

# The Mystery of Angels and Devils

By William Schnobelen © 2013

There has always been controversy regarding the nature of angels and demons. Many Believers are under the impression that fallen angels are the same as demons. It is extremely important to understand how misconceptions in this regard can lead to tactical errors in the realms of spiritual warfare, so let us examine this topic carefully!

First, we must acknowledge that the Bible does not reveal a LOT about the nature of angelic beings – and even less about demons (or devils, as they are called in the King James Bible). Let's delve into the Living Word to see what it *does* say!

The inspired translators of the King James Bible chose to translate the Greek word DAIMONION (Strong's #1140) as *devil*. Most modern translations prefer to more closely transliterate the word as *demon*. Here is the problem. Since the time of ancient Greece, the word DAIMON has had several different meanings. It can mean a devil or god as Strong's tells us; but pagan Greek mystics (and medieval occultists) used it to mean a *guardian genius*, a sort of high-level spirit master or spirit guide!

The King James translators knew their history well enough to know this equivocation about the word DAIMON. Some of them were probably contemporaries of the noted occult master and spy, Dr. John Dee, sorcerer to Queen Elizabeth I. He claimed such a DAIMON named Enoch appeared to him during a high level ceremonial magic ritual and gave him an entire, elaborate system of magic called *Enochian*. This dangerous, potent set of magical artifacts is so malignant that the Enochian Keys or Cries make up the last fourth of the infamous SATANIC BIBLE, published first in 1966.

The Bible's translators knew that there would be danger of readers misconstruing the meaning of the word demon (to mean guardian genius or spirit guide, something positive rather than something against the Father's Light), and so wisely chose to translate the word as devil. This was prescient on their part, because with the rise of the occult revolution in the sixties and the New Age movement in the eighties, the term DAIMON has found new currency among occultists, heretics and apostates. THIS is why most modern Bibles translate the word as demon.

In any event, let us examine what little we can find from the Holy Bible. We learn from the Bible that *angels*, the lowest celestial beings always appear as human males. They do not have wings. I am here discounting apparitions of higher-level celestial beings such as the *Ophanium* and *Cherubim* (found in Ezekiel 1 and elsewhere) and *Seraphim* (found in Isaiah 6). Most students of Biblical angelology find there is a hierarchy of celestial beings, with angels being the lowest and Cherubim and

Seraphim being the highest. The number of different angelic species varies, depending upon how the Bible student interprets certain passages; but the number is usually around 9 or 10. In addition to the celestial beings already mentioned, there are also Archangels, Thrones, Dominions, Principalities, Powers and Virtues. All of these beings have their place and duties in the heavenly court. What, exactly, those duties are, is the subject of much speculation – but little certainty.

From all this we glean that angels are always seen in Scripture as wingless male figures. They are usually of normal size so as to be mistaken for men. From statements made by Yahushua, most folks come to understand that angels are somewhat analogous in nature to the resurrected bodies we will have (if Born Again) after the Final Judgment (**Matt. 22:30, Mark 12:25, and Luke 20:34-35**).

We know we will have bodies like Yahushua's resurrected body of flesh and bone – presumably keeping our body-soul-spirit combination on earth, but with an indestructible body. Note that Yahushua says in **Luke 24:39**:

**Behold my hands and my feet, that it is I myself: handle me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see me have.**

Here He tells us that His resurrected body has flesh and bone, but evidently no blood. Why? Because flesh and blood cannot inherit the Kingdom (**1 Cor. 15:50**). As further proof, note that in the pre-Fall existence in the Garden, Adam says of his new wife that she is “**bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh**” (**Gen. 2:23**) No blood is mentioned, even though the common expression is “flesh and blood.”

So, angels are like men with indestructible bodies of flesh and bone, glorified beings (at least until they fall). When angels fall, they lose contact with the Source of the beauty, grace and power. It is widely believed they become mortal and begin to deteriorate in appearance. Understand, *there is **no Biblical reference to an angel (fallen or otherwise) taking over a person or possessing them.***

On the other hand, devils (or demons) are not described in the Bible, except in their actions. They love filth, death, decay, public nudity, obscenity, debauchery and madness. They also seem to have an affinity to water. Devils LOVE carnal pleasure and that is why they take over humans. Because they are spirit beings, they cannot eat, drink or fornicate. This is why the devils in the Gadarene demoniac man (**Luke 8 and Mark 5**) begged our Savior to send them into a herd of swine. At least there, they would be able to indulge their depraved appetites.

