

General Topics :: Today's Great Deception Built on the Deception of the 80's and 90's

Today's Great Deception Built on the Deception of the 80's and 90's, on: 2014/4/7 8:37

Where did a lot of the present day thought and activity in the church world come from and what did the men of today, watch on "Christian TV" in the 80's and 90's?

Looking back, evidence that the religious realm cannot tell the difference between good and evil or what's spiritual and what is fleshly is displayed on television. For example, a leading Christian Broadcasting Network used to have a channel called the Family Channel which ran movies that showed love scenes, killing and violence (just like secular networks) and called themselves spiritual. There was a ministry based in Rockwall, TX and whose pastor was investigated by a news magazine TV show for mishandling money that was given to orphan children. The ministry called themselves the POWER TEAM and would have people believe that breaking chains and breaking concrete blocks with karate chops and breaking huge slabs of ice with their heads is Spiritual.

I read in the Bible of a man who could not be restrained with chains because he was demon possessed.

Another prominent minister based in Dallas, TX., was caught receiving information from a microphone hidden behind his ear and saying the Lord was speaking to him about the people in the audience. When exposed and confronted with this he said that this activity had Spiritual value.

CHURCHES everywhere spent millions building huge meeting places while thousands of people living near these "Family Life Centers" were in poverty both spiritually and in the natural. These churches did this because they considered large numbers in attendance and new and expensive buildings to be a sign of Spiritual success.

Leading evangelists displayed pride, arrogance and pomp that is not equaled by today's wrestling and boxing stars and they call it Spiritual. May the Lord have mercy on this society by granting repentance from all the fleshly junk that is going on in Jesus' name.

Greed (which is idolatry), self-centeredness, covetousness, materialism and things like these are found in the church world just as much as in the secular world. The church world's promotional methods are the same as the world's. The church world is not a testimony and a witness that Jesus is alive, but they try to persuade people by words and Madison Avenue methods about Jesus. The whole church world appeals to people to ACCEPT Jesus rather than to turn to HIM with a whole heart and make HIM the center of their lives. If a preacher teaches people that they can be part of the world and still be a Christian, then the preacher can benefit in several ways from their "conversion". On the other hand, if a preacher preaches separation from the world (which causes death to the flesh), his message will be offensive and odious to people and they will not support him. Consequently, preachers face being tempted with compromise. (Read 2 Cor 11:12-15).

These things were an indication in the 80's and 90's that the religious system was sick and corrupt and needs to be repented of. The system is much, much worse, today. Christianity in the Church world is not recognizable.

There has never been a time of deception and false teachers and false doctrine as there is today.

The word of God is slanted, adjusted, altered and misinterpreted. It is misrepresented, misapplied, and mishandled.

How many of hundreds of denominations and sects are operating in the Church world, today? They all have different beliefs about the Kingdom of God. They are all DIVIDED. They are all in competition with one another for money and people. They are ALL working and trying to perform things to make themselves acceptable in God's sight or to give them favor with the Lord, while at the very same time denying that they are doing this. Physical illness, problems with children, depression, financial trouble, divorce, emotional problems, etc. beset the religious world just as much as they do the people who do not profess Christianity.

Re: Today's Great Deception Built on the Deception of the 80's and 90' - posted by MaryJane, on: 2014/4/7 9:23

Greetings

The book written by Robert speaks to some of these issues, its called Televangelicalism. Its a really good read and very informative.

Just_in wrote: Christianity in the Church world is not recognizable.

I would go so far as to say that the "TRUE BRIDE, CHURCH" has nothing to do with the world system of religion we see in the main stream today. JESUS true body of believers are hearing HIS voice and beginning to realize the time is now to choose who they will follow. Those who are sold out to JESUS will not compromise HIS WORD no matter how the world/religious system attacks them. Those who are HIS will be chased off, persecuted, and even put to death for HIS name sake while the world continues to offer up its religions to please men. Those who are twice born, who have had a real encounter with KING JESUS will never conform to anything less than JESUS as LORD of their lives, they will not compromise on sin and living in submission unto HIM in all things.

God bless
mj

Re: Religious deception - posted by Sidewalk (), on: 2014/4/7 11:35

Men love religion, it is a smooth liquor that soothes slightly, and helps them avoid dealing with the Great and Terrible Almighty God. Who is real abounding in love and forgiveness for those who call to Him in desperation.

Well done, Just-in. I too spent the '80's and '90's watching these things unfold, often feeling cut off and isolated because for one thing, I had listened to Ten Shekels and a Shirt just a short time after the message was recorded!

