

1 Peter Series

Lesson #110

November 9, 2017

Dean Bible Ministries

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**CHRIST'S EXAMPLE OF
UNJUST SUFFERING
PREACHING TO THE SPIRITS?**

ANGELS

1 PETER 3:19

1ST PETER

**LIVING IN LIGHT
OF ETERNITY**

1 Pet. 3:18, “For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,”

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1 Pet. 3:19, “by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison,

1 Pet. 3:20, “who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.”

2 Pet. 2:4, “For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell [tartarus] and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;

2 Pet. 2:5, “and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;”

Jude 6, “And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day;

Jude 7, “as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities around them in a similar manner to these, having given themselves over to sexual immorality and gone after strange flesh, are set forth as an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.”

1 Pet. 3:22, “who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.”

1 Pet. 4:1, “Therefore, since Christ suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same mind, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin,”

What the Bible Teaches About *the Angelic Rebellion*



1. Basic Questions

Who are the angels?

How many are there?

What do they look like?

What are their powers? Limitations?

Can we see them?

What about people who think angels appeared to them?

Are there good and bad angels?

When were angels created?

When did Satan fall?

Who are the fallen angels, the demons, and the evil spirits and what can they do to us?

And finally, what does human history have to do with the angels, if anything?

2. Definition: **Angelic Rebellion**

The invisible, spiritual warfare between the forces of Satan and the forces of God (Eph. 6:12). This is displayed in human history in what is called spiritual warfare.

3. The Course of the Angelic Conflict:

Isa. 14:12, “How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! [*Helel, ben shahar*] How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations!

Isa. 14:13, “For you have said in your heart: ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north;

Isa. 14:14, “ ‘I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.’

Isa. 14:15, “Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit.”

Matt. 25:41, “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:’ ”

ἑτοιμάζω *hetoimazō*

perf pass part neut sing acc

to prepare, make ready, hold in readiness

4. How do we know anything about these invisible creatures?

Four Systems of Knowledge:

The Basis of Knowledge

| | SYSTEM | STARTING POINT | METHOD |
|---------------------------|--------------------|---|---|
| Autonomous Systems | RATIONALISM | Innate ideas Faith in human ability | Independent use of logic & reason |
| | EMPIRICISM | Sense perceptions External experience; Scientific method; Faith in human ability | Independent use of logic & reason |
| | MYSTICISM | Inner, private experience; intuition; Faith in human ability | Independent, nonlogical, nonrational, nonverifiable |
| Divine Viewpoint | REVELATION | Objective revelation of God | Dependent use of logic and reason |

Biblical evidence of the existence of angels.

34 of the 66 books of the Bible (17 Old Testament, 17 New Testament) refer to angels by that name as existing creatures.

Biblical terms for angel:

מַלְאָךְ *mal'akh*, Heb; ἄγγελος, *angelos*, Gk.

more than 300 times in the Bible.

Biblical evidence of the existence of angels.

Jesus Christ referred to angels frequently as real creatures.

Angels are to accompany and serve Him at His second coming, Matt. 13:39–41; 16:27; 24:30–31; 25:31.

The relationship of angels to children.

Matt. 18:10, “Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.”

He had more than 12 legions of angels at His disposal.

Matt. 26:53, “Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?”

An angel announced His resurrection.

Matt. 28:2, “And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it.

Matt. 28:3, “His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow.”

Matt 28:4, “And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men.

Matt 28:5, “But the angel answered and said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified.

Matt 28:6, “ ‘He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay’.”

Angels are to accompany and serve Him at His second coming (Matt. 13:39–41; 16:27; 24:30–31; 25:31).

5. The creation of angels:

Angels are finite creatures, all created by God.

Psalm 148:5, “Let them [angels, sun, moon, heavens, waters] praise the name of the Lord, for He gave the command and they came into existence.”

Angels were created individually and directly by God.

Therefore, all angels are called “sons of God” as humans, born from humans are called “sons of men” (Ecc. 1:13; 2:3, 8; Dan. 5:21)

**Angels are immaterial, spirit creatures.
 (“ministering spirits”) (Heb. 1:14)**

**Other passages use the terms “*pneuma*”
 “spirit” to refer to angels.**

**Angels do not have material bodies of flesh and
 bone, therefore cannot be seen (Luke 24:39;
 Jesus speaking)**

**Paul: Angelic forces are “spiritual” not “flesh
 and blood” (Eph. 6:12)**

**Angels appear like light, or fire (Ezekiel 1:7, 13;
 Dan. 7:9)**

Eph 6:12, “For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.”

Angels can take on physical form with many of the characteristics of a physical body.

Gen. 18–19

Angels are rational, personal creatures.

Angels have all the attributes of individual personality: They have intelligence and wisdom (2 Sam. 14:20) and can communicate in rational conversation (Gen. 19; Matt. 1:20–21; 2:13; 19–20).

Angels expressed emotions: joy (Job 38:4–7); anger (Satan in Rev. 12:7–12)

Will, Volition; choice for or against God in eternity past, people are taken captive by Satan at his will (2 Tim. 2:26)

Angels have incredible, but limited powers.

Psalm 103:20, “Bless the Lord, you His angels, Mighty in strength, who perform His word, Obeying the voice of His word!”

The number of the angels

Revelation 5:11, “Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands” (cf., Dan. 7:10).

When were angels created?

Job 38:4, “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding.

Job 38:5, “Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?”

Job 38:6, “To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone,

Job 38:7, “When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”

Classification of Angels:

a. The Angelic Council.

Psalm 89:5, “The heavens will praise Your wonders, O Lord; Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the holy ones.” (*qadshim*: here: angels)

Psalm 89:6, “For who in the skies is comparable to the Lord? Who among the sons of the mighty [sons of God, *bene Elim*] is like the Lord,”

Psalm 89:7, “A God greatly feared in the council of the holy ones, and awesome above all those who are around Him?” [all those who encircle or surround Him]