

Erlo Stegen:

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.”

Rev 12:4 - 9,

“His tail drew a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

5 She bore a male Child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron. And her Child was caught up to God and His throne.

6 Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

7 And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,

8 but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them[a] in heaven any longer.

9 So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

Who are these angels we read of in these verses?

Angels were created long before man was created. They were amazing creatures with amazing bodies, around the throne of God praising and worshipping Him.

Now angels are fast and powerful. The Bible even states that the angels move like lightning. They are messengers, their greatest joy beholding God, carrying out His command.

Angels are also ranked, some placed in order above others. We read of Michael and Gabriel and of a prince possibly even above Michael and Gabriel. He fell and today is referred to as the devil and satan.

He didn't desert and forsake God alone but his tail drew a third of the angels who fell with him and today they are demons. Two thirds remained faithful to God and God blessed them.

The devil was one of the great princes in heaven and he fell because of pride. He wanted to be like God. When pride entered this prince in heaven he fell and became satan.

Pride is very serious. We find it even amongst the disciples themselves arguing who was the greatest.

The Bible refers to satan as the god of this world.

The devil and the angels that went with him were rejected and thrown out of heaven. We know that God can speak just one word and destroy the devil but He didn't do it.

Michael and his angels declared war against the devil and his angels and overcame them. It was a terrible battle, the battle we read of here. The devil and his angels did not want to leave heaven so Michael and the his angels declared war on them and threw them out.

In the past these two groups would've come together in perfect harmony but the day the devil revolted their unity was broken and they were thrown out of heaven.

It refers to the devil as the serpent of old which deceives the whole world. Till today the devil carries on with all his might against God and His Kingdom. That's why we do not fight against flesh and blood but against powers and principalities in the air.

When the devil came to earth to deceive Adam and Eve, God saw what was happening and could have stopped it but chose not to. To get dominion of the earth the devil first deceived Eve and used her to get at her husband. He thought he had dominion of the earth, but God had other plans, and He promised that the Messiah would come who would crush the serpent's head.

What you do with God's gift determines which side you are on. You must choose between the Kingdom of God and the kingdom of the devil. You must choose today. Your life will testify what your choice was.

On the one hand there are those who have put their trust and faith in God and on the other hand those who have put their trust and faith in the devil. This is the greatest war there is, it is a matter of eternal life or death.

In Heaven God wanted to see which ones would be faithful and so too on earth. He waits to see who would choose the devil's side and who will be faithful to Him.

God is allowing temptations whether through drugs, or the lust of the flesh or the lusts of the eyes or the pride of life - He allows these things to see who will really serve Him and who will eventually go with the devil.

Maybe you cannot understand why you are going through what you are going through. God is trying you to see whether you will be faithful or go over to the devil.

If you overcome the temptation God will bless you.

The devil is also called the accuser of the brethren. Those who gossip and slander their brethren therefore side with the devil.

You cannot be on God's side while you are one with those who have forsaken God. Light and darkness cannot go together.

If you choose what is right even Michael and his angels will support you but if you choose evil then the devil and his angels will rejoice and enslave you. What you do in this battle will determine where you will spend eternity. Your life will show who has been victorious in your life. Let it be evident that you have chosen God and His kingdom.