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2014/4/7 11:44

Brother Roberts book does speak very well to this point:

Televangelicalism
<http://www.amazon.com/Televangelicalism-Robert-Wurtz-II-ebook/dp/B00F6AF400>

In this insightful and thought provoking book, Robert Wurtz II traces the history of Christian evangelism from the book of Acts to modern times. The contrast between pre-1900 and post-1900 evangelism is so sharp, that the book is divided into two sections: Part 1, the pre-Billy Sunday era and Part 2, the post-Billy Sunday evangelistic era. This book is a must-read for anyone that has concerns about issues such as "the sinner's prayer" or shallow concepts of conversion. We are in danger of losing our Evangelical Christian identity all together, and it is a direct result of failed modern evangelistic methods. Television has greatly contributed to this issue. Join us as we take a journey through history to discover the discarded theologies and methods of effective Christian ministers.

Re: , on: 2014/4/7 11:50

Hi Sidewalk,

I also think men love religion because the flesh does not want to die.

If it is not plain to everyone with all of the church history we now have, let me just say, the "church world", "Christendom", "Religious structures" will never have unity. Their very makeup and survival requires them to continue to be divided because they must compete for money and people.

Nickels, noses and numbers are the fuel of the religious system and will continue to be.

2Pe_2:3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

So, we can either come out of religious Babylon as the Lord tells us or we can be part of it and part of her sins and plagues. Those aren't my words.

The Lord is commanding us to leave, and He will bring us to a people that have a vision of Him as their Head and a vision of the Church as the New Jerusalem, the Heavenly City. Not an earthly counterfeit.

As Frank says, the religious system will come together in a fake unity. It will be fake, because they will still be in competition with one another, but giving lip service to "unity". Take away the mammon and the religious system will crumble and that is not going to happen.

Religious Babylon will thrive right up until the end.

Rev_18:11 And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more:

The message of Revelation: Jesus Christ is Victor over Religion (Babylon).

Re: - posted by wayneman (), on: 2014/4/7 19:25

I was converted early in 1982, right around the time that twilight began to settle on the church. Or to change the figure, I boarded the ship just as it was beginning to sink. Several disturbing events occurred that year:

1. On April 25th 1982, full-page ads appeared in the New York Times, London Times and LA Times announcing the arrival of the "Jesus Christ, Lord Maitreya."
2. On July 1st, Johanna Michaelsen published The Beautiful Side of Evil which, along with the fraudulent testimonies of her friends Mike Warnke and Lauren Stratford, began the Satanic Ritual Abuse hysteria that destroyed families nationwide, sent hundreds of innocents to prison, and for which evangelical Christians were ultimately responsible.
3. On July 28 Keith Green was killed in a plane crash.
4. The June 10 suicide of Oral Roberts' son Ronald was like a starting signal for the increasingly maniacal behavior of televangelists which a few years later culminated in a series of appalling scandals.
5. Earl Paulk, whose adulteries were as the sands of sea and whose sexual conquests included several little girls, was appointed Bishop of the International Communion of Charismatic Churches and honored by President Bush as one of the "a thousand points of light."
6. The Calvary Chapel/Vineyard split took place that year.

In the spring of '83 I read a sermon by Charles Finney that shattered my faith, and I walked away from God and stayed away for a long time. One by one, my Christian friends also departed from the faith and by the end of the year our little church was in ruins.

Years later I came across Howard Pittman's 1979 prophecy that "this is the Laodicean Church Age" and that the "spewing out" of the visible church would begin on May 7th 1983. The facts seem to bear this out - at least in my own experience.

Does anyone else whose memory reaches that far back remember any similarly significant events from the spring of '83?

Re: - posted by Sidewalk (), on: 2014/4/7 20:33

Just a point that leaps out of that for me, is a question of what you read by Finney that destroyed your faith. Generally, Finney destroyed the reasonings protecting secret sins that keep people from God- as was my case reading the man some years previous to 1983. I would be very interested to hear of your experience in that regard.

The Keith Green crash was a real shaker too. We had friends from the Texas YWAM base visiting with us in Minnesota, good friends with Keith and Melody. They dropped everything to rush home. It was a very sad day.

In a larger perspective, there has been a lot of up and down in the church in America since my lifetime- the explosion of the Charismatic movements in the '60's and '70's was very exciting- pentecostal experience among the old dead denominational churches was quite unexpected. I even ventured into some Roman Catholic meetings and was amazed. Especially when one woman asked how she was supposed to worship the virgin and was gently told "We just worship Jesus here."

But the chains of Babylon were never really broken. Excitement is an unreliable substitute for the fruit of brokenness, and many wandered off in discouragement and different kinds of sin. I think that was around the time I became, unbeknownst to myself, a pharisee. I watched the things Just-in referenced, watched the growth of Name it and Claim it, and became cynical.

And old...

He has remained faithful, and has done so much healing of things in me I didn't know were sick.

Now I have to close this and go to Monday night church. About 100 severely handicapped adults are gathering to worship to the best of their abilities, and I love them.

Carry on, church!!

