

APPROVED UNTO GOD

THE DOCTRINE OF ANGELS, DEMONS, SATAN

I. DEMONS

A. WHAT DEMONS ARE:

1. Good angels turned bad - Angels have a free will which gives them a chance to choose God or evil. Satan was the first to fall, and he led a rebellion against God (Isaiah 14:12). This was because of pride (Ezekiel 28:11-19; 1 Timothy 3:6).

B. WHAT DEMONS DO:

1. With Satan as their leader, they strive to defeat God's will (Job 1:6; Matthew 13:39; Genesis 3:1,4, John 10:10).
2. Demon Activity - They can **possess** a man's being or **oppress** him physically or spiritually (Luke 13:11,16; Acts 10:38; 2 Corinthians 12:7). However, the demons cannot possess a Christian's being though they can and do tempt Christians to disobedience (Matthew 4:3; Genesis 3:1; 1 John 4:4).
 - a. Possess: to occupy, dominate, or control a person from within
 - b. Oppress: to burden, weigh down, impose authority externally
 - c. Obsess: to pull focus away from God(a) cannot happen to believers, (b) and (c) can.

II. SATAN

A. WHAT SATAN IS:

1. Satan is a real being who has personality and personal attributes (Job 1:8, John 8:44; Matthew 4:1-11; 1 John 3:8). It was he who tempted Adam and Eve in the Garden (Genesis 3:1-7) and Jesus in the desert (Matthew 4:1-11). He works deception and disharmony today as well as in history (1 John 2:13; 4:1-6; 1 Peter 5:8, 2 Corinthians 4:4, Ephesians 6:12).
2. Satan is fallen angel called Lucifer. (Isaiah 14:12-15 KJV)

B. WHAT SATAN IS NOT:

1. He is not omnipotent Satan's power over believer is limited. The devil could not touch Job without God's permission (Job 1:9-12; 2:4-6).
2. He is not omniscient - If he were, he would have known in advance the futility of his scheme to subvert Job, and he would surely have realized that it was useless for him to tempt the Lord in the wilderness.
3. He is not omnipresent - Job 1
Satan can only be in one place at any given time.

C. SATAN'S END:

1. Satan was conquered by Christ on the Cross (Colossians 2:15), and is slated for final eternal judgment: "And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (Revelation 20:10).

ANGELS

A. WHAT ANGELS ARE:

1. Angels are created beings (Colossians 1:16), "For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him." (also see Psalms 148:2-5).
2. Angels are spirit beings (Hebrews 1:14; Ephesians 6:12). They at times take bodily form, as when two angels came to Lot in Sodom (Genesis 19:1), and sometimes they become visible, as at the Resurrection (John 20:12, see also Hebrews 13:2; Matthew. 1:20). Such appearances, however, were exceptions rather than the rule.
3. Angels are God's warriors—soldiers Psalm 78:49 "...a band of destroying angels."
4. Angels have no end (Luke 20:36), "...they can no longer die; for they are like the angels."
5. The intelligence and power of angels are greater than human's, though they are limited or finite (Mark 13:32; 1 Peter 1:12). They excel in strength (Psalm 103:20) and are also referred to as greater in power and might than humans (2 Peter 2:11).

6. They are personal beings who have intelligence and a will (2 Samuel 14:20; 2 Timothy 2:26; Revelations 12:12).

B. WHAT ANGELS DO:

1. Their primary role is the doing of God's will "...you His angels who obey His word...who do His will (Psalm 103:20-21).
2. Angels punish the enemies of God, i.e., "...because Herod did not give praise to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down... (Acts 12:23).
3. A more comforting truth is the relationship of angels to individual believers: Angels protected Daniel (Daniel 6:22); provided for Elijah (1 Kings 19:5); released Peter from prison twice (Acts 5:19; 12:8-11); and guided Philip to the Ethiopian (Acts 8:26). An angel cheered Paul during his shipboard crisis (Acts 27:23-24), and strengthened Jesus during his agony in the garden (Luke 22:43). An angel even helped an unbeliever as when Cornelius and Peter were brought together.
4. Angels will accompany Christ when He comes in glory and in judgment (Matthew 16:27).
5. No number of the angels is given in Scripture, but it is clear that they are many—ten thousand times ten thousand (Daniel 7:10).

C. OTHER ANGELIC BEINGS

1. Michael the Archangel - He is the only archangel mentioned in scripture. He is considered a special guardian of Israel (Daniel 10:13,21), he contended with the devil for the body of Moses (Jude 9), he spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, (Exodus 19:20), and led the battle in heaven against Satan (Revelation 12:7).
2. Gabriel the Messenger - The only other good angel named in the Bible, he is renowned for blowing his horn (1 Thessalonians 4:16). He explained a vision to Daniel (Daniel 8:16), declared the prophecy of the 70 weeks (Daniel 9:21-27), and announced the births of John the Baptist and Jesus (Luke 1:19, 26).
3. Cherubim and Seraphim - The only winged beings mentioned in Scripture, we do not have a great deal of information about either. God stationed cherubim at the entrance of the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:24). Seraphim is mentioned in Isaiah's vision of the heavenly temple (Isaiah 6:2,6).

D. ANGELIC ACTIVITY TODAY

1. God works in mysterious ways - Experience does not indicate that such appearances are usual. There is, however, no biblical teaching that rules out this possibility.
2. Guardian Angels? Matthew 18:10 "See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven."

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MEMORY VERSE #9

Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

Hebrews 13:2

Commentary

Jesus Christ, the son of God, came to earth to serve, not to be served. He did so to be an example for us to follow. In the first three verses of Hebrews chapter 13, the Apostle Paul encourages us to follow Christ's example. In verse two (Hebrews 13:2) Paul gives an additional reason for showing love toward and serving others, that being one day a stranger whom you help may be an angel!

Is this possible? Yes! The Bible tells of three different situations where people unknowingly showed hospitality to angels. These occurred with Abraham in Genesis 13; with Gideon in Judges 6; and with Manoah, the father of Samson in Judges 13. Please read these exciting stories to gain a better understanding of what could happen to you!

Easy memorization breakdown

- ⇒ Hebrews 13:2
- ⇒ Do not forget
- ⇒ to show hospitality to strangers,
- ⇒ for by so doing
- ⇒ some people have shown hospitality
- ⇒ to angels without knowing it.
- ⇒ Hebrews 13:2

Practice writing the verse

(Remember to write the reference, too!)