

Angels & Demons

Week 1: Origins & Nature		
Concept	Passage	Key Observations
beings created by God	Colossians 1:16-17	all things created heaven invisible created by and for Him
	Psalms 148:1-5	heavenly hosts were created (at His command)
It is uber important that we stress the created nature of these beings. Many have fallen into the trap of worshiping these being as if they were gods or equal with God. They are creations just as we are.		
created before the world began	Job 38:4-7	the angels celebrated at the creation of the world
created to worship God	Revelation 5:11-13	angels worship at God's throne
created holy	Ezekiel 28:15	
have an immaterial nature	Hebrews 1:7, 14	spirits
cannot die	Luke 20:36	they can not die
they are not omni-present	Daniel 9:21-23; 10:10-14	they cannot be everywhere at once, they actually have to travel Michael was stalled in coming
we will come back to this verse on the 3rd week when we discuss spiritual warfare in more detail - don't worry about spending a lot of time on how Michael was withheld.		
can take on human form	Genesis 18:1-8	they looked like men, ate and drank with physical bodies
personal beings	1 Peter 1:12	intellect
	Luke 2:13	emotions
	Jude 6	will
After reading that passage in Jude, it is sure to stir up some questions. There are some different views on this passage and what it means. I will give you what some scholars think and what I believe although I must warn you...it is pretty sci-fi. Use your discernment on whether to get into this...		

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Week 1: Origins & Nature		
<p>Jude 6 may correspond to Genesis 6 when the sons of God came and cohabited with the daughters of men. The phrase “sons of God” is only used in one other book in the Scriptures and it refers to angels. Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7. As a result of this despicable act of wickedness, there were two results:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Nephilim were the resultant children of this angel/human procreation, they were men of renown. (Gen. 6) 2) These evil angels, since they abandoned their proper domain and cohabited with humans, were banished to darkness before the appointed time. (Jude 6-8; 2 Peter 2:4-6) 		
normally angels have these characteristics	Matthew 22:30	angels do not marry
	Mark 12:25	angels do not reproduce
	previously stated verses	angels are simply spirits and take on human form only on exception
<p>But it appears that in this instance in history, evil angels may have taken on human form, married human women and reproduced. But we cannot know for sure. This is only speculation based on one interpretation of the above Scriptures. And this certainly does not happen anymore. Those angels have been dealt a swift, severe and eternal punishment by God.</p>		


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Week 2: Satan & Demons		
Concept	Passage	Key Observations
distinctions between angels and demons	1 Timothy 5:21	holy or “elect” angels
	2 Peter 2:4	angels that sinned
	Matthew 25:41	the devil’s angels (demons)
All of these spirit creatures are in essence “angels” but we distinguish the holy or “elect” spirits as angels and we call fallen angels “demons”.		
Info about the Holy Angels		
worship God	Isaiah 6:1-3	angels worship at God’s throne
minister	Hebrews 1:14	ministering spirits sent to serve
ministered to Christ	Matthew 4:11	angels attended to Christ
messengers	Luke 1:19, 2:8-14	announcements!
protect	Psalms 34:7	encamps and delivers
deliver	Acts 12:7	supernatural powers
Did you know that 7 OT books refer to Satan? Did you know that EVERY NT book refers to Satan?		
Info about Satan		
names & activities	Isaiah 14:12	Lucifer
	1 Thessalonians 3:5	tempter
	1 John 5:19	the evil one
	John 12:31	prince of this world
	2 Cor. 4:4	god of this age
	Revelation 12:10	accuser of the brethren
	Revelation 12:9	serpent
	2 Corinthians 11:14	false angel of light
	John 8:44	murderer

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Week 2: Satan & Demons		
	John 8:44	liar
	1 Peter 5:8	our adversary
<p>Satan wants to devour us! We will talk more about his desire for destruction in Week 3.</p>		
Satan's origins		
full of wisdom	Ezekiel 28:12	
perfect in beauty	Ezekiel 28:12-13	
<p>We have no reason to believe that these things have changed. As we will see, Satan was cast out of heaven but there is no indication that his appearance or knowledge changed.</p>		
moral perfection	Ezekiel 28:12	seal of perfection
sinless	Ezekiel 28:15	blameless at his creation until his sin
Satan's sin	Ezekiel 28:16	filled with violence
		sinned
		cast from heaven
	Ezekiel 28:17	heart became proud because of his beauty
<p>These Scriptures from Ezekiel are descriptions of Satan and his original sin. The passage starts with a pronouncement against the king of Tyre but there are some key words that indicate that the passage is referring to someone that is not human:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) seal of perfection, perfect in beauty never describes a person 2) only Adam and Eve were in Eden 3) the description of this being is beyond human 4) this being walks among the stones of fire (another term for angels) on the holy mountain of God 		

