

BASIC BIBLE DOCTRINE

Lesson 8 (Teacher's Version)

ANGELOLOGY AND DEMONOLOGY

THE STUDY OF ANGELS AND DEMONS

Today there has been an increasing fascination with Angels and Demons. The preoccupation Christians have with angels has been fueled by a flood of fictitious books, TV programs, and a movement in Christianity called "the spiritual warfare movement." The tragedy of all of this is that many Christians are beginning to form their doctrine of Angels and demons from the well written fiction books and TV programs but not what the Bible says. Many practices and doctrines have sprung up that are extra Biblical at best and unbiblical at worst. Because of this a correct understanding of what the Bible says about angels and demons is critical. In this study we will survey some of what the Bible says about these fascinating beings.

I. DEFINITION OF ANGELS AND DEMONS

The word "angel" has basically the same meaning in both the Old Testament and New Testament i.e., "messenger." Angels are created spirit beings. They do not have bodies of flesh and blood but have spirit bodies and sometimes can appear to look just like humans. The Bible describes some angels as having wings and very strange and unusual bodies. Some even have four faces! Angels were created perfect and holy but Satan, who was once a holy angel, rebelled against God and a third of the holy angels rebelled with him against God. These rebellious angels are called demons or evil spirits.

II. HOW MANY ANGELS ARE THERE?

- a. Dan. 7:10 "A river of fire was flowing And coming out from before Him; Thousands upon thousands were attending Him, And myriads upon myriads were standing before Him; The court sat, And the books were opened.
- b. Heb. 12:22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to myriads of angels,
- c. Rev. 5:11 And 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,

III. ANGELS ARE CREATED SPIRIT BEINGS

- a. Ex. 20:11 "For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.
- b. Job 38:4-7 "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding, 5 Who set its measurements, since you know? Or who stretched the line on it? 6 "On what were its bases sunk? Or who laid its cornerstone, 7 When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy?
- c. Ps. 148:2-5 Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts! 3 Praise Him, sun and moon; Praise Him, all stars of light! 4 Praise Him, highest heavens, And the waters that are above the heavens! 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord, For He commanded and they were created.
- d. Neh. 9:6 "Thou alone art the Lord. Thou hast made the heavens, The heaven of heavens with all their host, The earth and all that is on it, The seas and all that is in them. Thou dost give life to all of them And the heavenly host bows down before Thee.
- e. Col. 1:16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created by Him and for Him.

IV. APPEARANCE OF ANGELS

- a. Gen. 18:2, 13, 16-17, 19:1 And when he lifted up his eyes and looked, behold, **three men** were standing opposite him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the earth, 13 And the Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, when I am so old?'" 16 **Then the men** rose up from there, and looked down toward Sodom; and Abraham was walking with them to send them off. 17 And the **Lord said**, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, . . . 19:1 Now **the two angels** came to Sodom in the evening as Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground.
- b. Ex. 37:7-9 And he made **two cherubim** of gold; he made them of hammered work, at the two ends of the mercy seat; 8 one **cherub** at the one end, and one **cherub** at the other end; he made the **cherubim** of one piece with the mercy seat at the two ends. 9 And the **cherubim** had their **wings** spread upward, covering the mercy seat with **their wings**, with their faces toward each other; the faces of the **cherubim** were toward the mercy seat.
- c. 2 Kings 6:15-17 Now when the attendant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was circling the city. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" 16 So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." 17 Then Elisha prayed and said, "O Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." And the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he saw; and behold, **the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.**
- d. Is. 6:1-6 In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. 2 **Seraphim** stood above Him, each having six wings; with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory." 4 And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke. 5 Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts." 6 Then one of the **seraphim** flew to me, with a burning coal in his hand which he had taken from the altar with tongs.
- e. Ezek. 1:4-14 And as I looked, behold, a storm wind was coming from the north, a great cloud with fire flashing forth continually and a bright light around it, and in its midst something like glowing metal in the midst of the fire. 5 And within it there were figures resembling four living beings. And this was their appearance: they had human form. 6 Each of them had four faces and four wings. 7 And their legs were straight and their feet were like a calf's hoof, and they gleamed like burnished bronze. 8 Under their wings on their four sides were human hands. As for the faces and wings of the four of them, 9 their wings touched one another; their faces did not turn when they moved, each went straight forward. 10 As for the form of their faces, each had the face of a man, all four had the face of a lion on the right and the face of a bull on the left, and all four had the face of an eagle. 11 Such were their faces. Their wings were spread out above; each had two touching another being, and two covering their bodies. 12 And each went straight forward; wherever the spirit was about to go, they would go, without turning as they went. 13 In the midst of the living beings there was something that looked like burning coals of fire, like torches darting back and forth among the living beings. The fire was bright, and lightning was flashing from the fire. 14 And the living beings ran to and fro like bolts of lightning.
- f. Matt. 28:3 And his appearance was like lightning, and his garment as white as snow;
- g. Heb. 13:2 Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.

