

Angels, Demons and Satan

Long before the physical universe existed, the spiritual universe existed. This is the Realm of God and Angels. The Bible doesn't reveal the names of many angels, but it does name three important members of the Angelic Realm, Michael, Gabriel and Satan.

Mankind lives in a physical, tangible, material world which is influenced by the invisible spiritual world around us. Though independent from the physical world, both the spirit world and the physical world are in constant interaction. This spiritual world is just as real today as it was when Jesus walked the face of the earth nearly 2,000 years ago.

The spirit world is believed to be a place of continued spiritual growth for all who embrace the teachings of Christ. Glimpses of the spirit world are revealed throughout the Old and New Testaments. It is only here that we can factually learn about angels, demons and Satan. Sadly many have been misinformed about this subject, so there is a great need to bring biblical truth regarding this subject because of the present angel craze, channeling and a belief in spirit guides.

Hebrew meaning of Angels

The Hebrew word for angel is mala'ak; in meaning it is equivalent to the Greek word, angelos from which the English word is obviously derived. In both Hebrew and Greek, the term simply means "messenger" and was used for both God's messengers as well as those of a king or ruler on Earth.

Angels are mentioned numerous times in the Scriptures. So, we learn that angels are spiritual beings created by God to serve him, and sent by God to watch over the human race, to deliver his message, to guard and protect us from danger, to do battle with other spiritual beings on our behalf.

Old Testament names for angel are Seraphim (singular Seraph), simply means "flame". It only shows up twice, both times in Isaiah and both times in one chapter: **Isaiah 6:2 and 6**. Seraphim means fiery ones, in allusion to their burning love. They are represented as "standing" above the King as he sat upon his throne, ready at once to minister unto him. Their form appears to have been human with the addition of wings. This word is used elsewhere only for the "fiery serpents" **Numbers 21:6**,

8; Deuteronomy. 8:15; Isaiah 14:29; 30:6 sent by God as his instruments to inflict on the people the righteous penalty of sin.

The second term is considerably more common and is translated into English as "Cherub"; it is these angels that are described as particularly unusual to look at. They are first mentioned in connection with the expulsion of Adam and Eve from Eden **Genesis 3:24**. There is no explanation given of their shape or form. They are next mentioned when Moses was commanded to provide furniture for the tabernacle **Exodus 25:17-20; Exodus 26:1, 31**. God promised to commune with Moses "from between the cherubim" **Exodus 25:22**.

This expression was afterwards used to denote the Divine abode and presence **Numbers 7:89; 1 Samuel 4:4; Isaiah 37:16; Psalms 80:1; Psalms 99:1**. In Ezekiel's vision **Ezekiel 10:1-20** they appear as living creatures supporting the throne of God. From Ezekiel's description of them **Ezekiel 1; 10; 41; Ezekiel 18, 19**, they appear unlike any real object in nature; artificial images possessing the features and properties of several animals. Two cherubim were placed on the mercy seat of the ark; two of colossal size overshadowed it in Solomon's temple.

Ezekiel 1:4-14 speaks of four and this number of "living creatures" is mentioned in **Revelation 4:6**. Those on the ark are called the "cherubim of glory" **Hebrews 9:5**, i.e., of the Shechinah or cloud of glory, for on them the visible glory of God rested. They were placed one at each end of the mercy seat with wings stretched upward, and their faces "toward each other and toward the mercy seat." They were anointed with holy oil, like the ark itself and the other sacred furniture.

The cherubim were symbolical. They were intended to represent spiritual existences of immediate contact with Jehovah. Some have regarded them as symbolical of the chief ruling power by which God carries on his operations in providence **Psalms 18:10**. Others interpret them as having reference to the redemption of men and as symbolizing the great rulers or ministers of the church.

⁵Also from within it came the likeness of four living creatures. And this was their appearance: they had the likeness of a man. ⁶ Each one had four faces, and each one had four wings. ⁷ Their legs were straight, and the soles of their feet were like the soles of calves' feet. They sparkled like the color of burnished bronze. ⁸ The hands of a man were under their wings on their four sides; and each of the four had faces and wings. ⁹ Their wings touched one another. The creatures did not turn when they went,

but each one went straight forward. ¹⁰ As for the likeness of their faces, each had the face of a man; each of the four had the face of a lion on the right side, each of the four had the face of an ox on the left side, and each of the four had the face of an eagle. ¹¹ Thus were their faces. Their wings stretched upward; two wings of each one touched one another, and two covered their bodies. ¹² And each one went straight forward; they went wherever the spirit wanted to go, and they did not turn when they went. ¹³ As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches going back and forth among the living creatures. The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning. ¹⁴ And the living creatures ran back and forth, in appearance like a flash of lightning. ¹⁵ Now as I looked at the living creatures, behold, a wheel was on the earth beside each living creature with its four faces. ¹⁶ The appearance of the wheels and their workings was like the color of beryl, and all four had the same likeness. The appearance of their workings was, as it were, a wheel in the middle of a wheel. ¹⁷ When they moved, they went toward any one of four directions; they did not turn aside when they went. ¹⁸ As for their rims, they were so high they were awesome; and their rims were full of eyes, all around the four of them. ¹⁹ When the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up. ²⁰ Wherever the spirit wanted to go, they went, because there the spirit went; and the wheels were lifted together with them, for the spirit of the living creatures^[a] was in the wheels. ²¹ When those went, these went; when those stood, these stood; and when those were lifted up from the earth, the wheels were lifted up together with them, for the spirit of the living creatures^[b] was in the wheels. ²² The likeness of the firmament above the heads of the living creatures^[c] was like the color of an awesome crystal, stretched out over their heads. ²³ And under the firmament their wings spread out straight, one toward another. Each one had two which covered one side, and each one had two which covered the other side of the body. ²⁴ When they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of many waters, like the voice of the Almighty, a tumult like the noise of an army; and when they stood still, they let down their wings. ²⁵ A voice came from above the firmament that was over their heads; whenever they stood, they let down their wings. ²⁶ And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like a sapphire stone; on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it. ²⁷ Also from the appearance of His waist and upward I saw, as it were, the color of amber with the appearance of fire all around within it; and from the appearance of His waist and downward I saw, as it were, the appearance of fire with brightness all around. ²⁸ Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD **Ezekiel 1:5-28.**

This is the most detailed description we have of cherubim. They reappear in Revelation in virtually the same form. They appear most frequently, as decoration in Solomon's

Temple, including the two cherubim that were part of the Ark of the Covenant.

The duties of Angels

We don't know

whether every angel carries out the same tasks, or whether some of them specialize in certain areas. The Bible does speak about classes of angelic beings, the unnamed angels who appear most often in Scripture carry out a variety of tasks, all designed to serve God...

- **Worship and praise** - This is the main activity portrayed in heaven **Isaiah 6:1-3; Revelation 4-5**
- **Answering prayer** - God often uses angels as His means of answering the prayers of His people **Daniel 9:20-24; 10:10-12; Acts 12:1-17**.
- **Delivering revelation** - They serve as messengers to communicate God's will to men. They helped reveal the law to Moses **Acts 7:52-53**, and served as the carriers of much of the material in Daniel, and Revelation.
- **Guidance** - Angels gave instructions to Joseph about the birth of Jesus **Matthew 1-2**, to the women at the tomb, to Philip **Acts 8:26**, and to Cornelius **Acts 10:1-8**.
- **Providing** - God has used angels to provide physical needs such as food for Hagar **Genesis 21:17-20**, Elijah **1 Kings 19:6**, and Christ after His temptation **Matthew 4:11**.
- **Protection** - Keeping God's people out of physical danger, as in the cases of Daniel and the lions, and his three friends in the fiery furnace **Daniel 3 and 6**.
- **Deliverance** - Delivering God's people out of danger. Angels released the apostles from prison in Acts 5, and repeated the process for Peter in **Acts 12**.
- **Strengthening and encouraging** - Angels strengthened Jesus after His temptation **Matthew 4:11**, encouraged the apostles to keep preaching after releasing them from prison **Acts 5:19-20**, and told Paul that everyone on his ship would survive the impending shipwreck **Acts 27:23-25**.
- **Carrying the spirit at the moment of death** - In the story of Lazarus and the rich man, we read that angels carried the spirit of Lazarus to "Abraham's bosom" when he died **Luke 16:22**.

