

Angelology Class One

It is required that you look up and read the Bible references given.

The Bible in its entirety teaches of both good angels and bad angels. In Psalms 148:2-5, angels are included with the sun, moon & stars as part of God's creation. Jesus created all things John 1:3, including all matters both visible and invisible, the heavens, the earth and thrones, dominions, rulers & authorities. Ephesians 6:12 & Colossians 1:16. God is immortal. I Timothy 6:16. Angels, being created by God, owe their perpetual existence to God as well as their continual sustain. The Bible never discusses the time of the angel's creation. However, it is probable this event occurred before Genesis 1:1. In Job 38:4-7, the sons of God shouted for joy when God laid the foundations of the earth. Which would mean angels had been created by Genesis 3:1 when Satan, an angelic being himself made his appearance. Though the Bible gives no specific figures, we know the number of angels is beyond counting. Daniel 7:10; Matthew 26:53; Hebrews 12:22 & Revelation 5:11.

Man is a distinguished entity from angels. Matthew 22:30. The believers will be similar to angels but not angels. Angels are different from the spirits of righteous men made perfect. Hebrews 12:22. Man was made lower than the angels and shall be made higher. Psalms 8:5. Angels will be judged by Born Again Believers. I Corinthians 6:3.

At times angels are referred to as wind or spirit. Psalms 104:4; Hebrews 1:7-14. The incorporeal existence of angels seems to be clarified in Ephesians 6:12. In that our struggles are not with flesh & blood people, but with the demon forces that drives these people. Yet there are times in Scripture when angels appear in physical form. Genesis 18 & 19; John 20:12 & Hebrews 13:2.

Angels are not a race. Angels are a company or a host. Psalms 148:2. Angels neither marry nor die. Luke 20:34-36. Angels are referred to as sons of God in the Old Testament. Genesis 6:2-4; Job 1:6; 2:1 & 38:7. In Scripture angels are in the masculine. Luke 24:4 & Mark 16:5. God has made no provision for the Salvation of fallen angels. Hebrews 2:16.

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According to II Samuel 14:20, angels maintain a highly superior level of wisdom. Paul calls upon angels to be a witness on his behalf in I Timothy 5:21. Even fallen angels maintain a highly advanced level of wisdom in Luke 4:34. Angels investigate the deeper things of Salvation I Peter 1:11-12.

Angels are stronger and mightier in power than humans. Psalms 103:20; Matthew 2:2; Acts 5:19; 1:7; II Thessalonians 1:7 & II Peter 2:11. Angels are limited in strength as seen in the war between righteousness & unrighteousness in Revelation 12:7. In Daniel 10:13, the angel that wanted to assist Daniel needed help from Michael to fight his way through the Prince of Persia to assist Daniel. The prince of Persia is a reference to an evil spiritual entity that wielded authority over the ancient kingdom of Persia. Michael is not unlimited in his power. Jude 9. Lucifer is not unlimited in his power. Job 1:12 & 2:6. Angels are not omnipotent, omniscient nor omnipresent.

Angels are more noble than man. Since angels are not omnipresent, angels roam and walk about on the earth. Job 1:7; Zechariah 1:11 & I Peter 5:8. Angels move from one place to another. Daniel 9:21-23 & 10:10-14. Angels are ministering spirits to assist Born Again Believers in their day-to-day living for Christ. Hebrews 1q:14. The fallen angels are under the servitude of Satan II Corinthians 11:15.

The fact of the fallen angels is that evil originated in Heaven and not on the earth. It is a Biblical/Theological fact that evil dwells in the universe. In Genesis 1 & 2, the phrase ... and it was good ... means this is what God had in mind. In the beginning, Lucifer was everything God wanted him to be. But then, sin and pride filled the heart of Lucifer. And that was his downfall. Other Scriptures declare the evil propensity of the fallen angels. Psalms 78:49; Matthew 25:41; Revelation 9:11 & 12:7-9. The fallen angels abandoned the original position which God had for them. II Peter 2:4 & Jude 6. Satan was the leader of the angelic apostasy. Ezekiel 28:15-17. Isaiah 14:12-15, confirms the rebellion of Lucifer and the fallen angels.

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What would be the time frame of the fall of Lucifer and the fallen angels? Scripture is ambiguous on most of the details surrounding this event.

However, it is certain the event has clearly taken place at the temptation of man in Genesis 3.

The prevailing factors of what caused the fall of Lucifer and the fallen angels remains one of theologies great mysteries. Isaiah 14:13. Lucifer and the fallen angels lived with God, saw God heard God and saw His awesome works. Yet, for some inexplicable reason, they made the conscious choice to attempt an over throw coup against God. This will remain a great mystery while on this side of eternity. I

Timothy 4:4.

As a final explanation, we can only look to selfishness & discontentment on the part of Lucifer and his co-conspirators of angels for a viable explanation. Revelation 12:4. That regardless of the blessings of God, for Lucifer and the fallen angels, it was never good enough.