Re: , on: 2014/4/8 1:51

In the 80's and 90's there were teachings on Angels and how to recognize your personal angel and where they were (Charles and Francis Hunter).

The whole Latter Rain movement and Manifested Sons of God.

Speaking of angelic visitations, one of the first before Charles and Francis Hunter, was Roland Buck. Do you ever recall that name? He was a former Assembly of God pastor. This man was deceived by many angelic visitations. Sixteen visitations in 2 years covering 50 hours (2-4 hours each).

2nd visitation - "quit preaching at relatives"

3rd visitation - "Angel Gabriel and Creoni" visited him.

4th visitation - he "worshiped some presence".

5th visitation - "visitation of Michael".

Deceiving spirits (1 Tim 4) speak about broader revelations and special truths. They told Roland that "God has a family plan" and "the ties of family are eternal". Also that "God always has a backup plan. If one plan doesn't work, He has another." Angels told him that there was complete forgiveness for everyone and that he should stop preaching pardon and repentance.

He had a superficial view of the atonement and his doctrine left out the work of sanctification.

He wrote the book "Angels on Assignment". Perhaps you have heard of it.

Even though he died in 1979, he has a web page and notice all the mixture on it. He has Watchman Nee and Ray Comfort.

<http://www.angelsonassignment.org/>

For his 6th visitation, he was told "you can reject the Spirit but not angels. Creoni told him that Joshua worshipped him.

More doctrines of demons: He was told that Jesus did not taste physical death for us because we still die.

Testing Angelic Visitation, on: 2014/4/8 9:07

1. Are the angels identified by non-biblical names?
2. Are the angels given non-biblical descriptions?
3. Are they performing roles beyond biblical context?
4. Are they sources of additional revelation beyond biblical content?
5. Are they in any way proclaiming another gospel?

Beware when someone says, "The Bible contains the Word of God."

Beware of familiar spirits.

Warnings

1. Angels are to be accursed if they preach any other Gospel (Gal 1:6-8)
2. Satan can appear as an angel of light in disguise (II Cor 11:14).
3. An Angel (spirit) is not to be believed simply because he is a spirit (1 Jn 4:1).
4. An angel may be a deceitful spirit. (1 Tim 4:1)
5. Beware of a religion of angels. (Angels are predominant and active, center of pictures, etc.) (Col 2:18)

I see a resurgence of "religion of angels", today.

Re: Testing Angelic Visitation - posted by Sidewalk (), on: 2014/4/8 17:51

When Jesus praised the Centurion who had asked Jesus to heal his servant, he went so far as to tell Jesus He need not actually go see the servant. He perceived that Jesus was operating under authority- just as he did.

I bring that in here because the man made Jesus' jaw drop. He had never seen faith like that in all of Israel, now when He finds a man of faith it is a gentile in service to a far away wicked king.

We are so given to creating and operating in our own authority, by throwing in a few angels the deception gains a sweet spiritual flavor, able to more easily deceive others. Men like this centurion have seen first hand how real authority operates, he needs no angels to recognize that Jesus is the real deal. That understanding of authority was what Jesus recognized as true faith.

Angels are servants of Christ and will not violate the scripture, and they will not displace the authority God gives to men. The angel did not preach the gospel to Cornelius, but directed him to get Peter in the house to preach.

I am convinced that it is a pleasure for angels to carry out a mission for Jesus on behalf of the humans He loves. We will probably be amazed in Glory looking back with perfect spiritual vision over our lives when we see the roles angels played. But real angels will never have pursued their own glory, or been used for unrighteous purposes by self-appointed Spiritual Giants.

Re: - posted by Solomon101, on: 2014/4/8 20:26

Just-in stated the following as a means of testing an angelic visitation.

Quote:

-
1. Are the angels identified by non-biblical names?
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 5. Are they in any way proclaiming another gospel?
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While I certainly agree that people can be deceived by giving heed to evil spirits and not discerning their source it also seems to me that the steps you give are far too constricting to allow for legitimate encounters sent by God Himself.

Please allow me to just throw back a few questions in regard to your steps -

1. Are the angels identified by non-biblical names?

We only have a few angels actually listed by name in scripture. We also know from scripture that the total number of angels is incredibly large. It is obvious that unless God sent one of a very few we would not know their name from scripture. That does not make all the remaining angels messengers of satan ... the ones serving God are His messengers. Where in scripture does it anywhere indicate that unless an angel is called by one of just a couple names you should reject them?

2. Are the angels given non-biblical descriptions?

Not entirely sure what you mean by this one. However I am assuming that unless they physically appear to the human eye at that moment the way one of the angelic host is described in scripture they should be regarded as demons and devils. Again, where in all of scripture is that idea drawn from? There may indeed be millions of "types" of angels that we have no knowledge of at all. There is nothing in scripture to indicate that we have anything like a full revelation of the angelic realm and all the created order in it that God established. I am not necessarily saying He did create myriads of other angelic forms we do not know about yet but neither can I, or you, say He didn't. That is pure presumption.

