

# About ANGELS

## Lesson 8

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The seventh major theme is ABOUT ANGELS!

Are angels  
real?

**Absolutely!**

However, they are not like you!

### Facts About Angels as Found in God's Words

In the beginning God created  
the heavens and the earth.

Genesis 1:1

... For by Him (Jesus) all things  
were created, *both* in the  
heavens and on earth, visible  
and invisible, whether thrones  
or dominions or rulers or  
authorities-- all things have  
been created by Him and for  
Him.

Colossians 1:16

... and she beheld two angels in  
white sitting, one at the head,  
and one at the feet, where the  
body of Jesus had been lying.

John 20:12

..."The sons of this age marry  
and are given in marriage, but  
those who are considered

- The word angel actually means **messenger**.
- God the Son, (Jesus) created all the angels **at the same time on the first day of creation** when He created the heavens.
- Angels are spirits, they **do not have a visible body like humans**, but on the rare occasions when they arrive to deliver a message from God, they may look similar to humans.

worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage; for they cannot even die anymore, because they are like angels, and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.

Luke 20:34-36

... But Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures nor the power of God. "For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. Matthew 22:29

... Do you not know that we will judge angels? ...

1 Corinthians 6:3

... seeking to know what person or time the Spirit of Christ within them was indicating as He predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories to follow. It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things into which angels long to look.

1 Peter 1:11-12

... "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven continually see the face of My Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 18:9

... Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels

- Angels cannot die; they are eternal; they do not age; they do not marry nor do they reproduce.
- Angels are always depicted as males in God's Word and they never marry each other.
- One day, you will rule over the angels.
- Angels wish they could experience salvation like that offered to humans, but they cannot not because the Lord does not offer it to them.
- Some of the angels are continually in the presence of God.

around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing."

Revelation 5:11-12

... "In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Luke 15:9

... Those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence of all, so that the rest also will be fearful of sinning. I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of His chosen angels, to maintain these principles without bias, doing nothing in a spirit of partiality.

1 Timothy 5:20-21

- Thousands upon thousands of the angels are continuously worshiping God.
- All the angels in heaven celebrate every time a person accepts the Lord as Savior.
- Angels will act as witnesses against those who do not keep the instructions recorded in God's Word.

### How many angels did Jesus create?

Daniel and John said they saw "myriads of myriads". (Daniel 7:10, Revelation 5:11)

*One myriad is 10,000 angels in the Old and New Testaments.*

$10,000 \times 10,000 = 100,000,000$

*But how many is 10,000s x 10,000s ?*

***No one knows how many 10,000s of angels Jesus created!***

***More angels exist than humans can comprehend!***

## How are the angels organized in heaven?

In Paul's letter to the Colossians, he indicates that Jesus organized angels in heaven into **thrones, powers, rulers and authorities** just as people are on earth

...For by Him all things were created,  
both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible,  
whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities  
—all things have been created through Him and for Him.

Colossians 1:16

God's Word does not explain how the angels are divided into thrones, powers, rulers and authorities; however, it does reveal three types of angels and what they do.

### 1. Archangels – chief princes among the angels

#### *Archangels*

#### Michael and Gabriel

- **Michael** is the archangel charged with protecting the nation of Israel.

Daniel 10:13,21

- **Michael** contended with the devil for the body of Moses.

Jude 9

- **Michael** led the battle against the devil in heaven.

Revelation 12:7

- **Gabriel** is the archangel who explained visions to Daniel.

Daniel 8:12; 9:21-27

- **Gabriel** announced the births of Jesus and John to their parents.

Luke 1:19, 26-33

- **Gabriel** has a trumpet that he sounds at various times.

1 Thessalonians 4:16



## 2. Cherubim – winged angels with four faces

*Cherubim is the plural of Cherub.*

- Cherubim have the face of a cow, man, lion and bird.
- Cherubim guard the throne of God.
- Cherubim have at least four wings.
- A cherub guards the eastern gate entrance to the Garden of Eden, which holds the tree of life. Genesis 3:24



## 3. Seraphim – winged angels

*Seraphim is the plural of Seraph and it means **fiery ones**.*

- Seraphim have only one face.
- Seraphim have six wings. Isaiah 6:2,6
- Seraphim stand above and attend the King on His throne in heaven.
- Seraphim inflict on people the righteous penalty of sin.
- Seraphim can take on human form to do their job.

