

Thursday Night Theology

Summer 2025

Session 6 – Angels, Satan, Demons

“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them.”

-CS Lewis

PART 1 - ANGELS

1. What are Angels?

- “Heavenly Messengers”
 - Greek & Hebrew words both mean “Messenger.”
- Angels are created, spiritual beings, often with human appearance, often sent on missions of divine revelation, rescue, or judgment.
 - Other names: Rulers, Powers, Authorities, Sons of God
 - Specific Types: Cherubim, Seraphim, etc.
 - Ezek. 1:5-12, 10:8-15
 - Isa 6:2-4
 - Specific Names: Michael, Gabriel
 - The Angel of the LORD

2. Angels are created spiritual beings.

- Created

Psalms 148:2-5

Colossians 1:15-16

- As created beings, their power is less than God's, but greater than ours.
 - 2 Peter 2:11
 - Daniel 10:12-13
- The number of angels is vast but fixed.
 - Rev. 5:11

- Luke 20:35-36
- **Spiritual**
 - With limited intellect
 - Eph 3:10
 - Matthew 24:36
 - With moral capabilities and desires
 - 1 Peter 1:12

3. What do angels do?

- **Past**
 - Witnessed God's creation (Job 38:7)
 - Brought God's judgment on enemies of God's people (Isa 37:36)
 - Present at the giving of the Law (Gal 3:19)
 - Announced births of John the Baptist and Jesus Christ (Luke 1:11-13, 26-37)
 - Strengthened Christ (Mark 1:13)
 - Announced Resurrection of Christ (Matt 28:5-6)
 - Observed his ascension (Acts 1:10)
- **Present**
 - Protect and minister to believers (Ps 34:7; Matt. 18:10; Heb 1:14)
 - Obey God to bring about answers to prayers (Dan 10:12)
 - Take souls to paradise (Luke 16:22)
 - Influence leaders of nations (both holy and fallen angels) (Dan 10:13, 20-21)
- **Future**
 - Accompany Christ's return and resurrection of believers (1 Thes 4:16)
 - Will be judged by believers (1 Cor 6:3)
 - Execute God's judgments during Tribulation (Rev 8)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What aspect of angels' worship or service to God stood out to you most? Why?
2. What are some common misconceptions about angels that were challenged or corrected in this session?
3. Why might God choose to involve angels in His work, rather than doing everything Himself directly?
4. What can we learn about God's nature by observing how He created and uses angels?
5. Since angels are stronger and more powerful than us, why do you think God entrusts His mission primarily to human beings?

PART 2 – SATAN & DEMONS

1. Satan & Demons

- Satan is a personal being who will be held accountable for his rebellion. One of the cherubs – guardians and soldiers of God, he rebelled against God in pride.

Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezek 28:11-19, Rev 12:1-9

- Satan is also called:
 - Lucifer – “Shining One” or “Morning Star” (Isa 14:12)
 - Satan (Adversary) (Zech 3:1)
 - Devil (Rev 12:10)
 - Old Serpent & Great Dragon (Rev 12:9)
 - Destroyer -Abaddon/Apollyon (Rev 9:11)
 - Evil One (1 John 5:19)
 - Belial (Worthless) (2 Cor 6:15)
 - Ruler of this world (John 12:31)
 - Prince of the Power of the Air (Eph 2:2)
 - God of this age (2 Cor 4:4)
 - Beelzebul – Prince of Demons (Luke 11:15)
 - Tempter (Matt 4:3)
 - Accuser of the brothers (Rev 12:10)

- Demons are that 1/3 of angels who rebelled with Satan.

Matt 25:41, Rev 12:1-9

2. Spiritual Warfare

- Position of Ascended Christ & Believers.
 - Demons are more powerful than people, but not more powerful than Christ. And Christ is in believers, his authority is in believers, his power is in believers.
- Ephesians 6:10-20
 - The battle is real.
 - God has provided protection, and called us to STAND FIRM.
 - Our weapons are God’s Word & Prayer.
- James 4:7-10
 - Watch for pride.
 - Submit to God, Resist the Devil (ie, watch for pride; be humble) and he’ll flee.
- 1 Peter 5:6-9
 - Watch for pride & anxiety.
 - Anxiety can be a form of pride – it’s a trust in self to gain control.
 - Be aware and resist.
- 2 Cor 10:3-5

- Watch for pride & unbiblical ideas.
 - False teaching is a form of pride – it's a trust in self to have ideas that are better than God's, truth that is truer than God's.
- Similar 1 Tim 4:1-5

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why does the New Testament focus more on resisting Satan through godliness than on performing exorcisms?
2. What role do truth, humility, and submission play in our defense against the devil?
3. How does the victory of Christ over Satan reshape the way you think about temptation, fear, and spiritual struggle?

PERSONAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. In what areas of your life might pride, anxiety, or false teaching be ways the enemy seeks to gain a foothold?
2. What practical steps can you take this week to "submit to God and resist the devil"?

"Because of the reality of Satan's wickedness and his hordes of demons who carry out his bidding, believers need to walk closely to the Lord. None of us can afford to be out of fellowship with Him for even the slightest period of time. What we need to fear most is not demonic influence or oppression or even demon possession, but being out of fellowship with God. As long as we walk in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:5), live according to Scripture, and use the armor of God (Eph 6:10-17), we have God's protection from the attacks of Satan and his angels.

God has not told us how to detect demons, how to know their names, or how to cast them out. Instead, He has exhorted us repeatedly in His Word to shun sin, make no place for Satan in our lives, and resist the devil by obeying the Lord. At the moment of salvation Jesus delivers the believing one from the power of darkness and transfers him or her into the kingdom of God's dear Son (Col. 1:14). We need to put into practice the victory Christ has already achieved for us, always keeping in mind the exalted position we have in Him. Satan is a defeated foe. Victory is ours in Christ and Him alone." -Robert Lightner, *Angels, Satan, and Demons: Invisible Beings that Inhabit the Spiritual World*, pg. 93.