²⁹And he said unto her, For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter. ³⁰And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.*

This indicates “casting out demons” is not a “ministry” which is to be practiced today.

- b. Read Acts 19:13-16 *¹³Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. ¹⁴And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. ¹⁵And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? ¹⁶And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.*

The seven sons of Sceva were exorcists. This practice involved the use of incantations and potions to cast out demons. Its actually a form of demonic practice itself. Read Matthew 7:22 ²² *Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? 23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*

Note: It is interesting to notice that Ephesus was a place given over to:

- **Occult practices.** Read Acts 19:19 (read 17-20) ¹⁷*And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified. 18And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds. 19Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver. 20So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.*

- **Idolatry.** Read Acts 19:27 ²⁷*So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshippeth. 28And when they heard these sayings, they were full of wrath, and cried out, saying, Great is Diana of the Ephesians 29And the whole city was filled with confusion: and having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theatre. 30And when Paul would have entered in unto the people, the disciples suffered him not.*

We might expect the greatest opportunity for demonic possession to be in similar cultures. This seems to be supported by the experiences of church planting evangelists in similar cultures today.

We face Satan and his malevolent kingdom with the **liberating Gospel of Jesus Christ:**

- The sword - Ephesians 6:17 *17And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, **which is the word of God:***
- Power of Prayer – Mark 9:28-29 *28And when he was come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, Why could not we cast him out? 29And he said unto them, This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting.*
- Whole armor of God – Ephesians 6:11-17 *11Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12For 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. 13Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. 14Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; 15And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. 17And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:*

6. Can A Christian Be Demon Possessed?

- a. The believer's body is the temple of the Holy Ghost. Read 1 Corinthians 6:19 *¹⁹What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? ²⁰For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*
- b. Read I John 4:4 (from verse 3) *³ And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world. ⁴Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: **because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.***
- c. Read Matthew 12:29 *²⁹ Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house.* For an evil spirit to enter and possess a believer, he would have to bind the strong man inside.
- d. **The whole armour of God is sufficient to stand against the Devil and his subordinates.** Read Ephesians 6:11-13 *¹¹Put on **the whole armour of God**, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For 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. ¹³Wherefore take unto you **the whole armour of God**, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*
- e. **Simply resisting the Devil steadfast in the faith guarantees the believer victory.** Read:

- (i) James 4:7b ⁷*Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

- (ii) I Peter 5:9a ⁹Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

A Christian Cannot Be Demon Possessed!