

AGAPE HOUSE OF WORSHIP

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Topic: Encounters with Angels & Demons

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Text: Daniel 10:12-13 & 2 Kings 6:13-16

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Beyond this universe is another world, the spiritual realm or domain. This spiritual realm is the dwelling place of angels and demons. They are invisible to the human eyes except when they manifest themselves. Angels are spiritual beings, ministering spirits, created by God (Hebrews 1:14 NIV), and demons are fallen angels who along with Satan rebelled against God and were thrown out of heaven (Revelation 12:9).

Angels are God's messengers, God's secret agents because we do not always see them at work. We often see their impact but not the cause.

What are the objectives of heavenly angels:

1. They help us (Heb 1:14).
2. They protect us (Psalm 34:7, 91:11) MSG.
3. They are God's messengers or servants.
4. They give guidance to God's people on earth
5. They reveal God's purpose to us.
6. They sometimes warn us of upcoming danger (Matt 2:13).

Who are the angels mentioned in the bible and how many of them were archangels?

Can anyone share their encounter with an angel?

Should worship and pray to angels?

Fallen angels or Demons

Before the creation of mankind Lucifer and 1/3 of the angels in heaven rebelled against God and they were all kicked out of heaven, it was at this time that Lucifer became Satan, the devil (Isaiah 14:12, Ezekiel 28:16, Revelations 12:7-9 NKJV).

What are the objectives of fallen angels:

1. To terrorize or torment someone - when someone is possessed by demons
2. Attempt to frustrate Gods plans - King Herod trying to kill baby Jesus. The angel appeared to Joesph to take the baby and escape to Egypt.
3. To challenge the word of God – by tempting us to sin. Eve in the garden of Eden. To doubt God's truth.
4. To spread Satan influence, lies, deception, destruction/distortion, fear etc.

Ranking among angels under Christ

Col 1:15-16 (NLT) for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth. He made the things we can see and the things we can't see— such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through him and for him.

1 Peter 3:22 (NLT) Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Angels Hierarchy:

Thrones/Thronous – refers to archangels: the chief angel or the lead angel. The one who rules over other angels.

Dominions/ Kuriotés – are angels that rule over nations or kingdoms (a large geographical areas)

Principalities/Arché – are angels that rule over small areas such as province or a state.

Powers/Exousia – these are individual angels that rule over towns, neighborhoods, villages.

The same angelic ranking under the command of Jesus Christ also exists with the fallen angels under Lucifer's orders, the fallen angels are just as organized as the heavenly angels. This is why Paul in **Ephesians 6:12** describes the battle of believers as spiritual, not physical. We struggle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Daniel 10: also reminds us why it's so important to be steadfast in our prayers, contending for one another, always interceding for our fellow brothers & sisters. For we do not know the intense behind-the-scenes spiritual wrestling taking place.

Jesus Heals a Demon-Possessed Boy: Mark 9:14-29 (NLT) – Why did Jesus say, *“This kind can be cast out only by prayer”*.

Should we be afraid of demons? Has anyone come face to face with a demon?

Luke 10:19 - "I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions, and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you"

Angels as powerful as they are don't draw attention to themselves.

Conclusion – Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it! **Hebrews 13:2**