Ministering Spirits

Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation? **Hebrews 1:14**

Angels were created to worship, Praise and obey Jesus

For by him [Jesus] all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible

and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. **Colossians 1:16**

God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. **2 Thessalonians 1:6, 7**

Yet even angels, although they are stronger and more powerful, do not bring slanderous accusations against such beings in the presence of the Lord. **2 Peter 2:11**

And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him (Jesus)." **Hebrew 1:6**

Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. **Psalms 103:20**

Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts. **Psalms 148:2**

But you have come to Mount Zion, to the heavenly Jerusalem, the city of the living God. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, **Hebrews 12:22**

We are to worship God not angels

Then the angel said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!'" "And he added, "These are the true words of God." At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." **Revelations 19:9, 10**

And when I had heard and seen them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who had been showing them to me. But he said to me, "Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers the prophets and of all who keep the words of this book." **Revelations 22:8, 9**

It is vitally important that you worship ONLY the true and living God. Never worship an angel, servant of God or creation itself.

Angels attended to Jesus

left him, and angels came and attended him. **Matthew 4:11**

Then the devil

Jesus could have been delivered by legions of angels from his cruel death on the cross: Do you think I cannot call on my Father, and he will at once put at my disposal more

than twelve legions of angels? **Matthew 26:53**

But Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and the other at the foot. **John 20:11, 12**

Angels bring deliverance and Guard the Righteous of God

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; **Psalms 91:11**

My God sent his angel and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, O king. **Daniel 6:22**

But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. **Acts 5:19**

Angels will separate the righteous from the wicked and deliver his wrath

The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. **Matthew 13:41**

He unleashed against them his hot anger, his wrath, indignation and hostility a band of destroying angels. **Psalms 78:49**

This is how it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. **Matthew 13:49, 50**

And he will send his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other. **Matthew 24:31**

And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens. **Mark 13:27**

For it seems to me that God has put us apostles on display at the end of the procession, like men condemned to die in the arena. We have been made a spectacle to the whole universe, to angels as well as to men. **1 Corinthians 4:9**

When Jesus returns He will come with angels:

For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels and then he will reward each person according to what he has done. **Matthew 16:27**

Believers will judge Angels

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

There are only two angels that are specifically given names in the Bible. Michael, whose name means "who is like God" is mentioned in **Daniel 10:13, 21; 12:1, Jude 9,** and **Revelation 12:7.**

Gabriel, "soldier of God", is mentioned in **Daniel 8:16; 9:21, Luke 1:19 and 26.**

The angel answered, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. **Luke 1:19**

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, **Luke 1:26**

¹⁶ And I heard a man's voice from the Ulai calling, "Gabriel, tell this man the meaning of the vision. **Daniel 8:16**

²¹ while I was still in prayer, Gabriel, the man I had seen in the earlier vision, came to me in swift flight about the time of the evening sacrifice **Daniel 9:21.**

The archangel Michael is a warring angel⁹ Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!" **Jude 9,**

In the future, Michael and his angels will fight against Satan [the dragon] and his angels: And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. 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. **Revelations 12:7-9**

Physical appearance of angels

Since angels are spirits rather than physical beings, they don't have to be visible at all **Colossians 1:16.** Elisha once prayed that his servant would see the armies of angels surrounding the city, and the young man discovered that he had overlooked a lot of invisible beings **2 Kings 6:17!**

When angels do appear, they generally appear in the form of men. In **Genesis 18,** Abraham welcomed three angelic guests who appeared at first to be nothing more than some travelers. In the following chapter, two angels went to Sodom where they were assumed to be simply a pair of human visitors.

With the possible exception of one debatable passage in **Zechariah 5:9**,

Angels always appear as males rather than females **Mark 16:5**.

Sometimes an angel appears to be a man with unusual features. Daniel saw an angel with arms and legs resembling polished metal and precious stones, and a face like lightning **Daniel 10:5-6**. The angel that rolled back the stone from Christ's tomb was radiating dazzling light **Matthew 28:3; Luke 24:4**.

The book of Revelation describes some highly unusual beings that may be a variety of angel in **Revelation 4:6-8**.

Angels in the Bible never appear as cute, chubby infants! They are always full-grown adults. When people in the Bible saw an angel, their typical response was to fall on their faces in fear and awe, not to reach out and tickle an adorable baby.

Some Bible passages picture angels with wings **Isaiah 6:2, 6**. Other verses talk about angels flying, and we assume that the wings would be useful for that flight **Daniel 9:21**. However, I suspect that angels can move around without having to depend on wings. Most references to angels in the Bible say nothing about wings, and in passages like **Genesis 18-19**, it is certain that no wings were visible.

Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it. **Hebrews 13:2**

One angel will seize Satan, the great deceiver and throw him into the Abyss:

And I saw an angel coming down out of heaven, having the key to the Abyss and holding in his hand a great chain. He seized the dragon, that ancient serpent (who is the devil, or Satan) and bound him for a thousand years. He threw him into the Abyss, and locked and sealed it over him, to keep him from deceiving the nations anymore until the thousand years were ended **Revelations 20:1-3**.

It is important that you should never call on an Angel for guidance, deliverance, etc. To do so will open you up for spiritual deception. According to the Bible, we should only call on God. We are also to trust only in God for deliverance, not an Angel. While it is true that God might deliver us with angels it is still God who is our Rock, Fortress, Deliverer, etc. God commands his angels what to do and they obey Him.

What Do Angels Do?

The word "angel" means "messenger"; that gives some hint of their primary role. Steven and Paul both state that the law was delivered to Moses by way of angels **Acts 7:53; Galatians 3:19**.

Elsewhere, we find angels delivering messages to people, for instance to Hagar **Genesis 16:7**, Samson's parents **Judges 13**, Mary **Luke 1:26**, and Joseph **Matthew 1:20**.

At the end of time, one sees them coming with Jesus to establish the kingdom, and we see them at around the same time in armed conflict with the host of Satan.

There is no doubt that angels help protect **Daniel 6:20-23; 2 Kings 6:13-17**, reveal information **Acts 7:52-53; Luke 1:11-20**, guide **Matthew 1:20-21; Acts 8:26**, provide for **Genesis 21:17-20; 1 Kings 19:5-7**, and minister to believers in general **Hebrews 1:14**.

Do we have guardian angels?"

“See that you do not look down on one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven.” **Matthew 18:10**

In the Old Testament, the nation of Israel had the archangel (Michael) assigned to it **Daniel 10:21; Daniel 12:1**, but Scripture nowhere states that an angel is “assigned” to an individual. Angels were sometimes sent to individuals, but there is no mention of permanent assignment. The Jews fully developed the belief in guardian angels during the time between the Old and New Testament periods. Some early church fathers believed that each person had not only a angel assigned to him/her, but a demon as well. The belief in guardian angels has been around for a long time, but there is no explicit scriptural basis for it.

To return to **Matthew 18:10**, the word “their” is a collective pronoun in the Greek and refers to the fact that believers are served by angels in general. These angels are pictured as “always” watching the face of God so as to hear His command to them to help a believer when it is needed. The angels in this passage do not seem to be guarding a person so much as being attentive to the Father in heaven. The active duty or oversight comes more from God than from the angels, which makes perfect sense because God alone is omniscient. He sees every believer at every moment, and He alone knows when one of us needs the intervention of an angel. Because they are continually seeing His

face, the angels are at His disposal to help one of His “chosen ones.”

