

The Enemy Satan and his Angels, part 5

- I.** Satan rules his kingdom through demons—fallen angels of the lower two ranks (Eph. 6:12).
 - 1. Ranks within spirit beings are carefully observed (Jude 6-9).
 - 2. Fallen angels—demons—are ruled by Satan (Mt. 12:24; 25:41).
 - 1) “angel” emphasizes their creative order and their power which is above humans (Heb. 2:7, 9; 2 Pet. 2:110).
 - 2) “demon” emphasizes their nefarious activity—Gospels’ accounts.
 - 3. Angels can appear as men (Heb. 13:2).
 - 4. During the transition demons could sometimes demonstratively control humans.
 - 5. Demon activity diminished in direct proportion to the completion of the written Word, i.e., as the dispensation of grace by faith was fully implemented—not seen (Heb. 11:1).
 - 6. Satan and his demons counterfeit God’s ministers (2 Cor. 11:13-15).
 - 7. Christians cannot be possessed by demons (1 Jn. 5:18).
- II.** Demons fight for Satan in a spiritual warfare against God’s people.
 - 1. They use schemes—adjustable deceit (Eph. 6:11).
 - 2. They use direct mental conflict (Eph. 6:12).
- III.** Demons perpetrate a counterfeit theology (1 Tim. 4:1-3).
 - 1. Conscience having been branded with a hot iron (v. 2).
 - 1) By hypocrisy—feigning, a forgery of the real faith.
 - 2) By flat-out lying about what Scripture says.
 - 2. By hindering, devaluing marriage (v. 3).
 - 3. By making dietary restrictions as a religious act—legalism.
 - 4. By lying prophets (1 Jn. 4:1-4).
 - 1) Denying Jesus Christ came in the flesh (v. 2).
 - 2) Denying Jesus Christ is presently glorified in the flesh (cf. 1 Tim. 6:16).
 - 3) Denying Christ’s will return in the flesh (2 Jn. 7; Zech. 14:4; Acts 1:11).
- IV.** Christians’ proper attitude toward demons.
 - 1. God is the ultimate authority (Eph. 3:15; 4:6).
 - 2. Demons are a real problem, but can and should be defeated.
 - 3. Measure all evidence by Scripture, not by tradition, tales, or any emotional experience.