

# DOCTRINE MATTERS: ESSENTIAL TRUTHS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

## Message 7: Angels, Satan, and Demons

### ANGELS

*Angels are created spiritual beings with moral judgment and high intelligence but without physical bodies. – W.G.*

1) Angels are \_\_\_\_\_ beings.

#### **Nehemiah 9:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> “You are the LORD, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you.”

#### **Psalms 148:1-5 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

<sup>2</sup> Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts!

<sup>3</sup> Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!

<sup>4</sup> Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

<sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created.

2) Angels are \_\_\_\_\_ beings.

#### **2 Peter 2:4 (ESV)**

<sup>4</sup> For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment;

#### **Jude 1:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day—

3) Angels are \_\_\_\_\_ beings.

#### **Matthew 28:5 (ESV)**

<sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified.

#### **Acts 12:6-11 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> Now when Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. <sup>7</sup> And behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, “Get up quickly.” And the chains fell off his hands. <sup>8</sup> And the angel said to him, “Dress yourself and put on your sandals.” And he did so. And he said to him, “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me.” <sup>9</sup> And he went out and followed him. He did not know that what was being done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. <sup>10</sup> When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened for them of its own accord, and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel left him. <sup>11</sup> When Peter came to himself, he said, “Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting.”

#### **Revelation 5:11-12 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup> saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

### Other names for angels

sons of God – Job 1:6, 2:1

holy ones – Psalms 89:5,7

spirits – Hebrews 1:14

watchers – Daniel 4:13,17,23

thrones, dominions, principalities, authorities – Colossians 1:16

powers – Ephesians 1:21

## Other heavenly beings

\_\_\_\_\_ – guarded the entrance to the Garden of Eden (Gen 3:24); God travels with the cherubim as his chariot (Ps 18:10, Ezekiel 10); their likeness appears over the Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 25:22) – This where God promised to dwell among His people.

\_\_\_\_\_ – Mentioned only in Isaiah 6:2-7 where they continually worship the Lord

\_\_\_\_\_ - Appearance like a lion, an ox, a man, and an eagle (Ezek 1:5-14, Rev 4:6-8) ... they represent all of God's creation and their task is continual worship (Rev. 4:8).

What about 'guardian angels'?

### **Psalm 91:11-12 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. <sup>12</sup> On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.

### **Matthew 18:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> "See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.

An analogy:

## THE PLACE OF ANGELS IN GOD'S PURPOSE

1) They show the greatness of God's \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for us.

*How do we differ?*

2) Angels remind us the \_\_\_\_\_ world is real.

### **2 Kings 6:8-17 (ESV)**

<sup>8</sup> Once when the king of Syria was warring against Israel, he took counsel with his servants, saying, "At such and such a place shall be my camp." <sup>9</sup> But the man of God sent word to the king of Israel, "Beware that you do not pass this place, for the Syrians are going down there." <sup>10</sup> And the king of Israel sent to the place about which the man of God told him. Thus he used to warn him, so that he saved himself there more than once or twice. <sup>11</sup> And the mind of the king of Syria was greatly troubled because of this thing, and he called his servants and said to them, "Will you not show me who of us is for the king of Israel?" <sup>12</sup> And one of his servants said, "None, my lord, O king; but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom." <sup>13</sup> And he said, "Go and see where he is, that I may send and seize him." It was told him, "Behold, he is in Dothan." <sup>14</sup> So he sent there horses and chariots and a great army, and they came by night and surrounded the city. <sup>15</sup> When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" <sup>16</sup> He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." <sup>17</sup> Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

3) Angels are \_\_\_\_\_ for us.

### **Matthew 6:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

### **Revelation 5:11-12 (ESV)**

<sup>11</sup> Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, <sup>12</sup> saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

4) Angels carry out some of God's \_\_\_\_\_.

- *Bring messages – Luke 1:11ff, Acts 8:26, 10:3-8, 27:23-24)*
- *Carry out judgments – plague (2 Sam 24:16-17), smiting armies (2 Chron 32:21), killing kings (Acts 12:23), pouring out God's wrath (Rev. 16:1)*
- *Acts as Christ's great army – Matt 16:27, Luke 9:26, 2 Thess 1:7*
- *Patrol the earth – Zech 1:10-11*
- *Battle demonic forces – Dan 10:13, Rev 12:7-8, Rev 20:1-3*
- *Proclaim His Return – (Archangel) 1 Thess 4:16, Rev 18:1-2, 21, Rev 19:17-18*

5) Angels \_\_\_\_\_ God.

**Psalm 103:19-22 (ESV)**

<sup>19</sup> *The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.*

<sup>20</sup> *Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word!*

<sup>21</sup> *Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will!*

<sup>22</sup> *Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!*

**Luke 2:13-14 (ESV)**

<sup>13</sup> *And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,*

<sup>14</sup> *“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”*

**Luke 15:10 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> *Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”*

**1 Peter 1:12 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> *It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.*

## OUR RELATIONSHIP TO ANGELS

1) We are aware that they exist and that we join them in worship of God ...