These devils enter people, take them over and control and manipulate them – especially unsaved people. Though not central to this article, I need to point

something out here: A genuinely saved Believer in Yahushua CAN have a devil in them. They can also be tormented by them from outside of their bodies. But they **cannot be possessed!** Many preachers and Christians are under the mistaken impression that if they are Born Again, they cannot *have* a devil. This is not true. For a deeper discussion on this, see my book, BLOOD ON THE DOORPOST. But suffice it to say that for many reasons, a genuine Believer may have a demon from generational sin or involvement in the occult before Salvation, or serious sin, for example.

Unlike angels, devils are winged. This is evident from certain Biblical typology where they are likened to birds (**Prov. 26:2, Eccl. 10:20, Is. 46:11, Jer. 5:27, Lam. 3:52, Matt. 13:32, and Rev. 18:2**). Because the Holy Spirit has blessed our ministry with the spiritual gift of discerning of spirits (**1 Cor. 12:10**), I have seen demons many times. They are tiny - somewhere between the size of a gnat and a mosquito. This makes sense, because it allows easy access to an unsuspecting person.

Mind you, devils CAN appear large and fearsome to people if it suits them, but it is an **illusion**. When I was a sorcerer I would conjure up devils and they looked terrifying, like something out of your worst nightmare. But that is all smoke and mirrors, intended to deceive the foolish. They are actually quite tiny. As I have prayed for people over the past 25-plus years, I have seen literally CLOUDS of them around a person's head, trying to keep him from hearing the gospel.

So, here is the crux of the matter. It is evident that a devil is tiny enough to enter a person and take them over. A fallen angel is not. A fallen angel has a body, soul and spirit - it would seem - if they are similar to what we will be someday in glory. One body-soul-spirit complex cannot inhabit another body-soul-spirit complex.

So, devils are the pawns, the foot soldiers in the army of hell. The fallen angels are like higher-level officers. If devils are not fallen angels, then where do devils come from? In truth, the Bible does not say. However, we can only use wisdom to theorize.

The ancient Hebrew sages have some theories on where demons come from, but of course this is NOT Holy Writ. Some teach that demons come from Lilith, the supposed first wife of Adam. The story is that Lilith was made, like Adam, from the dust of the earth. The two, being male and female, were placed in the Garden, but Lilith would not submit to Adam. So Adam went to Yahuwah and demanded a divorce (remember, this is NOT in the Bible).

Supposedly, the Almighty threw Lilith out of the Garden of Eden, but she was with child. Enraged at the perceived injustice, she gave birth and then bashed the baby's brains out on the rocks by the Euphrates River. From that act, millions of devils swarmed into the world. That is why Lilith is the strongman (or maybe strong

woman) over abortion and infanticide. For much more on the Lilith legend, see my newest book, ROMANCING DEATH. **I for one do not believe this is the origin of devils.** The story only serves to promote the idea of a heartless, misogynistic deity.

Another theory is that serious sins, like murder, generate devils as thought forms that take on lives of their own through the power of spilled blood. Other rabbis have also taught that countless devils are released when men abuse themselves.

**The theory I favor is that devils are the spirits of the Nephilim (offspring of fallen angels) drowned in the Flood.** Because the Nephilim were half-angels, they acquired a weird sort of half-life beyond death and are used by the evil one to tempt and torment mankind. We are operating here without clear Scriptural information so all we can do is prayerfully speculate. Yahuwah obviously did not think it was important that we know where devils come from or He would have told us.

What the Bible DOES teach clearly is that we can have victory over the demonic realm through the power of the blood, the Cross and the name of Yahushua the Messiah (**Mark 16:17, James 4:7**)! Any Believer has authority over devils and we can confidently take that authority to get them out of our lives and the lives of our family. HalleluYah!

For more information on the spiritual warfare aspects of angels and the demonic realm you can visit our website and find free downloadable material as well as our comprehensive book, BLOOD ON THE DOORPOSTS. The more we understand the spiritual battlefield, the more effective we are as troops in the army of our Master, Yahushua. For too long the deceiver has spoiled countless lives of precious souls! With greater understanding, humility and prayer we can claim the victory that in His Righteousness is ours!

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