It cannot be emphatically answered from Scripture whether or not each believer has a guardian angel assigned to him/her. But, as stated earlier, God does use angels in ministering to us. It is scriptural to say that He uses them as He uses us; that is, He in no way needs us or them to accomplish His purposes, but chooses to use us and them. Whether or not we have an angel assigned to protect us, we have an even greater assurance from God: if we are His children through faith in Christ, He works all things together for good **Romans 8:28-30**, and Jesus Christ will never leave us or forsake us **Hebrews 13:5-6**. If we have an omniscient, omnipotent, all-loving God with us, does it really matter whether or not there is a guardian angel protecting us?

Demons

What Does the Bible say about Demons?

The greek word "daimon" means "spirit" (good or evil), although in the New Testament it is only used to designate evil spirits. With the exception of **Hebrews 17, 18** in which it has the generic meaning of "divinities".

In the pagan atmosphere of the classical epoch, the points of reference used concerning the concept of demon are very different, since they considered the existence of phantasms, eons, nature spirits, mediators, souls of the dead, good and evil spirits, etc.

Demons are like angels: spiritual, immutable, and immortal. Demons are not omniscient, but each one has a specific knowledge, sometimes on only one subject, sometimes on more than one. Their power is limited to that which God allows, so they are not omnipotent. No reference has been made about omnipresence, so it is as yet unclear if they can be in different places at the same time.

Christian demonology states that the mission of the demons is to induce humans to sin, often by testing their faith in God. Christian tradition holds that temptations come from three sources: the world, the flesh, and the devil.

Demons are disembodied spirits that are at work virtually everywhere in the world today. They are evil in nature, and are obedient to Satan, their ruler. In the Bible they are also known as "evil spirits" or "unclean spirits".

There are a number of theories about their origin, but the Bible doesn't make it absolutely clear. Many believe they are fallen angels who fell when Satan, rebelled against the Lord God in heaven. This theory has the problem that demons seem to be earth-bound spirits that walk and cannot fly unlike angels. There are fallen angels, who presently occupy positions of influence and authority over the earth in a kind of Satanic hierarchy, and are referred to in the Bible as "principalities and powers" **Ephesians 6:12**. Earth bound demons are the "foot soldiers" in Satan's kingdom, and they are the ones we deal with on a day to day basis, whether we realize it or not.

Some speculate that demons are the spirits of former inhabitants of earth who rebelled against God, possibly the results of the offspring of fallen angels and women in the days before the flood **Genesis 6**. The Bible doesn't tell us and we don't have to know. What matters is to know how to deal with them and overcome them, as they are everywhere and they enjoy making our lives miserable if they can.

It may be that when God judged the snake in **Genesis 3** and said it would crawl on its belly that this translated into a loss of power for many fallen angels. It's impossible to say with total biblical authority.

Characteristics of demons

They are evil, malicious, deceptive and never to be trusted. We can see that demons possess the following:

Mind

"Now there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, saying, "Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God!" **Mark 1:23, 24**

Demons have knowledge and are able to come up with things to say. The knowledge that demons have explains the source of knowledge at work with "psychics" and other occultists. It explains the knowledge of past events and places that supposedly confirms the false doctrine of reincarnation.

Will - Spirits (demons) return where cast out, to see if the Holy Spirit is present

When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, 'I will return to my house from which I came. **Luke 11:24**

Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation **Matthew 12:45**

Evil spirits can speak through a person! In our day, some call this "channeling" the person with the evil spirit is being used to channel the Spirit from the Spirit world to the physical." Spirit guides and those that channel spirits need to ponder what Scripture says about a spirit speaking through a person.

Demons are self-willed beings who seek to impose their will on the will of man.

Emotions

"You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe - and tremble!" **James 2:19.**

Demons definitely fear God and God's power. On the other hand, they have pleasure in seeing people suffer. Anyone who is that way is so because they identify with the demons in them.

Legends of demons

"Then He asked him, 'What is your name?' And he answered, saying, 'My name is Legion; for we are many.' The demons begged Jesus, 'If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs.'" **Matthew 8:31**

Demons usually operate in groups. They know who they are and they know their names and functions. Sometimes demons change their functions. One spirit said, "I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets." **2 Chronicles 18:21.**

Sudden and major changes of events can cause some demons to change their function or activity. Most of the time, however, they continue with what they have been able to do successfully in the lives of people.

Pagan religions "sacrifice to demons"

They sacrificed to demons, which are not God, gods they had not known, gods that recently appeared, and gods your fathers did not fear. **Deuteronomy 32:17**

They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons. **Psalms 106:37**

A believer has authority to drive out demons, just as Jesus did

He called his twelve disciples to him and gave them authority to drive out evil spirits and to heal every disease and sickness. **Matthew 10:1**

Some people know this as "exorcism." Note: Wooden cross and/or holy water is NEVER used, in the Bible, to drive a demon out of a person.

The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him." **Mark 1:27**

For Jesus had commanded the evil spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places. **Luke 8:29**

But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. **Matthew 12:28**

Whenever the evil spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, "You are the Son of God." **Mark 3:11**

Evil spirits in John's vision looked like frogs:

Then I saw three evil spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

Revelations 16:13

Demons are deceivers

They are spirits of demons performing miraculous signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty.

Revelations 16:14

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. **1 Timothy 4:1**

There are many ways in which demons can deceive people, but the more common ones are through occult involvement, Ouija boards and séances. Dear reader, don't ever dabble with such, even out of curiosity or amusement. If you have already, ask God to forgive you and renounce all such behavior.

Demonic abilities

Demonic supernatural powers are believed to include fabrication, psychokinesis, levitation, divination, possession, seduction, ESP, telepathy, witchcraft, and curses, as well as binding, making contracts, controlling the classical elements, animal control, and provocation. Demons use variants and combinations of these powers to harass, demoralize, confuse, and disorient the victim, or the willing subject of demonic interest. All of these attacks, as well as their effect or scope, can be ended by God.

Demons are believed to have the power to physically or mentally hurt people, but only within the boundaries of what God will allow. Demons can destroy any material on the earth; these supernatural powers are always inferior to the power of God. God may use His will to cancel or destroy any effect the demon chooses to invoke. According to the gospels, Jesus also had full power over demons and they always obeyed his

commands. Demons assumably are granted permission to test, bring about trials and to tempt people through the use of their destructive powers, to make people prove their faith, sometimes as a means to carry out the will of the Lord. Often Demons are said to create negative emotions, wreaking havoc, ensuing chaos, and disrupting peace

Possession of Demons

The word

"unclean spirit" and demon (devil) are used indistinctly. Thus, the syrophoenician woman says that her daughter is possessed by a devil in Matthew, and in Mark it says that she had an unclean spirit.

The different names with which these devils are designated are:

- deaf spirit
- spirit of dumbness
- impure spirit
- evil spirit
- spirit of an unclean devil

In the Gospel, the word "lunatic" appears once **Matthew 17, 14**. In ancient times, this word could refer to epilepsy and to possession, and it was derived from the belief that the moon had an influence in the critical states of these persons.

"Energumen" (madman; demoniac) is a form of referring to the possessed and comes from the word "energy", due to the strength that these people had in their critical moments

The possession of the demons has been a problem to Christian demonology and theology since early times. A very early form of incarnation of demons was the idea of demonic possession, trying to explain that a demon entered the body of a person with some purpose or simply to punish that one for some allegedly committed sin. But this soon acquired greater proportions, trying to explain how demons could seduce people to have sexual relationships with them or induce them to commit other sins. To Christian scholars, demons didn't always have to manifest themselves in a visible and tangible form. Sometimes it was through possession.

Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. This girl followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved." She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so troubled that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!" At

that moment the spirit left her. When the owners of the slave girl realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to the authorities. **Acts 16:16-19**

You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe and shudder. **James 2:19**

When Jesus rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had driven seven demons **Mark 16:9**

And also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out **Luke 8:2**

Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by evil spirits and all of them were healed. **Acts 5:16**

There are some Biblical mentions of the possession by demons, similar in result to possession as in invocation, in the New Testament, according to the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke as they could be seen and heard, as well as banished.