## I. THE EXISTENCE AND PERSONALITY OF SATAN.

### 1. HIS EXISTENCE.

To science the existence of Satan is an open question; it neither can deny nor affirm it. Satan's existence and personality can be denied therefore only on purely *a priori* grounds. The Bible, however, is very clear and positive in its teaching regarding the existence of a personality of evil called the devil. It is popular in some circles today to spell devil with the "d" left off, thus denying his real existence.

Matt. 13:19, 39—"Then cometh the wicked one . . . . The enemy that sowed them is the devil." John 13:2—"The devil having now put it into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him." See also Acts 5:3; 2 Cor. 11:3, 14; 2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 6.

How Satan came to be is not quite as clear a fact as that he exists. In all probability he was once a good angel. It is claimed by scholarly and reliable interpreters that his fall is portrayed in Ezekiel 28:12-19; cf. Isa 14:12-14. That he was once in the truth but fell from it is evident from [John 8:44](#). His fall ([Luke 10:18](#)) was probably in connection with the fall of angels as set forth in such passages as [2 Pet. 2:4](#); [Jude 6](#). Pride (?) was one of the causes ([1 Tim. 3:6](#); [Ezek. 28:15, 17](#)). This fact may account for the expression "Satan and his angels" ([Matt. 25:41](#)). Paul doubtless refers to the fact that Satan was once an angel of light ([2 Cor. 11:14](#)). Whenever Satan is represented under the form of a serpent, we are to understand such expressions as describing him after his fall. There is certainly no ground for presenting the evil one as having horns, tail, and hoofs. This is only to bring into ridicule what is an exceedingly serious fact. A careful consideration of all the scriptures here given will assure the student that Satan is not a figment of the imagination, but a real being.

### 2. HIS PERSONALITY.

[John 8:44](#)—"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own; for he is a liar, and the father of it." [1 John 3:8](#)—"He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning." Satan is here set forth as a murderer, a liar, a sinner—all elements of personality. He had the "power over death" ([Heb. 2:14](#)), and is the "prince of this world" ([John 14:30](#)).

The narrative of Satan in Job. (chp. 1, 2) strongly emphasizes his personality. He is as much a person as the "sons of God," Job, and even God himself. [Zech. 3:1, 2](#); [1 Chron. 21:1](#); [Psa. 109:6](#) also emphasize the fact of Satan's personality. Throughout all these Scriptures the masculine personal pronoun is used of Satan, and attributes and qualities of personality are ascribed to him. Unless we veto the testimony of the Scriptures we must admit that Satan is a real person. How can any one read the story of the temptation of

Christ ([Matt. 4:1-11](#)) and fail to realize both parties in the wilderness conflict were persons—Christ, a person; Satan, a person?

Such offices as those ascribed to Satan in the Scriptures require an officer; such a work manifests a worker; such power implies an agent; such thought proves a thinker; such designs are from a personality.

Our temptations may be said to come from three sources: the world, the flesh, and the devil. But there are temptations which we feel sure come from neither the world nor the flesh, e.g., those which come to us in our moments of deepest devotion and quiet; we can account for them only by attributing them to the devil himself. "That old serpent, the devil, has spoken with fatal eloquence to every one of us no doubt; and I do not need a dissertation from the naturalist on the construction of a serpent's mouth to prove it. Object to the figure if you will, but the grim, damning fact remains." —*Joseph Parker*.

There can scarcely be any doubt as to the fact that Christ taught the existence of a personality of evil. There can be but three explanations as to the meaning of His teaching; first, that He accommodated His language to a gross superstition, knowing it to be such—if this be true then what becomes of His sincerity; second, that He shared the superstition not knowing it to be such—then what becomes of His omniscience, of His reliability as a Teacher from God? third, that the doctrine is not a superstition, but actual truth—this position completely vindicates Christ as to His sincerity, omniscience and infallibility as the Teacher sent from God.

## II. THE PLACE AND POWER OF SATAN.

### 1. A MIGHTY ANGEL.

He was such, and probably is yet. [Jude 8, 9](#)—They "speak evil of dignities. Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil, he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee." [Daniel 10](#) shows that Satan has power to oppose one of the chief angels ([vv. 12, 13](#) in particular). In [Luke 11:21](#) Christ calls Satan "a strong man armed." He is "the prince of this world" ([John 14:30](#)).

### 2. PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR.

[Eph. 2:2](#)—"The prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." Cf. [6:11](#), [12](#). He is also prince of the demons or fallen angels, [Matt. 12:24](#); [9:34](#); [Luke 11:14-18](#). There is doubtless an allusion here to the fact that the world of evil spirits is organized, and that Satan is at its head.