**Hebrews 12:22-24 (ESV)**

<sup>22</sup> *But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup> and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup> and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.*

2) We do not worship angels or pray to them ...

**Colossians 2:18 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup> *Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind ...*

3) We do not receive doctrine from them ...

**Galatians 1:8 (ESV)**

<sup>8</sup> *But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.*

**1 Kings 13:18 (ESV)**

<sup>18</sup> *And he said to him, “I also am a prophet as you are, and an angel spoke to me by the word of the LORD, saying, ‘Bring him back with you into your house that he may eat bread and drink water.’” But he lied to him.*

## DEMONS AND DEMONIC ACTIVITY

*Demons are evil angels who sinned against God and who now continually work evil in the world. – W.G.*

### **2 Peter 2:4 (ESV)**

*<sup>4</sup> For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment;*

### **Jude 1:6 (ESV)**

*<sup>6</sup> And the angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day—*

### **Isaiah 14:12-15 (ESV)**

*<sup>12</sup> “How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low!*

*<sup>13</sup> You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; <sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’*

*<sup>15</sup> But you are brought down to Sheol, to the far reaches of the pit.*

## “Satan” is the head of the demons.

### **Job 1:6-7 (ESV)**

*<sup>6</sup> Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.*

*<sup>7</sup> The LORD said to Satan, “From where have you come?” Satan answered the LORD and said, “From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.”*

The name means “\_\_\_\_\_”

## Other names for Satan

The devil – only in the New Testament Matt 4:1, Rev 12:9

The serpent – Gen 3:1, 2 Cor 11:3, Rev. 12:9, 20:2

Beelzebul – Matt 10:25, 12:24, Luke 11:15

The ruler of this world – John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11

The prince of the power of the air – Eph 2:2

The evil one – Matt 13:19, 1 John 2:13

## Demonic activity

1) Satan \_\_\_\_\_ sin.

### **John 8:44 (ESV)**

*<sup>44</sup> You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

### **1 John 3:8 (ESV)**

*<sup>8</sup> Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.*

2) He/they try to destroy the work of God.

- Tempting us to sin – Gen 3:1ff
- Tempting Jesus – Matt 4:1ff
- Lies/deception – Rev 12:9
- Blinding people to the Gospel – 2 Cor 4:4
- Keeping people in bondage – Gal 4:8

- 3) They are limited by God's control and have limited \_\_\_\_\_

**Job 1:12 (ESV)**

<sup>12</sup> And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your hand. Only against him do not stretch out your hand." So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.

**Job 2:6 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup> And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your hand; only spare his life."

## OUR RELATIONSHIP TO DEMONS

- 1) They are \_\_\_\_\_ in the world today.

- 2) Not all evil and sin is from Satan and demons, but some is.

*The New Testament recognizes the influence of demonic activity in the world, but the focus regarding Christian growth and holiness is not on demonic activity but on the choices and actions taken by Christians themselves.*

**Galatians 5:16-26 (ESV)**

<sup>16</sup> But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

<sup>17</sup> For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.

<sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

<sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,

<sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions,

<sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

<sup>23</sup> gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

<sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

<sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

<sup>26</sup> Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

*See also: Eph. 4-6, Col 3-4, Romans 6, 1 Cor 10, etc.)*

- 3) Sinning does, however, give the enemy a ' \_\_\_\_\_ ' for more influence/activity in our lives.

**Ephesians 4:26-27 (ESV)**

<sup>26</sup> Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and give no opportunity to the devil.

**Ephesians 6:10-11 (ESV)**

<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. <sup>11</sup> Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

- 4) There are varying degrees of demonic attack and/or influence on people, even Christians.

*What about "possession", "oppression", etc.?*

- 5) Jesus gives all believers authority to \_\_\_\_\_ demons and command them to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 9:1 (ESV)**

<sup>1</sup> And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases,

**Luke 10:17,19 (ESV)**

<sup>17</sup> The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!"

<sup>19</sup> Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you.

**2 Corinthians 10:3-4 (ESV)**

<sup>3</sup> For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.

**James 4:7 (ESV)**

<sup>7</sup> Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

**1 Peter 5:8-9 (ESV)**

<sup>8</sup> Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

<sup>9</sup> Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

**1 John 4:4 (ESV)**

<sup>4</sup> Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

**Ephesians 6:16 (ESV)**

<sup>16</sup> In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one;

6) We should expect the \_\_\_\_\_ to triumph over the works of the devil.

**1 John 3:8b (ESV)**

<sup>8</sup> The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the works of the devil.

**Acts 26:16-18 (ESV)**

<sup>16</sup> But rise and stand upon your feet, for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you as a servant and witness to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you, <sup>17</sup> delivering you from your people and from the Gentiles—to whom I am sending you <sup>18</sup> to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'

Theology is for **doxology** and **devotion**—that is, the praise of God and the practice of godliness.

- J.I. Packer

NEXT WEEK:

**God's Providence**