V. MINISTRY OF ANGELS

- a. Their ministry to God
 - 1. Gen. 3:24 So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim, and the flaming sword which turned every direction, to guard the way to the tree of life.
 - 2. Ps. 103:20 Bless the Lord, you His angels, Mighty in strength, who perform His word, Obeying the voice of His word!
 - 3. Is. 6:2-3 **Seraphim** stood above Him, each having six wings; with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."
 - 4. Rev. 4:8 And the four living creatures, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God, the Almighty, who was and who is and who is to come."
- b. Their ministry to believers
 - 1. Matt. 18:10 "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you, that their angels in heaven continually behold the face of My Father who is in heaven."
 - 2. Matt. 24:31 "And He will send forth His angels with a great trumpet and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other."

3. Luke 15:10 "In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."
4. Luke 16:22 "Now it came about that the poor man died and he was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried."
5. Acts 7:53 "you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it."
6. Heb. 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

c. Their ministry with unbelievers

1. Matt. 13:39-40 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels.40 "Therefore just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age."
2. Acts 12:23 And immediately an angel of the Lord struck him because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and died.

VI. DEMONS

Demons are angels who rebelled with Satan

1. Gen. 3:1 (cf. Gen. 1:31) Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, "Indeed, has God said, 'You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?'" (Gen. 1:31 it was very good after the sixth day)
2. Matt. 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;
3. Luke 10:18 And He said to them, "I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning.
4. Rev. 12:4, 7, 10 And his tail *swept away a third of the stars of heaven, and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she gave birth he might devour her child. . . 7 And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. And the dragon and his angels waged war, . . . 10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night.

VII. SATAN

- a. Satan is the ruler of the fallen angels. The name "Satan" means *adversary*. It is the most common name of the ruler of the demonic world. It appears about 50 times in the Bible
 1. Job. 1:6, 7, 8, 9, 12 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them.7 And the Lord said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the Lord and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it."8 And the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil."9 Then Satan answered the Lord, "Does Job fear God for nothing? . . . 12 Then the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him." So Satan departed from the presence of the Lord.

2. Matt. 4:10 Then Jesus *said to him, "Begone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'"
 3. Matt. 12:26 "And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then shall his kingdom stand?"
- b. Another popular name for Satan is "the Devil" which means *diabolical one*.
1. Matt. 4:1, 5, 8, 11 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. . . 5 Then the devil *took Him into the holy city; and he had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, . . . 8 Again, the devil *took Him to a very high mountain, and *showed Him all the kingdoms of the world, and their glory; . . . 11 Then the devil *left Him; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him.
 2. 1 Tim. 3:6-7 and not a new convert, lest he become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil. 7 And he must have a good reputation with those outside the church, so that he may not fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.
 3. Jude 9 But Michael the **archangel**, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you."
- c. Other names, descriptive titles, and descriptive images of Satan are found in the verses below.
1. Matt. 12:24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, "This man casts out demons only by **Beelzebul** the ruler of the demons."

Name means: **Lord of the flies**
 2. 2 Cor. 6:15 Or what harmony has Christ with **Belial**, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?

Name means: **scoundrel, base, or worthless fellow**
 3. Rev. 9:11 They have as king over them, the angel of the abyss; his name in Hebrew is **Abaddon**, and in the Greek he has the name **Apollyon**.

Name means: **destroyer**
 4. Matt. 13:25, 28, 39 "But while men were sleeping, his **enemy** came and sowed tares also among the wheat, and went away. . . "28 "And he said to them, 'An **enemy** has done this!' And the slaves *said to him, 'Do you want us, then, to go and gather them up?' . . . 39 and the **enemy** who sowed them is the **devil**, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels.
 5. John 8:44 "You are of your father the **devil**, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a **murderer** from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature; for he is a liar, and the **father of lies**."
 6. John 12:31 "Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world shall be cast out."
 7. 2 Cor. 4:4 in whose case the **god of this world** has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

8. 2 Cor. 11:3 But I am afraid, lest as **the serpent** deceived Eve by his craftiness, your minds should be led astray from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.
9. Eph. 6:16 in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of **the evil one**.
10. 1 Thess. 3:5 For this reason, when I could endure it no longer, I also sent to find out about your faith, for fear that **the tempter** might have tempted you, and our labor should be in vain.
11. 1 Pet. 5:8 Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your **adversary, the devil**, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.
12. Rev. 12:9-10 **And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan**, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. 10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night."

VIII. ACTIVITIES OF DEMONS AND SATAN

a. The specific works of Satan

1. Matt. 13:38-39 and the field is the world; and as for the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and **the tares are the sons of the evil one**; 39 and **the enemy who sowed them** is the **devil**, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels.
2. John 12:31 "Now judgment is upon this world; now **the ruler of this world** shall be cast out."
3. 1 Cor. 7:5 Stop depriving one another, except by agreement for a time that you may devote yourselves to prayer, and come together again lest **Satan tempt you** because of your lack of self-control.
4. 2 Cor. 4:4 in whose case the god of this world has **blinded the minds of the unbelieving**, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.
5. 2 Cor. 11:14-15 And no wonder, for even Satan **disguises himself as an angel of light**.¹⁵ Therefore it is not surprising if his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their deeds.
6. 1 Thess. 2:18 For we wanted to come to you—I, Paul, more than once—and yet **Satan thwarted us**.
7. 2 Thess. 2:9-11 that is, the one whose coming is in accord with **the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, 10 and with all the deception of wickedness** for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. 11 And for this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they might believe what is false,
8. 1 John 3:10-12 By this the children of God and **the children of the devil** are obvious: anyone who **does not practice righteousness** is not of God, nor the **one who does not love his brother**. 11 For this is the message which you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another; 12 not as **Cain, who was of the evil one, and slew his brother**. And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother's were righteous.
9. 1 John 5:19 We know that we are of God, and **the whole world lies in the power of the evil one**.

10. Rev. 12:10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation, and the power, and the kingdom of our God and the authority of His Christ have come, for **the accuser of our brethren** has been thrown down, who accuses them before our God day and night."
11. Rev. 20:3, 7 and threw him into the abyss, and shut it and sealed it over him, so that he should not **deceive the nations** any longer, until the thousand years were completed; after these things he must be released for a short time. . . 7 And when the thousand years are completed, Satan will be released from his prison,

b. Specific works of demons

1. Matt. 9:32 And as they were going out, behold, a **dumb man**, demon-possessed, was brought to Him.
2. Matt. 17:14-18 And when they came to the multitude, a man came up to Him, falling on his knees before Him, and saying, 15 "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is a lunatic, and **is very ill**; for he often falls into the fire, and often into the water. 16 "And I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not cure him." 17 And Jesus answered and said, "O unbelieving and perverted generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him here to Me." 18 And Jesus rebuked him, and **the demon came out of him**, and the boy was cured at once.
3. Mark 5:15 And they came to Jesus and observed the man who had been **demon-possessed** sitting down, clothed and in his right mind, the very man **who had had the "legion"**; and they became frightened.
4. Mark 5:2-4 And when He had come out of the boat, immediately a man from the tombs with an **unclean spirit** met Him, 3 and he had his dwelling among the tombs. And **no one was able to bind him anymore, even with a chain**; 4 because he had often been bound with shackles and chains, and the chains had been torn apart by him, and the shackles broken in pieces, and **no one was strong enough to subdue him**.
5. Luke 9:39 and behold, **a spirit seizes him**, and he suddenly screams, and it throws him into a **convulsion with foaming at the mouth, and as it mauls him, it scarcely leaves him**.
6. Luke 13:11-16 And behold, there was a woman who for eighteen years had had **a sickness caused by a spirit**; and she was bent double, and could not straighten up at all. 12 And when Jesus saw her, He called her over and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your sickness." 13 And He laid His hands upon her; and immediately she was made erect again, and began glorifying God. 14 And the synagogue official, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, began saying to the multitude in response, "There are six days in which work should be done; therefore come during them and get healed, and not on the Sabbath day." 15 But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites, does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the stall, and lead him away to water him? 16 "And this woman, a daughter of Abraham as she is, whom **Satan has bound for eighteen long years**, should she not have been released from this bond on the Sabbath day?"
7. 1 Cor. 10:14, 19-21 Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. 19 What do I mean then? **That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything?** 20 **No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons**, and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons. 21 You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.
8. 1 Tim. 4:1 But the Spirit explicitly says that in later times some will fall away from the faith, paying attention to **deceitful spirits and doctrines of demons**,
9. Rev. 16:14 for they are **spirits of demons, performing signs, which go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them together for the war** of the great day of God, the Almighty.

IX. THE CHRISTIAN AND SATAN/DEMONS

- a. Satan is accountable to God. Job 1:6; 2:1 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. . . 2:1 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord.
- b. Satan is restricted by God. Luke 22:31-32 "Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded permission to sift you like wheat; 32 but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."
- c. Satan is used by God. 2 Cor. 12:7 And because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet me—to keep me from exalting myself!
- d. The Christian has adequate defenses against Satan.

1. Eph. 6:10-20 Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might.¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.¹³ Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.¹⁴ Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; ¹⁶ in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil one.¹⁷ And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.¹⁸ With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,¹⁹ and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.
2. James 4:7 Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.
3. 1 Pet. 5:6-10 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, ⁷ casting all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you. ⁸ Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.⁹ But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen and establish you.
4. 1 John 4:4 You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.
5. Rev. 12:11 "And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of the word of their testimony, and they did not love their life even to death.

X. WHY A CHRISTIAN CANNOT BE DEMON POSSESSED

a. The believer is a child of God

1. Rom. 8:16-17 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him.
2. Gal. 3:26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

b. The believer is God's possession

1. Acts 20:28 "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.
2. 1 Cor. 6:20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.
3. 1 Pet. 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

c. God protects believers

1. John 10:11-15 "I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.¹² "He who is a hireling, and not a shepherd, who is not the owner of the sheep, beholds the wolf coming, and leaves the sheep, and flees, and the wolf snatches them, and scatters them.¹³ He flees because he is a hireling, and is not concerned about the sheep.¹⁴ I am the good shepherd; and I know My own, and My own know Me, ¹⁵ even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep."
2. 2 Thess 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.
3. 1 John 5:18 We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him and the evil one does not touch him.

d. Believers abide in Christ

1. Rom. 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
2. 2 Cor. 5:17 Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

e. Christ abides in believers

1. Rom. 8:10 And if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.
2. Col. 1:27 to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

f. The Holy Spirit abides in believers

1. Rom. 8:9 -11 However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.¹⁰ And if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who indwells you.
2. 1 Cor. 3:16 Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

g. Believers are victorious in Christ

1. Rom. 8:37-39 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
2. 2 Cor. 2:14 But thanks be to God, who always leads us in His triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place.
3. 1 John 2:13-14 I am writing to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I am writing to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I have written to you, children, because you know the Father.¹⁴ I have written to you, fathers, because you know Him who has been from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

X. ERRORS CONCERNING ANGELOLOGY AND DEMONOLOGY

- a. **Demon phobia** *The Christian is not to focus on or be scared of demons or be obsessed with them. He must focus on Christ and obeying the Word of God.*
- b. **Chasing after Satan and demons** *The scriptures tell us that Satan is after us but never tells us to go after Satan. We battle Satan when we obey God and His Word.*
- c. **Underestimating Satan** *Some flippantly speak about Satan but he is not to be underestimated. Michael the archangel didn't dare to pronounce a judgment against him (Jude 9) but many Christians do!*
- d. **Overestimating Satan** *Many treat Satan as if he were God's equal when he is not. Satan is a limited created being and doesn't stand a chance against God. Satan can only do what God allows him to do and gives him the power to do.*
- e. **Wrongly defining demons** *Some wrongly define demons by attributing experiences, sicknesses, or phenomena to them.*

- f. **Basing doctrine on demonic experiences** *Some err when they try to talk to demons to get “inside” or “supernatural information.” Others try to base their doctrine on demonic experiences they have had.*
- g. **Thinking that all temptation comes from Satan.** *Each person is tempted by their own lust. Temptation can come from Satan, his demons, unbelievers, and our own wicked hearts.*
- h. **Thinking Satan or demons can do anything they want to us whenever they want.** *Satan can only do to us what God allows him to do. You need to remember that Satan is accountable to God.*
- i. **Thinking Satan is omnipresent.** *Satan can only be one place at a time. He does have many demons working for him but Satan is not omnipresent.*
- j. **Thinking Satan can read your mind.** *Satan cannot read your mind, he is not God and is not omniscient. He only knows what he observes, hears, and learns by watching and listening.*
- k. **Engaging in the modern “Spiritual Warfare” movement by trying to:**
 - 1. Binding Satan. *The Bible gives Christians no instruction to do this.*
 - 2. Commanding Satan. *The Bible specifically warns against reviling angelic majesties.*
 - 3. Rebuking Satan. *Not anywhere are we told to do this. The angel of the Lord and Michael the archangel didn't even do this.*
 - 4. Praying to Satan. *The only person we should pray to is God. The Bible does not say anywhere that we are to pray to Satan.*
 - 5. Talking to demons. *We are not to seek conversations or experiences with demons ever.*
 - 6. Using canned prayers or incantations against demons. *The Bible never prescribes ritualistic prayers against demons or Satan.*
 - 7. Thinking Christians can be demon possessed. *The Bible does not say anywhere that a Christian can be demon possessed, but a professing Christian could.*
 - 8. Thinking that sometimes a Christian can't obey because of demonic oppression. *A Christian always has the resources to obey God. Never does a demon MAKE a Christian sin. An unbeliever can be demon possessed and the demon could make their body do something they didn't want to do but not a Christian.*
 - 9. Thinking you can know when you are being tempted or oppressed by Satan or demons. *God doesn't give us the ability to know where temptation is coming from or if we are being oppressed by Satan or demons. It really doesn't matter where temptation or trial comes from since we are told to obey and are given every thing we need to obey.*

Resources for further study:

- 1. A book that addresses and debunks many of the Spiritual Warfare Movement issues today and teaches how we can have victory to live our lives for Christ is: David Powlison, **Power Encounters**, Baker.
- 2. A book that addresses some of the false concepts concerning miracles, demons, and spiritual warfare is: Edward Gross, **Miracles, Demons, and Spiritual Warfare**, Baker.
- 3. A book that addresses many of the unbiblical teachings of the Spiritual Warfare Movement is: Thomas Ice and Robert Dean, Jr. **A Holy Rebellion**, Harvest House
- 4. A good all around book to get surveying what the Bible says about angels and demons is: Fred Dickason, **Angels Elect and Evil**. Moody Press (*Note: This author has gone over the edge with recent writings but this older work is very good.*)
- 5. A book that takes a look at our own sinful nature and true spiritual warfare which is fighting our own sinful nature is: Jay Adams, **The War Within**, Harvest House.