When the evening had come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with [his] word, and healed all that were sick: **Matthew 8:16**

And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, Saying, Let [us] alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? Art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him. And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, what thing is this? What new doctrine [is] this? For with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him. **Mark 1:23-27**

And when he Jesus was come to the other side into the country of the Gergesenes, there met him two possessed with devils, coming out of the tombs, exceeding fierce, so that no man might pass by that way. And, behold, they cried out, saying, what have we to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God? Art thou come hither to torment us before the time? And there was a good way off from them a herd of many swine feeding. So the devils besought him, saying, if thou cast us out, suffer us to go away into the herd of swine.

And he said unto them, Go. And when they were come out, they went into the herd of swine: and, behold, the whole herd of swine ran violently down a steep place into the sea, and perished in the waters. And they that kept them fled, and went their ways into the city, and told every thing, and what was befallen to the possessed of the devils.

Matthew 8:28-33

Nephilim (Demons)

The purpose of this study is to answer the Question: What are Nephilim, fallen angels, Demons or something else?

Nephilim as derived from the Hebrew word פֶּלִי Pele which means wondrous.

The traditional Hebrew view is that the "rapha," meaning, interchangeably, "irrevocably dead," "evil spirits," "demons," and Giants are the spirits of the half-angelic, half human offspring called the Nephilim.

They are mentioned in **Numbers 13:32–33**, in a description of the inhabitants of Hebron:

So they gave out to the sons of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land, through which we have gone, in spying it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people whom we saw in it are men of great size. There also we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak are part of the Nephilim); and we became like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.

There are four common views regarding the identity of the Nephilim.

- They were the hybrid offspring of fallen angels and human women.
- They were the offspring of descendants of Seth with those of Cain.
- Webster's 1913 Dictionary defines the word simply as "Giant." Thus, any especially tall, powerful, large, or mighty man would be described in ancient times as Nephilim. Nephilim may simply mean "giant," champion, or strong man.
- They are not historical figures and are ancient imagery with questionable meaning.

The Targum Jonathan was read as a verse-by-verse translation alternatively with the Hebrew verses in the synagogue, states that the Nephilim were given this name because they were descended from fallen angels (Watchers).

The New American Bible commentary draws a parallel to the Epistle of Jude and the statements set forth in Genesis, suggesting that the Epistle refers implicitly to the paternity of Nephilim as heavenly beings that came to earth and had sexual intercourse with women.

The footnotes of the Jerusalem Bible suggest that the Biblical author intended the Nephilim to be an "anecdote of a superhuman race".

Genesis 6:4 implies that the Nephilim have inhabited the earth in at least two different time periods, in antediluvian times "and afterward." If the Nephilim were supernatural beings themselves, or at least the progeny of supernatural beings, it is possible that the "giants of Canaan" in Book of **Numbers 13:33** were the direct descendants of the antediluvian Nephilim, or were fathered by the same supernatural parents.

In Aramaic culture, the term Nephila specifically referred to the constellation of Orion, and thus Nephilim to Orion's semi-divine descendants (Anakim from Anak); the implication being that this also is the origin of the Biblical Nephilim.

Some Christian commentators have argued against this view, citing Jesus' statement that angels do not marry. Others believe that Jesus was only referring to angels in heaven

We know that Satan rebelled against God and fell from heaven **Isaiah 14; Ezekiel 28**, and one third of the angelic host joined his rebellion and dissent from Heaven with him. So, God prepared Hell for the devil and his angels, according to **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.'" Jesus, by using the possessive word his makes it clear that these angels belong to Satan. **Revelation 12:7-9** describes an end-times angelic battle between Michael and "his angels" and the devil and "his angels."

When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God (Watchers) saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose. Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever, for he is mortal; his days will be a hundred and twenty years." **Genesis 6:1-4**

The first verses of **Genesis 6** are transition verses. On the one hand, they wrap up the pre-Flood history of the earlier chapters, showing the state of degeneration that the human race had fallen. On the other hand, they prepare for the story of Noah and the Flood that follows; it was because of this degeneration that the Flood came.

The passage tells us that "When men began to increase in number on the earth and daughters were born to them, the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and they married any of them they chose" **Genesis 6:1-2**. The thing that makes these verses so interesting is that three New Testament passages seem to refer to them: **1 Peter 3:18-22; 2 Peter 2:4, 5; and Jude 6, 7**.

These passages say in part: "Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in the body but made alive by the Spirit, through whom also he went and preached to the spirits in prison who disobeyed long ago when God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built" **1 Peter 3:18-20**; "For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but sent them to hell, putting them into gloomy dungeons to be held for judgment; if he did not spare the ancient world when he brought the flood on its ungodly people, but protected Noah, a preacher of righteousness, and seven others" **2 Peter 2:4, 5**; and "the angels who did not keep their positions of authority but abandoned their own home-these he has kept in darkness, bound with everlasting chains for judgment on the great Day" **Jude 6**.

Some reject the idea that the demons are the fallen angels due to the fact that **Jude 6** declares the angels who sinned to be "bound with everlasting chains." However, it is clear that not all of the angels who sinned are "bound," as Satan is still free **1 Peter 5:8**. Why would God imprison the rest of the fallen angels, but allow the leader of the rebellion to remain free? It seems that **Jude 6** is referring to God confining the fallen angels (The Watchers) who rebelled in an additional way, likely the "sons of God" incident in **Genesis 6**.

The most common alternate explanation for the origin of the demons is that when the Nephilim of **Genesis 6** were destroyed in the Flood, their disembodied souls became the demons. While the Bible as we know it today does not specifically say what happened to the souls of the Nephilim when they were killed, so some conclude that it is unlikely that God would destroy the Nephilim in the Flood only to allow their souls to cause even greater evil as the demons. So they feel the best explanation for the origin of the demons is that they are the fallen angels, the angels who rebelled against God with Satan.

So, the question is who were the Nephilim? The heart of the matter lies in the ancient accounts of the Nephilim and their offspring, who and what they really were, what they did, where they are now, what their agenda is, and so on.

The lost books of Enoch explain that demons as disembodied Evil spirits and are not

fallen angels (angels who rebelled against God and were kicked out of heaven). Demons (Evil spirits) are the disembodied spirits of the Nephilim/Raphaim/Anunnaki, hybrids of the fallen angels (Watchers) mixed with the seed of men

In the Books of Enoch he discusses fallen angels and demons.

ENOCHE CHAPTER XV

1. And He (God) answered and said to me, and I heard His voice: 'Fear not, Enoch, thou righteous man and scribe of righteousness: approach hither and hear my voice. 2. And go, say to the Watchers of heaven, who have sent thee to intercede for them: "You should intercede" for men, and not men for you: 3. Wherefore have ye left the high, holy, and eternal heaven, and lain with women, and defiled yourselves with the daughters of men and taken to yourselves wives, and done like the children of earth, and begotten giants (as your) sons? 4. And though ye were holy, spiritual, living the eternal life, you have defiled yourselves with the blood of women, and have begotten (children) with the blood of flesh, and, as the children of men, have lusted after flesh and blood as those also do who die and perish. 5. Therefore have I given them wives also that they might impregnate them, and beget children by them, that thus nothing might be wanting to them on earth. 6. But you were formerly spiritual, living the eternal life and immortal for all generations of the world. 7. And therefore I have not appointed wives for you; for as for the spiritual ones of the heaven, in heaven is their dwelling. 8. And now, the giants, who are produced from the spirits and flesh, shall be called evil spirits upon the earth, and on the earth shall be their dwelling. 9. Evil spirits have proceeded from their bodies; because they are born from men, and from the holy Watchers is their beginning and primal origin; they shall be evil spirits on earth, and evil spirits shall they be called. 10. As for the spirits of heaven, in heaven shall be their dwelling, but as for the spirits of the earth which were born upon the earth, on the earth shall be their dwelling. 11. And the spirits of the giants afflict, oppress, destroy, attack, do battle, and work destruction on the earth, and cause trouble: they take no food, but nevertheless hunger and thirst, and cause offences. And these spirits shall rise up against the children of men and against the women, because they have proceeded from them.

