



Angelology

The Study of Angels 4

Meridian Assembly
Pastor Ed Kreiner

THE EVIL ANGELS - THOSE WHO FOLLOWED SATAN IN HIS REBELLION AGAINST GOD

- *Matthew 25:41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. NIV*
- *Revelation 12:4 Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child the moment he was born. NIV*
- *Revelation 12:7-9 Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. (8) But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. (9) The great dragon was hurled down--that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. NIV*

Some Of These Are Now Confined, Others Are Free.

THE CONFINED EVIL ANGELS. THESE ANGELS LEFT THEIR "PROPER PLACE"

- *2 Peter 2:4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment; NIV*
- *Jude 1:6-7 And the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their proper dwelling--these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day. (7) In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire. NIV*

Some say these may have been the "sons of God" who had sexual relations with human women before the Noachian flood

Genesis 6:1-4 When human beings began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, (2) the sons of God saw that the daughters of humans were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. (3) Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with humans forever, for they are mortal; their days will be a hundred and twenty years." (4) The Nephilim were on the earth in those days--and also afterward--when the sons of God went to the daughters of humans and had children by them. They were the heroes of old, men of renown. NIV

- **These fallen angels are confined to Tartaros, a region of Hades**
2 Peter 2:4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment; NIV
- **They serve as an example of divine vengeance.**
Jude 1:7 In a similar way, Sodom and Gomorrah and the surrounding towns gave themselves up to sexual immorality and perversion. They serve as an example of those who suffer the punishment of eternal fire.
- **If the "locusts" of Revelation 9:1-11 are evil spirits, then these too are confined to the Abyss, another region of Hades, until the time of their release for tormenting earth dwellers in the tribulation period.**
Revelation 9:1-11 The fifth angel sounded his trumpet, and I saw a star that had fallen from the sky to the earth. The star was given the key to the shaft of the Abyss. (2) When he opened the Abyss, smoke rose from it like the smoke from a gigantic furnace. The sun and sky were darkened by the smoke from the Abyss. (3) And out of the smoke locusts came down on the earth and were given power like that of scorpions of the earth. (4) They were told not to harm the grass of the earth or any plant or tree, but only those people who did not have the seal of God on their foreheads. (5) They were not allowed to kill them but only to torture

them for five months. And the agony they suffered was like that of the sting of a scorpion when it strikes. (6) During those days people will seek death but will not find it; they will long to die, but death will elude them. (7) The locusts looked like horses prepared for battle. On their heads they wore something like crowns of gold, and their faces resembled human faces. (8) Their hair was like women's hair, and their teeth were like lions' teeth. (9) They had breastplates like breastplates of iron, and the sound of their wings was like the thundering of many horses and chariots rushing into battle. (10) They had tails with stingers, like scorpions, and in their tails they had power to torment people for five months. (11) They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon and in Greek is Apollyon (that is, Destroyer). NIV

- When loosed, these will lead an army of 200 million superhuman horsemen to destroy a third of the earth's population (vs. 15).

THE FREE EVIL ANGELS

Loyal to their leader, Satan, these angels actively oppose God and His people and influence world affairs

- Revelation 12:7-9 *Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. (8) But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. (9) The great dragon was hurled down--that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. NIV*
- John 14:30 *I will not say much more to you, for the prince of this world is coming. He has no hold over me,*
- Ephesians 6:12 *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. NIV*

The common biblical designations of these evil angels are "demons" and "spirits".

Matthew 8:16 *When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. NIV*

- **They display personality features** - Mark 5:8-13 *For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you impure spirit!" (9) Then Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" "My name is Legion," he replied, "for we are many." (10) And he begged Jesus again and again not to send them out of the area. (11) A large herd of pigs was feeding on the nearby hillside. (12) The demons begged Jesus, "Send us among the pigs; allow us to go into them." (13) He gave them permission, and the impure spirits came out and went into the pigs. The herd, about two thousand in number, rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned. NIV*
- **They display superhuman strength**
Mark 9:18 *Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not." NIV*
Acts 19:16 *Then the man who had the evil spirit jumped on them and overpowered them all. He gave them such a beating that they ran out of the house naked and bleeding. NIV*
- **They cause certain physical, emotional, and mental disorders**
Matthew 12:22 *Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see. NIV*
Luke 13:11 *and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. NIV*
Mark 5:1-5 *They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. (2) When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an impure spirit came from the tombs to meet him. (3) This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. (4) For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. (5) Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones. NIV*
- **They inspire self-destruction** - Mark 9:17-22 *A man in the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. (18) Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not." (19) "You unbelieving generation," Jesus replied, "how long shall I stay with you?*

