Revelation Series Lesson #058 March 19, 2006

Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbibleministries.org
© 2006, Dr. Robert L. Dean, Jr.

Revelation 3:1, "And to the angel of the church in Sardis write, 'These things says He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars: "I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead." '"

### Four things to note in this verse:

- 1. It is addressed to the "angel;"
- 2. The angel is connected to the church "in Sardis;"
- 3. A character reference to the *Lord Jesus Christ*;
- 4. A summary condemnation.

#### Revelation 2–3

- 1. Commission: an address opens each letter
- 2. Character: a citation of specific attributes of Christ
- 3. Commendation: a praise for spiritual advance
- 4. Condemnation: a warning about a spiritual flaw in the congregation
- 5. Correction: a prescription to recovery
- 6. Call: a command to listen and apply
- 7. Challenge: a personal promise of reward











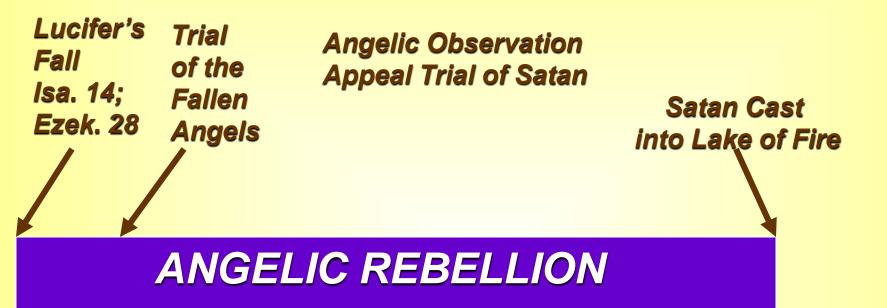


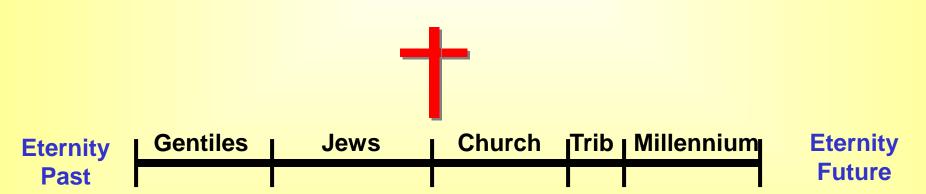
What does <u>angel</u> [ἄγγελος, <u>aggelos]</u> mean?

Human messenger

Pastor-teacher

Angel







## Satan challenges God's <u>authority</u>

Satan challenges God's <u>love</u>: how can a loving God send His creatures to an eternity in a lake of fire?

## Satan challenges God's <u>justice</u>, His <u>fairness</u>.

John 1:7, "This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe."

John 3:11, "Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know and testify of what we have seen, and you do not accept our testimony."

1 Corinthians 4:9, "For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men."

Ephesians 3:10, "to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places," 1 Peter 1:12, "To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven things which angels desire to look into"

1 Timothy 5:21, "I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality."

Galatians 3:19, "Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made."

# διατάσσω, diatasso, (16× in New Testament)

Acts 7:53, "who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept it."

Hebrews 2:2, "For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward,"

Deuteronomy 32:1, "Give ear, O heavens, and let me speak; And let the earth hear the words of my mouth."

Deuteronomy 4:26, "I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that you will soon utterly perish from the land which you cross over the Jordan to possess; you will not prolong your days in it, but will be utterly destroyed."