ENOCH CHAPTER XVI

1. From the days of the slaughter and destruction and death of the giants, from the souls of whose flesh the spirits, having gone forth, shall destroy without incurring judgment thus shall they destroy until the day of the consummation, the great judgment in which the age shall be consummated, over the Watchers and the godless, yea, shall be wholly consummated." 2. And now as to the Watchers who have sent thee to intercede for them, who had been aforetime in heaven, (say to them): "You have been in heaven, but all the mysteries had not yet been revealed to you, and you knew worthless ones, and these in the hardness of your hearts you have made known to the women, and through these mysteries women and men work much evil on earth."

Why did the early church (Catholic) suppress the Book of Enoch? After all, there are various references to Enoch throughout the Old and New Testament, in fact, Enoch never died but was carried up to heaven in a Chariot and will return as one of the two witnesses of **Revelation 11** during the tribulation period.

The book of Enoch used in conjunction with the Book of Jude and Revelation bear witness to the conclusion that Demons are actually the Evil Spirit of the Nephilims, as do the original Old Testament actual mention the Nephilim, Anakim (Anunna/Anunnaki), Rephaim, and Rapha, along with others descended from Nephilim. In fact, the traditional Hebrew view is that the "rapha," meaning, interchangeably, "irrevocably dead," "evil spirits," "demons," and GIANTS, are the spirits of the half-angelic Nephilim offspring that were killed in the great cataclysm we remember as the Flood. This is not a tall tale, but a truth of which Christ and his disciples were aware. This is why they quoted from the book of Enoch.

The story can also be found in the books of Jasher, Jubilees, and the recently-found Dead Sea Scroll, the Book of Giants. Angels have bodies as they can take a variety of forms, as well ("for Satan can appear even as an angel of light," etc.). There were two angelic rebellions, the first being the Satan rebellion that most are familiar with; this is the source of what Paul calls, in the sixth chapter of Ephesians, "Spirit wickedness in high places." This is why Jesus calls Satan "the prince of the powers of the air." The second rebellion came much, much later, and is well known in Hebrew esoteric tradition. In fact, much of this knowledge is still intact in the Hebrew tradition. Many books which were originally in the Bible, the books of Enoch, Jasher, Jubilees, and so on contain the whole story of the fallen angels who rebelled in order to mate with human women. These beings were called the Nephilim, literally "those who came/fell down."

A recent dead-sea scroll find and translation, "the Book of Giants," also contains this story in great detail. Before you question the validity of the non-canonical books I mention, keep in mind that not only were they part of the original Old Testament, but many of them particularly Enoch were quoted from by the Apostles in the New Testament. Quotes from the book of Enoch can be found in the books of Jude, Revelation, and several other places. The book of Enoch pre-dated the time of Christ by around 300 years. In the Old Testament, Genesis tells us that "the sons of God looked upon the daughters of men and found them fair, and took of them wives as they chose." The actual translation of this passage reads something like this: "The Watchers came and took human wives for themselves, as many as they wanted. Their children were the Nephilim of old, the giants."

The books of Jasher, Jubilees, Enoch, and others contain the complete story of what happened in the antediluvian (pre-flood) world. The Watchers set themselves up as pagan "gods" to be worshipped, and their hybrid, genetically monstrous sons as "demigod" kings over the rest of humanity. These offspring were also called Nephilim, and they were brutal, cruel, occultic and cannibalistic giants who treated ordinary human beings with contempt. There were 300 original "Watchers" above the Earth who rebelled and their leader was named Semyaza. Through corrupt angelic knowledge, the pre-flood world was corrupted.

The book of Enoch says that the Watchers and the daughter of men "sinned against all flesh," creating hybrid creatures which were part human, part beast, part fowl (or bird). Sound familiar? The 300 fallen "watchers," whose original job had been to protect humanity and the Earth, were utterly depraved. They taught mankind the arts of witchcraft, sorcery, drug abuse, and war. The gene-pool of the human race was tainted as well, almost beyond recovery. When you read the story of Noah and his family, it should be understood that he was not only selected to survive because of the quality of his character; Genesis states that, unlike the majority of the rest of humanity, Noah was "found perfect in all his generations." In other words, he and his family were untainted by the fallen Watcher and Nephilim bloodline, which God had cursed to eternal damnation (in the Hebrew Old Testament, the word "rapha" means "the damned," the "eternally dead," "demon," "ghost," and giant, i.e., the spirit of one of the Nephilim).

After the flood, when the Nephilim offspring and hybrid mutations were physically destroyed not spiritually, the 300 former "watchers" were confined inside the Earth, in a prison from which they can not escape. These are those who are referred to by Paul in **Ephesians 6** as "the rulers of the spiritual darkness of this world." Although imprisoned, they are still very powerful and can influence world events, particularly through their offspring's evil spirits formally known as the Nephilim. Jude refers to the Watchers, quoting directly from the book of Enoch, when he says "the angels (Watchers) who are chained in eternal darkness, awaiting the judgment of the great day." This is not a

reference to Satan and his angels, who still "wage war in heaven." The more one learns about the ancient knowledge and traditions, the more it is seen that a spiritual yet physical and galactic war is behind all the myths, legends, religions and traditions of our world.

Summary

Demons are real. Their activity accounts for many of the things that are happening today. Demons are spirit beings with the characteristics of personality. Some are stronger than others, but all of them are totally corrupt and evil in nature. They never do any good. Any apparent benefit obtained through them via occultism is always just something to gain trust so they can do you and others far greater harm in the future. They are unsatisfied beings who desire to use and abuse you. They don't feel satisfied without a body to inhabit and through which to express their evil natures. God, on the other hand, is the source of goodness and life and who desires to give of Himself to you, and see you grow up to become like Jesus Himself.

Don't allow demons to get the upper hand in your life. Let us do all we can to destroy their influence by drawing near to God and letting God fill us and show us the way

It is also believed that demons torment people during their life, like the case of Job or through possession, or simply showing themselves before persons to frighten them, or by provoking visions that could induce people to sin or to be afraid. (**Matthew 17:15-16**)

Demons are also believed to try to make people abandon the faith, commit heresy or apostasy, remain or turn themselves Pagan or venerate "idols" (the Christian term for cult images), and gain the highest number of "Satan's" or adversaries of God. (**Ephesians 6:12**)

In the Book of Luke, it is stated that demons walk "waterless places", and finding no rest return to their previous home.

It said to the sixth angel who had the trumpet, "Release the four angels who are bound at the great river Euphrates." **Revelations 9:14**

Satan

Satan (Hebrew: הַשָּׂטָן ha-Satan ("the accuser"); Persian "sheytân"; Arabic: الشيطان al-Shaitan ("the adversary") both from the Semitic root: **Š-T-N**) is an embodiment of antagonism that originates from the Abrahamic religions, being traditionally considered an angel in Judeo-Christian belief, and a Jinnin Islamic belief. Originally, the

term was used as a title for various entities that challenged the religious faith of humans in the Hebrew Bible. Since then, the Abrahamic religions have used "Satan" as a name for the Devil. As the embodiment of evil, and plays a major role in Christian theology and literature, as well as in many other religions. He is the tempter and spiritual enemy of mankind. He is the adversary of God although subordinate to him and able to act only by his sufferance and is represented frequently as the leader or prince of all apostate angels and as ruler of hell.

Satan in the Hebrew Scriptures

It is a little known fact that the word "Satan" is an untranslated word. It is not an English word. Instead, it comes from the Hebrew, from which it has passed into Greek and thence into English. The word simply means an adversary, as will be evident to the simplest reader from the following instances of its use:

In the book of Job (Iyov), ha-satan ("the accuser") is the title of an angel submitted to God. In Judaism ha-satan does not make evil, rather points out to God the evil inclinations and actions of humankind. In essence ha-satan has no power unless humans do evil things. After God places a wager with Satan about Job's piety, God gives "ha-satan" permission to test the faith of Job. The righteous man is afflicted with loss of family, property, and later, health, but he still stays faithful to God. At the conclusion of this book God appears as a whirlwind, explaining to all that divine justice is inscrutable. In the epilogue Job's possessions are restored and he has a second family to replace the one that died.