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Week 3: Spiritual Warfare		
Concept	Passage	Key Observations
Satan's Limitations		
we need to respect Satan's power	Jude 9	Michael did not rebuke Satan by his own power but in the name of the Lord
<p>While it is important to respect Satan's power, we also must remember that God always maintains the upper-hand. We do not need to fear his power. 1 John 4:4 "...greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world."</p>		
limited by God	Job 1:12	God gives and limits Satan's power
can be resisted	James 4:7	by God's power
not God's equal	1 John 4:4	God is greater
<p>In modern culture, we may be seduced to think of God in terms we are familiar with such as the Star Wars' "Force" ideology which has a light and a dark side. The force has opposing yet equal sides of the same "godlike" energy. This was adapted from the centuries old Yin Yang philosophy: "Nothing is solely Yin or Yang; everything involves polarity. This is stating that nothing is entirely good or entirely evil"</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <p>Satan is not equal with God nor does he have any goodness within him. Satan and God are opposites in many ways, yet not equal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) God is the Creator. Satan is a creation. 2) God is completely holy with no darkness (1 John 1:5). Satan is completely evil with no good within him. 		
Spiritual Warfare		
demons are not omnipresent	Daniel 9:21-23; 10:10-14	Satan along with all of the created angels can only be in one place at one time
wage war against holy angels		Gabriel (a very powerful angel) was withheld

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Week 3: Spiritual Warfare		
<p>We don't exactly know what this warfare looks like. How do two immortal spirit beings fight? We don't know exactly how Gabriel was being withheld but we do know this:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Gabriel is a powerful angel. This passage indicates that Satan's power is very powerful as well. The "Prince of Persia" is not a human being and he is not Jake Gyllenhaal. 2) Prayer was extremely important in the process. It was in response to Daniel's prayer that Gabriel came. 3) Gabriel was withheld for 3 weeks! That is no short stall by these powers of darkness. 		
How does Satan wage war against believers?		
Pride		
Pride was the original sin	Isaiah 14:12-15	Satan did not want to be like God as we want to be like Christ. He wanted to be in God's place of glory. To be worshipped as God.
Satan tempts us to be proud, to contradict what Christ is and does. Christ gave us the example of absolute humility. Philippians 2:3-8		
This is how we are to be. Anything else is demonic.	Philippians 2:3-8	humility, self-lessness. The Creator of the universe became a servant to His own creation.
	Jeremiah 9:24	if we boast, it is to be in Him!
	James 4:6	God gives grace to the humble
We come to Christ when we humble our hearts and acknowledge that we cannot do it without Him. Satan tries to get people to harden their hearts in pride against God.		

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Week 3: Spiritual Warfare		
Footholds		
Satan approaches our lives like a sheer cliff. It may look insurmountable to tackle and claim victory all at once but just as a skilled mountain climber will look for, even the smallest of footholds, Satan scales up our walls one foothold at a time.		
Don't give Satan a foothold	Ephesians 4:27	this is in the context of being truthful, anger which leads to bitterness, not stealing, unwholesome talk, etc. Each of these things can give Satan places to climb into your life and have control.
Deception		
Test the spirits	1 John 4:1	Don't just believe everything you hear. Test it against the word of God. Many false prophets have gone out and preached a false gospel because they were influenced by some demon opposing God's message.
Masquerading as an angel of light	2 Corinthians 11:13-15	watch out!
Satan is so deceptive. This has been his gig from the beginning of time. Be very cautious!		
Fear		
Satan desires to provoke fear	1 John 4:18	God is love and in Him there is no reason to fear punishment. Satan causes fear.
All of the stories involving demons interacting with humans are about the demon either deceiving or striking fear in their victim. When we fear, we are not trusting in God or His goodness. This was exactly what Satan accomplished with Eve in the garden. When we act out of fear, the wheels all come off!		

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Week 3: Spiritual Warfare		
Destruction		
Additionally Satan wants to destroy us. He is relentless! He will try to destroy us in at least three different ways: 1) He will whisper words of deceit and convince you that you are worthless and life is not worth living. 2) He will try to destroy your witness (your testimony) by convincing you to do something sinful. 3) He will try to take your life.		
Satan wants to destroy us.	John 10:10	His aim is to steal, kill and destroy.
His name is "Destroyer"	Revelation 9:11	Abaddon and Apollyon mean "Destroyer"
Important Things to Remember		
God is always bigger	Romans 8:38-39	nothing can separate us from the love of God
Our battle is not against people	Ephesians 6:10-13	
Ultimately, our struggle is against the powers of darkness. We need to be grounded in the truth. We need to be prepared to stand firm against Satan's evil schemes.		