

Satan and his Angels

I. When Satan sinned, he sold his rebellion to one-third of the angels (Rev. 12:4, 7).

1. “Stars” associated with angels (Is. 40:22-26; 45:18; Gen. 2:1; Ps. 33:6; 89:5-8; 148:1-6; Jer. 19:13; 33:22; Neh. 9:6; Acts 7:42; 2 Kings 17:16; 21:3-5; 23:4; 2 Chron. 33:3, 5; Job 38:7; Eph. 20-21).
2. Evil angels (Ps. 78:49-51; Job 4:18; Mt. 25:41; Jude 6; Rev. 12:7; 1 Cor. 8:5; Rom. 1:23).
3. Satan, a finite being—cherub—rules his earthly kingdoms through his angels (Mt. 4:8-9; Mk. 1:13; Lu. 4:5-6).

II. The nature of angels.

1. They are spirit beings (Heb. 1:13-14).
2. They are never described as having wings (Dan. 9:21; Zech. 4:1-2).
3. The elect angels are called holy (Mk. 8:38; 1 Tim. 5:21).
4. They are higher in the creative scale than humans (Ps. 8:5; Heb. 2:6-9; 2 Pet. 2:11).
 - 1) Greater in power (2 Pet. 2:11).
 - 2) Greater in knowledge (Eph. 3:10; 1 Pet. 1:12).
 - 3) Move swiftly (Dan. 9:21).
 - 4) Take on an appearance like men (Lu. 2:13; Acts 1:10; Heb. 13:1-2; Gen. 18:2 cf. 19:1).
5. Ranks of angels—by function:
 - 1) The archangel (Dan. 10:13; 12:1; Jude 9, 1 Thes. 4:16).
 - 2) Thrones (Col. 1:16).
 - 3) Dominions (Col. 1:16; Eph. 1:21).
 - 4) Principalities (Col. 1:16; Eph. 1:21; 3:10; 6:12).
 - 5) Powers (Col. 1:16; Eph. 1:21; 3:10; 6:12).

III. Demons are fallen angels.

1. Both fallen angels and demons called evil spirits (Mt. 17:18; Mk. 9:17-20; Lu. 8:2; Eph. 6:12).
2. Both are ruled by Satan (Mt. 12:24-26; Rev. 12:7).

IV. Demon possession.

1. A human (unsaved) may be possessed by many demons (Lu. 8:2).
2. They can control victim's actions (Lu. 8:26-33).
3. They have a system of doctrine (1 Tim. 4:1-3; 1 Jn. 4:1-6).

V. The Christian attitude toward demons.

1. Recognized as real—but always:
 - 1) Interpret experience by Scripture (Eph. 6:12).
 - 2) All evidence of attack based on Scripture (2 Tim. 3:16-17).
 - 3) Do not meddle with spiritualism, occult, magical influences, witchcraft, etc. (Col. 2:18; Lev. 20:24).
2. Test the theology of the spirit(s) (1 Jn. 4:1-6).