In the Torah, Satan is used to describe both military **1 Samuel 29:4**; **1 Kings 5:4** and legal **Psalms 109:6** adversaries. Satan is also in the Balaam's story in **Numbers 22**. The Angel of the LORD is identified as an adversary or a physical block to Balaam's journey in **Numbers 22:22**. Later in **Numbers 22:32** the Angel of the LORD specifically identifies himself by claiming to be like an adversary, again using the term Satan.

In **2 Samuel 24:1**, Yahweh incites David to a census. Later **1 Chronicles 21:1** would attribute this action to Satan.

The Book of **Isaiah, Job, Ecclesiastes, and Deuteronomy** all have passages in which God is credited for exercising sovereign control over both good and evil.

In the Talmud and other rabbinic sources

The Talmud mentions the Satan in many places. In all of these places, the Satan is an agent of God, and has no independent existence. Sometimes the Satan is conflated with

various demons, such as Asmodai. At times there is even some sympathy for him. Commenting on the Book of Job, the rabbis express sympathy that his job was to "break the barrel but not spill any wine."

In Kabbalistic literature and its derivative, Hasidic literature, the Satan is seen as an agent of God whose job is to tempt one into sin, and then turn around and accuse the sinner on high. An additional understanding of Satan is from a parable to a prostitute who is hired by the King (God) to tempt his son (a Jew). The prostitute has to do the best she can to tempt the son; but deep down she hopes the son will pass the test. Similarly, Kabbalistic/Hasidic thought sees the Satan in the same situation. His job is to tempt us as best he can, turn around and accuse us; but deep down his wish is that we would resist his blandishments.

Who is Satan?

"The Lord stirred up an adversary (A SATAN) unto Solomon, Hadad the Edomite" **1 Kings 11:14**. "Lest in the battle, he (David) be an adversary (A SATAN) to us" **1 Samuel 29:4**. "There is neither adversary (SATAN) nor evil occurrent" **1 Kings 5:4**. Satan is first mentioned by "name" in **Job 1:6-7**

Satan (also known as the devil) is the original enemy of God who rebelled at the foundation of the earth. He is the one ultimately responsible for all the deception that exists in this world. He has deceived many to disbelieve in his existence, though both serious Christians and well-informed devil worshippers both know he exists. He is a personal being, and has been both seen and heard by many people. He can use many forms, including that of an "angel of light".

It is not surprising therefore that Satan has lately tried to convince many he is not all that bad, another deception. Actually, Satan is the most powerful fallen angel and the master of all evil. He exercises a massive influence in the affairs of the earth. He is only a created being however, and his power just doesn't compare with God's. When the right time comes God will command some angels to tie up the devil and throw him into the lake of fire. One day people will wonder how the devil ever managed to deceive and destroy so much.

Some ask how Satan ever came into existence. Here is the Bible answer.

God created multitudes of angels, including at least three archangels: Satan, Michael and Gabriel. Angels are spirit beings which may or may not manifest themselves in a visible form (usually not). All angels were created good and holy but Satan, the chief worship angel decided to exalt himself and led a rebellion in heaven against God **Ezekiel 28:13-15; Is 14:12-14**. Satan and his angels were cast out of heaven and became Satan and his

evil spirits **2 Peter 2:4**. Satan is active today in the air **Ephesians 2:2**, in the earth **Job 1:7** and also under the earth, in hell. Not being everywhere at once, as God is, he works through his forces, including fallen angels and demons. These spirits seek to live in and work through people, usually in a hidden way, usually not openly. The results of Satan's work are still evident in our world today. Jesus came to destroy these works. **1 John 3:8**. Satan is therefore the author of evil. His chief desire is to receive the worship that belongs only to God the Creator **Matthew 4:8-10; Revelation 13:4**. He also works in his hatred against mankind to destroy them as much as he can for time and eternity.

In the Old Testament Satan is not represented as a fallen and malignant spirit, but as a servant of Yahweh, performing a divine function and having his place in the heavenly train. In the parallel accounts of David's numbering of Israel (**1 Samuel 24:1; 1 Chronicles 21:1**) the tempting of David is attributed both to Yahweh and Satan. The reason for this is either that 'the temptation of men is also a part of his providence,' or that in the interval between the documents the personality of the tempter has more clearly emerged. In this case the account in Chronicles would nearly approximate the New Testament teaching. In the Book of **Job 1:6**, however, Satan is among the Sons of God and his assaults upon Job are divinely permitted. In **Zechariah 3:1, 2** Satan is also a servant of Yahweh. In both these passages there is the hint of opposition between Yahweh and Satan. In the former instance Satan assails unsuccessfully the character of one whom Yahweh honors; while in the latter Yahweh explicitly rebukes Satan for his attitude toward Israel.

The unveiling of Satan as a rebellious world-power is reserved for the New Testament, and with this fuller teaching the symbolic treatment of temptation in **Genesis** is to be connected. There is a sound pedagogical reason, from the viewpoint of revelation, for this earlier withholding of the whole truth concerning Satan.

In the early stages of religious thinking it would seem to be difficult, if not impossible, to hold the sovereignty of God without attributing to His agency those evils in the world which are more or less directly connected with judgment and punishment **Isaiah 45:7; Amos 3:6**.

The Old Testament sufficiently emphasizes man's responsibility for his own evil deeds, but super-human evil is brought upon him from above. "When willful souls have to be misled, the spirit who does so, as in Ahab's case, comes from above".

The progressive revelation of God's character and purpose, which more and more imperatively demands that the origin of moral evil, and consequently natural evil, must

be traced to the created will in opposition to the divine will, leads to the ultimate declaration that Satan is a morally fallen being to whose conquest the Divine Power in history is pledged. There is, also, the distinct possibility that in the significant transition from the Satan of the Old Testament to that of the New Testament we have the outlines of a biography and an indication of the way by which the angels fell.

Satan was the Anointed Cherub. Anointed means to be set apart for Gods Divine purpose. It also means "bestowal of Gods divine favor" and "appointment to a special place or function."

Satan was lifted up because of his beauty; he corrupted the wisdom by reason of his brightness **Ezekiel 28:17**

God had given Satan a certain amount of power and authority. But he perverted that power. Satan wanted to exalt himself above God... rather than "just" being the Angel of God.

Satan wanted to be God. The Bible tells us in **2 Corinthians 4:4** that Satan has become the "god of this world" and **Revelation 20:10** tells us that he will be eternally punished for it.

Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit. **Revelation 20:15**

When Satan was cast out of Heaven, one third of all the angels were cast out with him. "And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born. (5) And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne. (6) And the woman fled into the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God, that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days. (7) And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, (8) And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. (9) And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." **Revelation 12:4-9**

What does Satan look like?

We've all seen pictures of Satan portrayed as a hooved creature, red in color, with little

horns on his head. But this description is not Biblical. The hoofed being we usually see is actually closer to that of "Pan" from Greek mythology.

Perhaps Satan wants this image of himself to be used, because of its absurdity. Knowing that the day would come when God and the Devil would both be dismissed as "mythical"

The Book of "Ezekiel" tells us what Satan really looked like.

Satan was a being "of perfect beauty". He was covered in every precious stone. He had pendants and jewels of gold...Satan was beautiful before he sinned. An expression of God's own beauty and power. But like man, Satan's nature changed when he sinned. His physical appearance may have been as well.