### 3. THE GOD OF THIS WORLD.

[2 Cor. 4:4](#)—"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not." He is "the prince of this world" ([John 12:31](#); [14:30](#); [16:11](#); cf. [Eph. 2:1, 2](#); [1 John 5:19](#)). Satan is not only the object of the world's worship, but also the moving spirit of its godless activities.

#### **4. HE HEADS A KINGDOM WHICH IS HOSTILE TO THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND OF CHRIST.**

[Acts 26:18](#)—"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God." [Col. 1:13](#)—"Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." The kingdom of light is headed by a person—Jesus Christ; the kingdom of darkness, by a person—Satan. The one is a person equally with the other.

#### **5. HAS SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE REALM OF DEATH.**

[Heb. 2:14](#)—"That . . . he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil." It would seem as if the souls of the unregenerate dead are (or were) to some extent under Satan's dominion.

### **III. THE CHARACTER OF SATAN.**

"We may judge of the nature and character of the evil one by the names and titles ascribed to him."

#### **1. THE ADVERSARY, OR SATAN.**

[Zech. 3:1](#)—"And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him." (See [vv. 1-5](#).) [1 Pet. 5:8](#)—"Your adversary the devil." [Luke 10:18](#). See for use of the word: [Num. 22:22](#). By adversary is meant one who takes a stand against another. Satan is the adversary of both God and man.

#### **2. THE DEVIL, DIABOLOS.**

[Matt. 13:39](#)—"The enemy . . . is the devil." [John 8:44](#)—"Ye are of your father the devil." This name is ascribed to Satan 33 times at least in the New Testament, and indicates an accuser or slanderer ([Rev. 12:9](#)). He slanders God to man ([Gen. 3:1-7](#)), and man to God ([Job 1:9](#); [2-4](#)).

#### **3. THE WICKED ONE.**

[Matt. 13:19](#)—"Then cometh the wicked one." [Matt. 6:13](#) (R. V.); [1 John 5:19](#) (R. V.). This title suggests that Satan is not only wicked himself, but is also the source of all wickedness in the world.

#### **4. THE TEMPTER.**

[Matt. 4:3](#)—"And when the tempter came to him." See [Gen. 3:1-6](#). None escape his temptations. He is continually soliciting men to sin. In this connection we may speak of the cunning and malignity of Satan ([Gen. 3:1](#)). Satan transforms himself into an angel of light ([2 Cor. 11:14](#)). This phase of his work is well illustrated in the temptation of Christ ([Matt. 4:1-11](#)), and the temptation of Eve ([Gen. 3](#)). He fain would help Christ's faith, stimulate His confidence in the divine power, and furnish an incentive to worship. The Scriptures speak of the "wiles" or subtle methods of the devil ([Eph. 6:11, 12](#)). The "old serpent" is more dangerous than the "roaring lion."



Satan's subtlety is seen in tempting men in their weak moments ([Matt. 4:1-11](#); [Luke 22:40-46](#)); after great successes ([John 6:15](#), cf. [vv. 1-14](#)); by suggesting the use of right things in a wrong way ([Matt. 4:1-11](#)); in deluding his followers by signs and wonders ([2 Thess. 2:9, 10](#)).

#### **IV. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS SATAN.**

##### **1. SO FAR AS THE BELIEVER IS CONCERNED HIS POWER IS LIMITED.**

[Job 1:9-12](#); [2:4-6](#). Satan had to ask leave of God to try Job. [John 12:31](#); [16:11](#). Satan hath been already judged, i.e., his power and dominion over believers was broken at the cross, by reason of Christ's victory there. He had to ask permission to enter even swine ([Matt. 8:30-32](#)). Satan is mighty, but not almighty.

##### **2. HE IS TO BE RESISTED.**

[1 Pet. 5:8, 9](#)—"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour; whom resist steadfast in the faith." [James 4:7](#)—"Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." This resistance is best accomplished by submitting to God ([Rom. 6:17-23](#); [James 4:7](#)), and by putting on the whole armor of God ([Eph. 6:10-20](#)).

#### **V. THE DESTINY OF SATAN.**

##### **1. HE IS A CONQUERED ENEMY.**

That is, so far as the believer is concerned; [John 12:31](#); [16:9,10](#); [1 John 3:8](#); [Col. 2:15](#).

##### **2. HE IS UNDER A PERPETUAL CURSE.**

[Gen. 3:14](#), cf. [Isa. 65:25](#). There is no removal of the curse from Satan.

##### **3. HE IS FINALLY TO BE CAST ALIVE INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE, THERE TO BE TORMENTED FOR EVER AND EVER.**

[Matt. 25:41](#); [Rev. 20:10](#)—"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever."