



**The Divine Council**  
**Authority in the Unseen Realm**

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**The Divine Council**

**Psalm 82:1-2 (ESV)**

God has taken his place in **the divine council**; in **the midst of the gods he holds judgment**: “How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? *Selah*”

**Psalm 82:6-8 (ESV)**

I said, “**You are gods**, sons of the Most High, all of you; **nevertheless, like men you shall die**, and fall like any prince.” Arise, O God, judge the earth; for you shall inherit all the nations!

**Chiastic Structure of Psalm 82**

- A** v1. God is judging in the divine assembly
- B** v2. Charge against the gods
- C** v3-4. Charge violated by the gods
- D** v5. Result of the failure of the gods
- C'** v6. Proclamation of the gods' former status
- B'** v7. Sentence of judgment on the gods
- A'** v8. Prayer for God to rise and judge the earth

(From Marvin Tate, Word Commentary)

**Satan Appears Before God**

**Job 1:6-8 (LEB)**

And it happened one day that **the sons of God came to present themselves before Yahweh**, and Satan also came into their midst. So Yahweh said to Satan, “From where have you come?” Then Satan answered Yahweh and said, “From roaming on the earth and from walking about in it.” So Yahweh said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job? Indeed, there is no one like him on the earth—a blameless man and upright and God-fearing and turning away from evil.”

## The Adversary Accuses

### Job 1:9-11 (LEB)

Then Satan answered Yahweh and said, “Does Job fear God for nothing? Have you not put a fence around him and his household and around all that belongs to him on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his livestock has increased in the land. But, on the other hand, stretch out your hand and touch all that belongs to him and see whether he will curse you to your face.”

## The Accuser

### Zechariah 3:1, 2 (LEB)

And he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of Yahweh; and **Satan was standing on his right to accuse him**. But Yahweh said to Satan, “**Yahweh rebukes you, O Satan!** Yahweh who has chosen Jerusalem rebukes you! Is this not a stick snatched from the fire?”

## We Cannot Control God's Council

### Jude 8-10 (NASB)

Yet in the same way these men, also by dreaming, defile the flesh, and **reject authority**, and revile angelic majesties. 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!” But these men revile the things which they do not understand; and the things which they know by instinct, like unreasoning animals, by these things they are destroyed.

## We Cannot Control God's Council

### 2 Peter 2:10, 11 (ESV)

and especially those who indulge in the lust of defiling passion and **despise authority**. **Bold and willful, they do not tremble as they blaspheme the glorious ones**, whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not pronounce a blasphemous judgment against them before the Lord.

### Paul Went to God About Satan

#### **2 Corinthians 12:7, 8 (ESV)**

So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, **a messenger of Satan** to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. Three times **I pleaded with the Lord about this**, that it should leave me.

### The Accuser Finally Cast Down

#### **Revelation 12:10, 11 (LEB)**

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, because the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, the one who accuses them before our God day and night. And they conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives until death.