

Angels & Demons

Lesson 1: Introduction, Who, What, Where, When?

Introduction: The Spiritual Realm: 4 Perspectives from *2,000 Demons: No Match for My Savior* by Prof. E.A. Sorum. Which perspective do you relate to most?

1. **Robert (Skeptical)** - Scientific, technological, sickness spread by germs and not by spiritual forces, etc,
2. **Dawb (Fully Engaged)** - Oldest child of immigrant parents from SE Asia, believe in spirits and see their mischief everywhere, hopes the ancestors and shamans can help keep them safe.
3. **Jenny (Source of Entertainment)** - view of supernatural is connected to social life. Will let her friends “do readings” and follow tarot cards and horoscopes. But she wonders if its real or not.
4. **Jonathan (Intrigued and Interested)** - Ghosts are his hobby. He likes to read about haunted houses and watch those shows. He eagerly seeks a relationship

“Even only 25 percent of those who identify themselves as Christians are of the opinion that Satan is a real and living being intent on hurting people.” (2009 Barna Study, probably different now). What do you think of that statistic? What has led to it being such a small number?

What’s the difference between believing in the existence of demons and taking their existence seriously?

The Spiritual World is happening all around us. It’s important for us to understand this as we live in this world. We want to answer these questions that Prof. Sorum asks, *“What’s my perspective on demons or the spirit world? How real or how malicious or how dangerous or how harmless do I actually think demons are, from one day to the next?”* And my own, *“How often do I thank God for his angels who are, at his command, protecting me all day long?”*

As we study Angels & Demons, we keep in mind a few things: First, God won. At the cross, God won. The devil is crushed and the demons defeated. Jesus rules and the devil and his demons are no match for him. Second, God won. The devil knows he is doomed, he’s a roaring lion with “nothing to lose”, he will rage against God’s people like a cornered animal. **How do these two points help us understand the joys/successes and challenges/failures of gospel ministry?**

Today, we look at many basic facts about the angels that God has created.

1. Review the days of Creation. What did God make on each day?

Day 1 -	Day 4 –
Day 2 -	Day 5 –
Day 3 -	Day 6 –

2. Read Colossians 1:16 and Job 38:4-7. What light do these passages shed on which day or part of the week angels were created?
3. How many angels did God create? Read Hebrews 12:22, Daniel 7:10. Why does this matter?
4. According to Luke 20:35-36, Angels don't marry, don't have children, and don't die. What does this tell us about their number?
5. Read Luke 20:35-36 again. One idea you might hear is that when we die, we become angels. What does Jesus say about that? What comfort does it give you that you aren't an angel when you get to heaven?
6. Read Hebrews 1:14, Skim Genesis 19, Skim Ezekiel 1, Read Matthew 28:1-10. Then, List what the Bible says angels are like.
7. Which one is right? - Angels are teachers of God's church. Angels are students of God's church.
8. God's angels are well organized. The Bible speaks of an archangel (never more than one mentioned in Scripture, but there could be "chief angels" (cf. Daniel 10:13))
 - a. **Archangel** – The Chief Angel, Michael. We know of Michael as the only one but there could be more.
 - b. **Cherubim** – (Isaiah 37:16, Genesis 3:24, Psalm 80), appear to serve as God's honor Guard. It is likely that the 4 creatures in Revelation 4 are cherubim, faces similar to the angels in Ezekiel 1. In Ezekiel 10:20, these angels are called cherubim.
 - c. **Seraphim** – Isaiah 6:2. Name comes from *saraph* which means burning or fiery glowing. These are the ones Isaiah saw in heaven's throne room as they sang back and forth to each other.