"Thus says the Lord GOD, "You had the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. 13 "You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering: The ruby, the topaz, and the diamond; the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper; the lapis lazuli, the turquoise, and the emerald; and the gold, the workmanship of your settings and sockets, Was in you. On the day that you were created they were prepared. 14 "You were the anointed cherub who covers, and I placed you there. You were on the holy mountain of God; you walked in the midst of the stones of fire. 15 "You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, until unrighteousness was found in you. 16 "By the abundance of your trade you were internally filled with violence, and you sinned; therefore I have cast you as profane from the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. 17 "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor. I cast you to the ground; I put you before kings, that they may see you."

Ezekiel 28:12-17

The Bible says Satan was a Cherubim. Cherubim had four wings, four faces (ox, man, eagle, serpent). It also speaks of him having pipes, possibly on his chest where music comes out. **Ezekiel 28:13s**

Satan is "the god of this world" he "has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the Gospel of the Glory of Christ" **2 Corinthians 4; 4**

Satan is a liar. The Bible tells us he is the father of all lies.

"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."

John 8:44

Attributes of Satan

Descriptions of the powers, activity and personality of Satan and are scattered throughout the Bible:

He is a created being, a former Archangel, and thus is inferior to God.

He can be only in one place at one time.

He has limits to his knowledge and power.

Satan cannot perform any acts unless God approves **Job1:6 to 2:10**.

He is a trickster and an unreliable source of information. **John 8:44** speaks of him as a liar, the father of all lies.

He is the ruler of the earth **John 12:31, Ephesians 6:12** and **2 Corinthians 4:4**

He leads a personal army of demons **Matthew 12:24**

He can adopt a spirit form, reside inside a person and influence their thoughts and behavior:

A spirit who works within "the children of disobedience." **Ephesians 2:2**

Satan "put into" Judas Iscariot's mind the decision to betray Jesus. **John 13:2**

His existence places humans in extreme peril. He is described as a dangerous entity, a roaring lion, who roams all over the earth "seeking whom he may devour." **1 Peter 5:8**

The Bible describes Satan as having a personal army of demons (from "daimon" meaning "intelligent" in Greek) to assist him.

The various names of the Devil

People generally think that the words devil (Diablo) and demon (demonio) are synonyms and use them as such. But Holy Scripture does not treat these two words as synonyms. For what the Bible says of the Devil, this is a spirit which is very superior to the rest of the demoniacal hierarchies. The word Devil or Satan or Beelzebub are always used in the singular, just as with other equivalent denominations (Serpent, Dragon, etc.). Whereas the word demon appears sometimes in the singular, other times in plural.

Diabolos

1. prone to slander, slanderous, accusing falsely
 - a. a calumniator, false accuser, slanderer,
2. metaph. applied to a man who, by opposing the cause of God, may be said to act the part of the devil or to side with him

KJV (38) - devil, 35; false accuser, 2; slanderer, 1

NAS (37) - devil, 34; malicious gossips, 3

Satan

The Hebrew word Satan means "adversary" and its translation into Greek gives the word "Diabolos", from the root dia-ballo, to divide or separate. The meaning of Devil (Diabolos) would be "He who places division" and its derived meaning would be "slanderer". In Arabic, the word Satan means "he-goat".

Belial o Beliar (Baal)

Belial o Beliar, from the root "Baal", which means lord, is another form of naming Satan in the New Testament. The symbol of Baal is the bull. Set against the ferocity of the bull, or of the goat.

Beelzebub

Beelzebub would mean the prince of dung, or the prince of flies. If we mix the aramean

word "be'el" (which means lord) with the Hebrew word "zebul" (which means house), we would get the meaning: lord of the house.

Beelzebub is the name of a one of the seven princes of Hell, a demon derived from Ba'al Zebûb, Ba'al Z'ôbûb or Ba'al Z'vûv (Hebrew בעל זבוב), with numerous variants and a deity worshipped in the Philistine city of Ekron.

In ancient contexts, there appears to have been little, if any, meaningful distinction between Beelzebub and the polytheistic Semitic god named Ba'al. Monotheistic Jewish reference to Baal was almost certainly pejorative and grew to be used among other terms for Satan. The name later appears as the name of a demon or devil, often interchanged with Beelzebul.

In the Testament of Solomon, Beelzebul (not Beelzebub) appears as prince of the demons and says **Solomon 6.2** that he was formerly a leading heavenly angel who was **Solomon 6.7** associated with the star Hesperus (which is the normal Greek name for the planet Venus (Αφροδίτη) as evening star). Seemingly Beelzebul is here simply Satan. Beelzebul claims to cause destruction through tyrants, to cause demons to be worshipped among men, to excite priests to lust, to cause jealousies in cities and murders, and to bring on war.

Texts of the Acts of Pilate (also known as the Gospel of Nicodemus) vary in whether they use Beelzebul or Beelzebub. The name is used by Hades as a secondary name for Satan. But it may vary with each translation of the text; other versions give the name Beelzebub as Beelzebub, but separate him from Satan.

Beelzebub is commonly described as placed high in Hell's hierarchy; he was of the order of cherubim. According to the 16th century occultist Johann Weyer, Beelzebub led a successful revolt against Satan, and is the chief lieutenant of Lucifer, the Emperor of Hell, and presides over the Order of the Fly. Similarly, the 17th century exorcist Sebastien Michaelis, in his Admirable History (1612), placed Beelzebub among the three most prominent fallen angels, the other two being Lucifer and Leviathan, whereas two 18th century works identified an unholy trinity consisting of Beelzebub, Lucifer, and Astaroth. In demonology Astaroth (also Ashtaroth, Astarot, and Asteroth) is a Prince of Hell. He is a male figure named after the female Canaanite goddess Ashtoreth. He is a demon of the First Hierarchy, who seduces by means of laziness, vanity, and rationalized philosophies.

The Devil appears in Scripture with the following names, besides those already mentioned:

The Accuser,
The Enemy,
The Tempter,
The Evil one,
The Murderer from the beginning,
The Father of lies,
The Prince of this world,
The Serpent,

One day the angels came to present themselves before Yahweh, and Satan also came with them. Yahweh said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered Yahweh, "From roaming through the earth and going back and forth in it."

Here God asks where it is that Satan comes from; however, it is not a question of ultimate origins, but of "what have you been doing lately?" From the story of Job, we learn that Satan is responsible for bringing misery and suffering to people. In **1 Chronicles 21:1** we see him active in tempting a person to sin. The only other place that Satan is mentioned in the Old Testament is **Zechariah 3:1-2**, where he is seen accusing the saints; and of course that is exactly what his name "Satan" means: "the accuser". In fact, in the Old Testament "Satan" is always preceded by a definite article, from which we gather "Satan" is more a designation of his character than an actual personal name. His actual first appearance in the Bible is generally assumed to be at the very beginning, in the form of a serpent, when he convinces Eve to doubt God's goodness. If this serpent is indeed Satan then Satan is responsible for creating all the misery that exists in our world today.

Lucifer

In the Hebrew language there is no word Lucifer. In the Greek translation known as the Septuagint, heilel is rendered eosphorus. So even in the Greek, there's nothing like the word Lucifer

The word "Lucifer" in **Isaiah 14:12** makes his appearance in the fourteenth chapter of the Old Testament book of Isaiah, at the twelfth verse, and nowhere else: "How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations!"

The first problem is that Lucifer is a Latin name. So how did it find its way into a Hebrew manuscript, written before there was a Roman language? In the original Hebrew text, the fourteenth chapter of Isaiah is not about a fallen angel, but about a fallen

Babylonian king, who during his lifetime had persecuted the children of Israel. It contains no mention of Satan, either by name or reference. The Hebrew scholar could only speculate that some early Christian scribes, writing in the Latin tongue used by the Church, had decided for themselves that they wanted the story to be about a fallen angel, a creature not even mentioned in the original Hebrew text, and to whom they gave the name "Lucifer."

Why Lucifer? In Roman astronomy, Lucifer was the name given to the morning star (the star we now know by another Roman name, Venus). The morning star appears in the heavens just before dawn, heralding the rising sun. The name derives from the Latin term *lucem ferre*, bringer, or bearer, of light." In the Hebrew text the expression used to describe the Babylonian king before his death is Helal, son of Shahaar, which can best be translated as "Day star, son of the Dawn." The name evokes the golden glitter of a proud king's dress and court (much as his personal splendor earned for King Louis XIV of France the appellation, "The Sun King").