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There are several results to the fall of Lucifer and the fallen angels. They all lost their original state of holiness and resorted to an existence of wickedness and a corrupt nature. Matthew 10:1; Ephesians 6:11 & Revelation 12:9. Some of the fallen angels were cast down into hell/Tartarus, and are constrained in chains until the day of their judgment. II Peter 2:4 & Jude 6. Some of the fallen angels are left free on the earth and they attempt to thwart the works of good angels. Daniel 10:12-20 & Jude 9 & Revelation 12:7-9. Because of the fall of Adam & Eve in the garden, the earth was cursed on behalf of mankind. Genesis 3:17-19. Creation groans because of man's sin. Romans 8:19-22. It is possible that the fall of the fallen angels may have had an adverse effect on the earth. Revelation 12:8. Because of the disobedience of the fallen angels, they will be cast into the lake of fire. Matthew 25:41; I Corinthians 6:3; II Peter 2:4 & Jude 6. Satan will be cast into the abyss for one thousand years, then cast into the lake of fire. Revelation 20:1-10.

In the Bible there are two types of angels - good angels and bad angels. There are also various angelic subdivisions.

In both Hebrew & Greek the word angel means messenger. You will see this in Luke 7:24, the messengers John sent to speak with Jesus. Daniel had numerous angels around him at all times. Daniel 7:10 & Revelation 5:11. We see the attentiveness of angels in Psalms 68:17. And the attentiveness of angels around Jesus in Matthew 26:53. In Hebrews 12:22 we see the attentiveness of angels in the lives of born again believers. Angels may appear as individuals. Acts 5:19. Angels may appear as couples. Acts 1:10. Angels may appear in groups. Luke 2:13.

Cherubs are mentioned in Genesis 3:24; II Kings 19:15; Ezekiel 10:1-22 & 28:14-16. A cherub guards the entrance to the garden. Genesis 3:24. Two cherubs are placed at the top of the temple and tabernacle. Exodus 25:19 & I Kings 6:23-28. Cherubs into the texture of inner veil of the tabernacle. Exodus 26:1 & 31. Cherubs are carved into the doors of the temple. I Kings 6:32-35. Cherubs are around the throne of God. Psalms 18:10; 80:1 & 99:1. It is possible Lucifer was a cherub. Ezekiel 28:14-16.

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What are seraphims? Seraphims are spoken of by name in Isaiah 6:2-6. It would seem seraphims are different from cherubs. God is seated above the cherubs. I Samuel 4:4; Psalms 80:1 & 99:1. Seraphims stand above God. Isaiah 6:2. Seraphims are different from cherubs. Seraphims lead Heaven in worship of God. Seraphims purify God's servants for worship and service. Seraphims appear to oversee worship and holiness as opposed to justice and might. Seraphims are very humble and reverential in the execution of their duties. Cherubs are the guardians and defenders of God's throne and of God's servants.

The Bible also speaks of the living creatures. Some theologians teach that the living creatures are cherubs and seraphims. Revelation 6:2-6. However, the Bible presents a distinct difference in the living creatures. The living creatures worship God, and oversees the judgments of God. Revelation 6:1 & 15:7. The living creatures oversees the worship of the 144,000. Revelation 14:3. Just as the seraphims and cherubs, the living creatures are busy about the throne of God.

The archangels is a term that appears in Scriptures in I Thessalonians 4:16 & Jude 9. However, there are other references to the archangel Michael.

Michael is represented as having his own angels in Revelation 12:7. Michael is the Prince of Israel in Daniel 10:13-21 & 12:1. Gabriel qualifies as a second archangel in Daniel 8:16; 9:21 & Luke 1:19-26.

The archangels have the assignment of protecting Israel in Daniel 10:13-21 & 12:1. The archangels announced the birth of Jesus in Luke 1:26-38. The archangels will defeat Satan in his attempt to destroy Israel in Revelation 12:7-12. The archangels will announce the rapture of the Church in I Thessalonians 4:16-18.

In Daniel 4:13-17, we see the watchers. It would appear their function is to watch over the saints and to be a messenger between God and saints.

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We now turn to angels known as the sons of God. Job 1:6; 2:1 & 38:7. Sons of God are a reference to good angels, bad angels and Satan. Sons of God is a reference to angels that were created by God. You see this reference again in Genesis 6:2 in regards to the fallen angels who pro-created with human women. The Scriptures also indicate an organization of rank among good angels. Ephesians 1:21 mentions Thrones, dominions, rulers & authorities. In Colossians 1:16. we learn that God created these angels for Him and through Him. Then there is the terminology for evil angels. Romans 8:28; Ephesians 6:12 & Colossians 2:15.

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Just like the good angels, there are different kinds of evil angels.

There are the angels that are kept in prison (II Peter 2:4). Peter & Jude also speak of these angels.

