

Angels & Demons Lesson 3: Angel of the Lord & the Fall of Angels

Review Lesson 2: What have angels done, what do they do now, what will they do in the future?

A Quick Pit Stop on our Angelic Journey: The Angel of the Lord

1. The phrase “angel of the Lord” can refer either to a created angel or God himself.
 - a. In the Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, and Acts, “angel of the Lord” is always a created being.
 - b. In the Old Testament and in Revelation, angel of the Lord may refer to a created angel or God himself.
2. How do we tell the difference? We look at the evidence found in the Scriptures and in the context. We ask these questions: *Is there enough evidence to determine if it is a created angel or God? If so, what is the evidence?*
 - a. Revelation 20:1-3
 - b. 2 Kings 19:35 & 2 Chronicles 32:21 (Parallel accounts)
 - c. Genesis 16:7-13, Genesis 22:11-12, Genesis 31:11-13, Exodus 3:2-6
 - d. Exodus 14:19 & Exodus 23:20-21
3. The Angel of the Lord, when God himself, is the Pre-Incarnate Christ, Jesus himself. (John 8:58, Exodus 3:2,14). What comfort do we have in knowing that Jesus often appeared to God’s people as the angel of the Lord?

The Fall of the Evil Angels

4. When did the angels fall? That’s often a question that we hear in catechism class. And it’s a good question. The fall of evil angels took place _____?
5. Read Genesis 1:28-2:3 and Skim Chapter 3. What seems to indicate that from Day 7 to the fall into sin was a relatively short period of time?
6. What seems to have been devil’s sin and rebellion? Read Ezekiel 28 and Isaiah 14:12-15, 1 Timothy 3:6?
7. Read Mark 5:1-20. As you read, take note of how powerful demons are, what they do to people, and what they think about God and God’s people.
8. Evaluate: Hell is the devil’s kingdom that he has control over. (Hint: Think about the demons’ reaction and also look at Matthew 24:41, 2 Peter 2:4)

9. What do the following verses teach us about the power of the devil and his evil angels and their tactics?
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| a. Revelation 12:3-4 | e. Matthew 4:1-11 |
| b. Matthew 24:24 | f. Acts 5:3 |
| c. Luke 11:24-26 | g. 2 Corinthians 4:4 |
| d. Exodus 7:10-12 (In this passage think about both the devil's power & God's power) | h. 2 Corinthians 2:11, 11:14 |
| | i. Ephesians 2:2 |
10. To be clear: The devil is very, very powerful but he is NOT all-powerful, all-knowing, present everywhere. He is not God.
11. Comment on this quote from Prof. Sorum's book, *"Until you 'see' the ways evil spirits try to take God's Word away from us, you have not yet seen Satan at his best ... or worst. We have looked at many ways demons attack us. They want to make us suffer, to give us pain, to fill us with fear, to enslave us, to make us filthy in every way they can. But what is the demons' main goal, their keenest desire? However wide their trail of destruction, however bitter the suffering they cause, and however deep the wounds, demons are not and cannot be satisfied until they take us away from our God."*
12. Usually, we think of Satan as the tempter. What else does the devil do? Read Revelation 12:10
13. Why are both the tempter role and the accuser role effective ways of leading us away from God?
14. Sometimes it helps to see these things played out in Scripture. How do we see the devil as both the Tempter and the accuser in Judas Iscariot's life?
15. Evaluate: When our conscience accuses us of sin, we have to determine whether the accusation comes from God or the devil.
16. *"When the devil throws our sins up to us and declares we deserve death and hell, we ought to speak thus: "'I admit that I deserve death and hell. What of it? Does this mean that I shall be sentenced to eternal damnation? By no means. For I know One who suffered and made a satisfaction in my behalf. His name is Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Where he is, there I shall be also.'"* – Martin Luther to Jerome Weller, a friend undergoing spiritual despair, he had once lived in Luther's house.
17. Luther said nothing else that what God has said in his word. Read Romans 8:1, 33-34, 38-39. We know the devil's work and his tactics. We know one who is more. What comfort do we have in these verses and for our life?