The scholars authorized by King James I, to translate the Bible into current English did not use the original Hebrew texts, but used versions translated largely by St. Jerome in the fourth century. Jerome had mistranslated the Hebraic metaphor, "Day star, son of the Dawn," as "Lucifer," and over the centuries a metamorphosis took place. Lucifer the morning star became a disobedient angel, cast out of heaven to rule eternally in hell. Theologians, writers, and poets interwove the myth with the doctrine of the fall, and in Christian tradition Lucifer is now the same as Satan, the Devil, and ironically the Prince of Darkness.

So "Lucifer" is nothing more than an ancient Latin name for the morning star, the bringer of light. That can be confusing for Christians who identify Christ himself as the morning star, a term used as a central theme in many Christian sermons. Jesus refers to himself as the morning star.

"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star." **Revelation 22:16:**

And so there are those who do not read beyond the King James Version of the Bible, who say 'Lucifer is Satan: so says the Word of God'...."

How does the confusion in translating this verse arise? The Hebrew of this passage

reads: "helel, ben shachar" which can be literally translated "shining one, son of dawn." This phrase means, again literally, the planet Venus when it appears as a morning star. In the Septuagint, a 3rd century BC translation of the Hebrew scriptures into Greek, it is translated as "heosphoros" which also means Venus as a morning star.

How did the translation "lucifer" arise? This word comes from Jerome's Latin Vulgate. Was Jerome in error? In Latin at the time, "lucifer" actually meant Venus as a morning star. Isaiah is using this metaphor for a bright light, though not the greatest light to illustrate the apparent power of the Babylonian king which then faded." Therefore, Lucifer wasn't equated with Satan until after Jerome.

So why is this a problem to Christians? Christians now generally believe that Satan (or the Devil or Lucifer who they equate with Satan) is a being who has always existed (or who was created at or near the "beginning"). Therefore, they also think that the 'prophets' of the Old Testament believed in this creature. The Isaiah scripture is used as proof and has been used as such for hundreds of years now.

The problems for those who believe that "Lucifer" refers to Satan is that the same title ('morning star' or 'light-bearer') is used to refer to Jesus, in **2 Peter 1:19**, where the Greek text has exactly the same term: 'phos-phoros' 'light-bearer.' This is also the term used for Jesus in **Revelation 22:16**

The "seirim" which could be translated as "the hairy ones" and is derived from the Hebrew "sa'ir": "hairy" or "he-goat"). St. Jerome chose to translate that word as "satyrs", which is particularly well fitting, because that Hebrew word was considered to refer to something like demons in the form of he-goats. This word indicates ancient demoniacal entities to whom the cult was given: "They must no longer offer their sacrifices to the satyrs, in whose service they once prostituted themselves" Leviticus. 17, 7

"Ael", angel of the Abyss, whose Hebrew name is Abaddon and in Greek is Apollyon. The name Abaddon means "perdition, ruin, destruction". Apollyon means "destroyer".

The devil has one general goal for you, your family and friends "to devour":
Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. **1 Peter 5:8**

Do not give the devil an opportunity to tempt you or lead you away from God:
And do not give the devil a foothold. **Ephesians 4:27**

Satan tempted the Lord Jesus by quoting Scripture which mentioned angels:

"If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" **Matthew 4:6**

The devil can quote Scripture! This is a disturbing but important truth to know about our chief, spiritual adversary! To make matters even worse, false teachers can do the same! Therefore, we must make sure Scripture is not used out of context. To do this we must consider the verses before and after the verse in question. Also, when trying to arrive at the proper interpretation of Scripture, we must consider all verses on any given subject.

Satan can transform himself into looking like an angel from God

And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. **2**
Corinthians 11:14

Since God does not change **Malachi 3:6; James 1:17**, it is impossible for the source of these visions to be God, especially since they have an unscriptural message!

If even an angel from heaven would declare a salvation message different from that found in Scripture, that angel is not only wrong but accursed for doing so:

But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! **Galatians 1:8**

Satan's Final End Is Everlasting Torment:

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**

Eternal fire beyond the grave was prepared for "the devil and his angels":

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. **Matthew 25:41**

The same fire that will claim the devil and his angels will also torment people who die in a spiritually lost condition. Dear reader, do not be deceived: There is no reincarnation! The ultimate authority on all spiritual matters, Lord Jesus, taught a judgment and an afterlife in either the kingdom of heaven or eternal fire, but not reincarnation. Also, there is no Purgatory or annihilation of the wicked, according to Jesus. He taught there are only two roads, two gates, two destinies and two groups of people.

Because there are false teachers, deceitful spirits, visions and dreams from the devil, miracles performed by demons, etc. we are advised to do the following:

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. **1 John 4:1**

Test everything. Hold on to the good. **1 Thessalonians 5:21**

Our standard is the Word of God, which is used for testing all teachings **2 Tim. 3:16, 17.**

It is in the Bible alone that we can be made "wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus" **2 Timothy 3:15**

Motivation of Satan and Demons

A mistake that some make is to imagine that Satan and his cohorts are little more than imps or gremlins, delighting in disruption and attempting merely to cause trouble for trouble's sake. This is to seriously underestimate them, as well as to mythologize them and hence make them little more than things that go bump in the night.

Christians make a mistake if they are quick to blame every error, every problem in their lives on demon activity. The fact that you lost your job, or your car won't start is very unlikely to be due to demons. Far more likely, it's simply the consequence of living on a fallen planet. Likewise, when people are evil, it is not because they are demon possessed, it is because they are human beings and that is the nature of human beings.

On the other hand, we must be careful not to think that demons don't exist, or that they are make believe. They are very real.

In arriving at the motivation of Satan and his helpers, a few thoughts should be brought together. One, Satan is aware of his ultimate fate. He can read the Bible the same as the rest of us, and the news, for him, is much less than cheerful.

Now, if you as a human being were aware of some awful calamity that would befall you tomorrow, what would you do? Obviously, you would try to avoid the calamity, either by being elsewhere than where the calamity is supposed to occur, or by altering events to try to prevent the calamity.

Therefore, I would suggest that the primary motivation for Satan (and the demons) is a desperate desire to avoid the last judgment. Therefore, whatever Satan or his cohorts do, it will be done in combination with asking themselves the question: "how does this further my cause of avoiding God's judgment in eternal Hell at the end of time?" Demons and Satan are unlikely to bother themselves with anything that does not contribute toward their cause.

The hopelessness of the situation does not stop their struggle; after all, even condemned criminals tied to their chair in the gas chamber, will hold their breath and struggle against their bonds. It is a serious probability that the demons and Satan are no longer entirely sane any longer, either, making them that much more dangerous and nasty.

The hint that this is indeed the motivation of the demons and Satan comes in a couple of passages. In **1 Corinthians 2:8** Paul writes that if they had known the consequences of killing Jesus, they never would have done so. The irony here is heavy. Satan imagined that in killing Jesus and one can see the importance he placed on this event, in that it is in Christ's betrayal that we have the only reference to Satan himself taking possession of a person **Luke 22:3; John 13:27**. Obviously, he wanted to make sure the job got done right, he would thwart God's plan; but rather than thwarting God's plan, he fulfilled it and sealed his own doom.

Knowing that Jesus was a human being, Satan tried to corrupt him, first, in the temptation in the wilderness **1, Luke 4, Mark 4**; Satan knew that Jesus was key, and that if he could somehow disrupt God's plan, then he could achieve his goal: to be left alone in peace by God, never to suffer punishment. When the temptation failed, he then tried repeatedly to kill him, finally succeeding at Calvary. Like the disciples, the Jewish leaders, everyone, in fact, Satan was just as oblivious to Jesus' actual purpose in coming. In hindsight, it seems hard to fathom how everyone could have been in the dark; but that they were.