Peter points out that these evil angels are committed to a place called Tartarus. Tartarus is a pit of darkness where these fallen angels will be kept until the day of their judgment. In Jude 1:6, Jude points out these fallen angels abandoned their God given position to pursue the false promise the devil deceived them with (Deuteronomy 32:8). It would seem there are evil angels assigned over each nation as well (Daniel 10:13-20; 12:1 & Revelation 9:13-15).

Then there are the free angels.

These are mentioned in connection with Satan their leader (Matthew 25:41 & Revelation 12:7-9). At times in Scriptures the free angels are referred to separately (Psalms 78:49; Romans 8:38; I Corinthians 6:3 & Revelation 9:14). Free angels are included in the authorities of Ephesians (1:21; 6:12 & Colossians 2:15). The primary function of free angels is to support Satan in his evil attempt to thwart good angels, born again believers and the work of God's ministry.

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Now we come to demons. Demons are often mentioned in Scripture with emphasis in the four Gospels.

Demons are spirit beings in Matthew 8:16. On many occasions demons are referred to as unclean spirits as we see in Mark 9:25 for example. In Luke 11:15-19, we learn that demons serve under the authority of Satan. However, Demons are still under the supreme command of God (Matthew 8:29).

Among other things, Demons are capable of causing someone to be mute. This can be seen from reading the story in Matthew 9:32. Demons are also capable of inflicting blindness as seen in Matthew 12:22. Among the previously mentioned physical problems Demons can cause, they are also able to cause personal injury (Mark 9:18). Demons are the cause of other personal defects and deformities (Luke 13:11-17). Demons work hard to corrupt sound doctrine and to stop the work of God (I Timothy 4:1-3). And finally, Demons work hard to corrupt Godly wisdom (James 3:15), and Godly fellowship (I Corinthians 10:20).

The angels who made the conscious choice to abandon their standing with GOD are eternally condemned to wickedness and delusion. The fallen angels are eternally condemned with their chosen god... Lucifer, and will cast into the lake of fire with him (Matthew 12:26).

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Now, concerning Satan as a fallen Angel, read the following verses. Genesis 3:1-5; I Chronicles 21:1; Job 1:6-12; 2:1-7 & Zechariah 3:1. Satan is referred to in the New Testament as well in many places. Please read... Matthew 4:1-11; Luke 10:18; John 13:2; 13:27; I Peter 5:8; Revelation 12 & 20:1-10.

Satan has personality (Job 1:8-12; Zechariah 3:2; Matthew 4:10 & John 8:44). Satan has personal attributes (Isaiah 14:13 & I Timothy 3:6). Satan has knowledge (Job 1:9). Satan can perform personal acts (Job 1:9-11; Matthew 4:1-11; John 8:44; John 3:8; Jude 9 & Revelation 12:7-10).

In Scriptures Satan is referred to as Satan, (I Chronicles 21:1; Job 1:6; Zechariah 3:1; Matthew 4:10; II Corinthians 2:11 & I Timothy 1:20), as well as other names Satan is also referred to as the adversary of both God and man (I Peter 5:8).

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Another reference in the Bible for Satan is the devil (Matthew 13:39; John 13:2; Ephesians 6:11 & James 4:7). Satan is also known as the slanderer and accuser of the brethren (Revelation 12:10). Satan slanders God to man (Genesis 3:1-7). Satan slanders man to God (Job 1:9 & 2:4). Satan is also known as a dragon Isaiah 51:9; Ezekiel 29:3; 32:2; Revelation 12:3-7; 13:2 & 20:2. Satan is also known as the serpent in Genesis 3:1; Isaiah 27:1; II Corinthians 11:3; Revelation 12:9 & 20:2.

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Satan is also referred to in Scriptures as Beelzebub/Beelzebub (Matthew 10:25; 12:24-27; Mark 3:22 & Luke 11:15-19). The exact meaning of this term is not known, however, in Syria it means “lord of dung.” Satan is also referred to as belial/beliar which means worthlessness (II Samuel 23:6 & II Corinthians 6:15). In Judges 19:22, belial is in charge of all homosexual activity. Satan is also equated with worthless fellows (Judges 20:13; I Samuel 10:27; 30:22 & I Kings 21:13). Satan is also referred to as Lucifer in Isaiah 14:12 & II Corinthians 11:14.

Satan is also referred to as the evil one in Matthew 13:19; 38; Ephesians 6:16; I John 2:13 & 5:19). And then we also find that Satan is called the tempter in Matthew 4:3 & I Thessalonians 3:5.

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And finally, as we come to the end of this study, we see that Satan is also known as the God of this world (II Corinthians 4:4). The word "world" in this verse refers to the World System. Satan is also known to have servants (II Corinthians 11:15). He has doctrines (I Timothy 4:1; Revelation 2:15 & 23), and he has his own sacrifices (I Corinthians 10:20). Satan has his own synagogue as well as we see in Revelation 2:9. Satan is the prince of the power of the air (Ephesians 2:2), and Satan is in charge of the fallen angels (Matthew 12:24; 25:41; Revelation 12:7 & 16:13). And then finally, Satan is the ruler of this world (John 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; Ephesians 1:21 & 6:12).