Rev 5:11, "Then I looked, and I heard the voice of <u>many angels</u> around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands,"

Who are the angels? How many are there? What do they look like? What are their powers? Can we see them? What about people who think angels appeared to them? Are there good and bad angels? When were angels created? When did Satan fall? Who are the fallen angels, the demons, and the evil spirits and what can they do to us? And finally, what does, human history have to do with the angels, if anything?

**1. Definition: Angelic Conflict** 

The invisible spiritual warfare between the forces of Satan and the forces of God (Eph. 6:10). This is displayed in human history in what is called spiritual warfare.

- 2. The Course of the Angelic Conflict:
- Began with the rebellion of *Helel ben Shahar* in eternity past (Isa 14:12–15).
- Focused on the creation of Adam in the Garden of Eden
- Israel: Chosen by God, targeted by Satan
- Satan was defeated at the cross
- The intensified period of the Church Age
- The Tribulation: Final war and judgment
- The Millennium: The end of evil

### How can we KNOW anything about angels?

# The Basis of Knowledge

S	SYSTEM	<b>STARTING POINT</b>	METHOD
<b>Systems</b> ption	RATIONALISM	Innate ideas Faith in human ability.	Independent use of logic & reason
Autonomous Sy nt Of Percepti	EMPIRICISM	Sense perceptions External experience; Scientific method; Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	MYSTICISM	Inner, private experience; intuition Faith in human ability	Independent, nonlogical, nonrational, nonverifiable
Divine Viewpoin	REVELATION	<b>Objective</b> revelation of God	Dependent use of logic and reason

1. 34 of the 66 books of the Bible (17 Old Testament; 17 New Testament) refer to angels by that name as existing creatures.  The terms for angel (מַּלְאָרֲ, *mala'ak*, Heb; ἄγγελος, *angelos*, Gk.) occur more than 300 times in the Bible.

- 3. Jesus Christ referred to angels frequently as real creatures.
- He described their role in the final judgment, Matt 13:39–41; Matt 24:31
- He talked of the relationship of angels to children, Matt 18:10

Matt 18:10, "Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven."

#### An angel announced His resurrection

Matt 28:2, "And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it.

Matt 28:3, "His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow.

Matt 28:4, "And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men.

Matt 28:5, "But the angel answered and said to the women, 'Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified.' Matt 28:6, "'He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay'." Angels are to accompany and serve Him at His second coming, Matt 13:39–41; 16:27; 24:30–31; 25:31).

Psalm 148:5, "Let them praise the name of the Lord, for He gave the command and they came into existence."

Eph 6:12, "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." \*Angels can take on physical form with many of the characteristics of a physical body. Gen. 18–19 Job 38:4, "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding.

Job 38:5, "Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? Job 38:6, "To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone,

Job 38:7, "When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" Psalm 103:20, "Bless the Lord, you His angels, mighty in strength, who perform His word, obeying the voice of His word!" Revelation 5:11, "Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands," Daniel 7:9, "I kept looking until thrones were set up, and the Ancient of Days took His seat; His vesture was like white snow and the hair of His head like pure wool. His throne was ablaze with flames, its wheels were a burning fire. Daniel 7:10, "A river of fire was flowing and coming out from before Him; thousands upon thousands were attending Him, and myriads upon myriads were standing before Him; the court sat, and the books were opened."

#### 3. When were angels created? Job 38:4–7

### STAGES OF CREATION Gen. 1:1–3

Fall of Lucifer

EDEN GARDEI GOD

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## STAGES OF CREATION Gen. 1:1–3

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Job 38:4, "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding,

Job 38:5, "Who set its measurements, since you know? Or who stretched the line on it?

Job 38:6, "On what were its bases sunk? Or who laid its cornerstone,

Job 38:7, "When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"