How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me." (20) So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. (21) Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?" "From childhood," he answered. (22) "It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us." NIV

- **They teach false doctrine** - 1 Timothy 4:1 *The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. NIV*
- **They inspire false prophets** - 1 John 4:1-3 *Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. (2) This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, (3) but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world. NIV*
- **They incite wickedness** - Matthew 12:42-45 *The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom, and now something greater than Solomon is here. (43) "When an impure spirit comes out of a person, it goes through arid places seeking rest and does not find it. (44) Then it says, 'I will return to the house I left.' When it arrives, it finds the house unoccupied, swept clean and put in order. (45) Then it goes and takes with it seven other spirits more wicked than itself, and they go in and live there. And the final condition of that person is worse than the first. That is how it will be with this wicked generation." NIV*
- **They influence human political leaders** - Daniel 10:12-11:1 (12) *Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. (13) But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. (14) Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come." (15) While he was saying this to me, I bowed with my face toward the ground and was speechless. (16) Then one who looked like a man touched my lips, and I opened my mouth and began to speak. I said to the one standing before me, "I am overcome with anguish because of the vision, my lord, and I am helpless. (17) How can I, your servant, talk with you, my lord? My strength is gone and I can hardly breathe." (18) Again the one who looked like a man touched me and gave me strength. (19) "Do not be afraid, O man highly esteemed," he said. "Peace! Be strong now; be strong." When he spoke to me, I was strengthened and said, "Speak, my lord, since you have given me strength." (20) So he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? Soon I will return to fight against the prince of Persia, and when I go, the prince of Greece will come; (21) but first I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth. (No one supports me against them except Michael, your prince. (11:1) And in the first year of Darius the Mede, I took my stand to support and protect him.) NIV*
- **They project evil thoughts** - Matthew 16:22-23 *Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" (23) Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."*

They are called:

- **Unclean/impure spirits** - Matthew 10:1 *Jesus called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. NIV*
- **Dumb spirit** - Mark 9:17 *A man in the crowd answered, "Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. NIV*
- **Foul/impure spirit** - Mark 9:25 *When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. "You deaf and mute spirit," he said, "I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." NIV*
- **Evil spirits** - Luke 7:21 *At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. NIV*

- **Spirit of divination/ spirit by which she predicted the future** - Acts 16:16 *Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. NIV*
- **Spirit of error / falsehood** - 1 John 4:6 *We are from God, and whoever knows God listens to us; but whoever is not from God does not listen to us. This is how we recognize the Spirit of truth and the spirit of falsehood.*
- **Seducing / deceiving spirits** - 1 Timothy 4:1 *The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. NIV*

THE FALL OF SOME ANGELS

God created all angels, including Satan, good. Genesis 1:31 *God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning--the sixth day. NIV*

Since they possessed personhood, it seems that they were given the choice to remain loyal to God and serve Him forever. However, following the example and leadership of Satan, a third of the angelic host revolted with the devil and became members of his kingdom.

Revelation 12:4 *Its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that it might devour her child the moment he was born. NIV*

Matthew 12:26 *If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand? NIV*

Severing their original relationship to their Creator, their revolt brought them spiritual death and moral ruin.

The Eternal Future of Angels - Being personal, responsible beings, angels are accountable to God for their conduct and will exist forever.

The Future of Evil Angels

- **These will be judged**

1 Corinthians 6:3 *Do you not know that we will judge angels? How much more the things of this life! NIV*

2 Peter 2:4 *For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them in chains of darkness to be held for judgment; NIV*

- **They will experience conscious torment in Hell forever**

Matthew 25:41 *"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. NIV*

Revelation 20:10 *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. NIV*

- **They are aware of the doom that awaits them**

Matthew 8:29 *"What do you want with us, Son of God?" they shouted. "Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?" NIV*

Mark 5:7 *He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? In God's name don't torture me!" NIV*

Luke 8:28 *When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don't torture me!" NIV*

- **Nowhere do the Scriptures teach that redemption has been provided for evil angels.** Colossians 1:20 refers only to that which was involuntarily affected by sin. Paul does not refer to the things under the earth that belong to Hades.

Colossians 1:20 *and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. NIV*