



What Every Christian Should Know – The Doctrine of Angels, Wed. Night: December 8, 2010

Angels: Ministering Spirits of God

The Bible teaches that God uses a numberless army of angels to help execute His will in heaven and earth, and that among their duties is ministering to Christians. Perhaps this is where the concept of guardian angels came from. They are personal beings, spirits. That God created before Adam and Eve.

Key Verse: Hebrews 1:14 – Are they (angels) not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

Michael: is designated as the archangel or high ranking angel (Jude 9, 1 Thess. 4:16, Rev. 12:7)

Gabriel: “Hero to God”, his function was to bring important messages from God to certain individuals: Daniel (Dan. 8:16; 9:21), Zacharias (Luke 1:19), Mary (Luke 1:26)

Demons: Angels who fell

The Bible teaches that a large number of the “righteous angels” rebelled against God and now form an evil army under the command of the devil, who uses them to further his will, which is counter to the will of God. This corruption is often referred to as the “fall” of the angels

Key Verse: Matthew 25:41 – Then He will also say to those on His left, “Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;...”

Satan: The highest angel who fell

The Bible teaches that Satan was originally one of the highest angels, but because of pride he fell, rebelling against God and leading many lesser angels to rebel against Him also (see above). In doing this he became evil and corrupt. He is a real entity who oversees the forces of darkness in the world and seeks to neutralize and overthrow the will of God.

Key Verse: 1 Peter 5:8 – Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Believers Defenses against Satan

Alertness: The Christian must know Satan's intention and be alert to his advances. **See 1 Peter 5:8**

Armor: The Christian has defenses that are metaphorically called armor, which protect him or her from Satan's devices. **See Ephesians 6**

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. (Ephesians 6:13)

Resistance: Once the Christian is aware of Satan's intentions and is using the "spiritual armor" discussed in Ephesians 6, he or she may resist any suspected satanic advances with confidence of victory.

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. (James 4:7)