3. Are they performing roles beyond biblical context?

Again, not entirely sure what you mean by that. Could you give an example? We see angels performing miracles by God's direction, warning, delivering saints, executing judgement, giving specific life instructions, and a great many other functions. Not sure what you are meaning on this point? Maybe an example could help me understand?

4. Are they sources of additional revelation beyond biblical content?

Well I should certainly think so. This would be especially true if they were sent to give life guidance to a person. This happened several times in scripture. If a decision were important enough to send an angelic confirmation I suspect it WOULD be beyond Biblical content. For example who you marry, ministry you are involved in, country you should live in, town you should live in, employment you are to be involved in, people and traps the enemy may have set in your life to destroy you are all examples of critical information that is extra Biblical. The scripture does not address those things specifically to your circumstances. You have to get that information directly from God Himself, Jesus, and The Holy Spirit. Perhaps they may send angelic confirmation in especially critical times ... but it would certainly be revelation beyond Biblical content.

-- HOWEVER --- IF THE REVELATION IN ANY WAY CONTRADICTS BIBLICAL CONTENT THEN IT IS CLEARLY DEMONIC. The Spirit and The Word agree. If an angel brings a message not in line with scriptural content then it is to be totally rejected without any question. I am just noting that knowledge beyond Biblical revelation is not the same thing as revelation that contradicts Biblical content.

5. Are they in any way proclaiming another gospel?

I am in 100% total, absolute, and complete agreement with that.

I have been more concerned as of late about folks seeking to take command of "their angels" and issue commands to them. NO WAY IS THAT HAPPENING!

Angels are servants of The Most High God and do not take orders from anyone else ... period. I can tell you will all know and certainly that if you have actually seen a few you will never, ever, ever presume to issue orders to them. Their presence still pulsating and humming with the glory of God (much as Moses face after being on the mountain I have thought) will absolutely remind you that they serve The Father and no one else.... as we are to do as well. They are my teammates my fellow soldiers. However, they fight alongside me with eyes that see far more than mine. At times God gives messages to me through them. It is always a personalizing in my life of what he has already spoken in scripture. For example ... we are to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. An angel might appear to me and give me specific direction about a person I will meet in town tomorrow. I am to share my faith with him and buy him lunch. That opens the doors to his salvation. All the angel did was deliver a message to me on how to specifically apply God's truth to the world I am living in right now.

I am not being argumentative at all. Hopefully that comes through in the tenor of my post. However, if you will consider your original criteria for evaluation an angelic visitation and my responsive questions you will see that there is a much wider place for angelic revelation than is being supposed.

Re: , on: 2014/4/8 21:08

Quote:

-----by Solomon101 on 2014/4/8 20:26:26

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While I certainly agree that people can be deceived by giving heed to evil spirits and not discerning their source it also seems to me that the steps you give are far to constricting to allow for legitimate encounters sent by God Himself.

Please allow me to just throw back a few questions in regard to your steps -

Great questions, Solomon. But, these steps were derived from the Scriptures. Let me explain (read on).

Quote:

-----1. Are the angels identified by non-biblical names?

We only have a few angels actually listed by name in scripture. We also know from scripture that the total number of angels is incredibly large. It is obvious that unless God sent one of a very few we would not know their name from scripture. That does not make all the remaining angels messengers of satan ... the ones serving God are His messengers. Where in scripture does it anywhere indicate that unless an angel is called by one of just a couple names you should reject them?

I almost want to say, "Michael I know and Gabriel I know but Moroni and Chroni, sorry, I don't know you". All I can say is that every new Angel name that I have heard, has been accompanied with false doctrine. Has anyone else heard of a new name that did not bring another gospel? And why would the Lord do that? It would be confusing and contradictory regarding His 4,000 years of interaction between Men and God. Strange indeed if He introduced a new angel in the age of deception the likes of which the world has never known.

Quote:

-----2. Are the angels given non-biblical descriptions?

Not entirely sure what you mean by this one. However I am assuming that unless they physically appear to the human eye at that moment the way one of the angelic host is described in scripture they should be regarded as demons and devils. Again, where in all of scripture is that idea drawn from? There may indeed be millions of "types" of angels that we have no knowledge of at all. There is nothing in scripture to indicate that we have anything like a full revelation of the angelic realm and all the created order in it that God established. I am not necessarily saying He did create myriads of other angelic forms we do not know about yet but neither can I, or you, say He didn't. That is pure presumption.

Charles and Francis Hunter said they knew where their angel was standing, how tall he was (20feet) and what color suit (blue) he was wearing. Yes, it is true that angels have many names and probably can appear with blue suits, but, God has given us enough parameters within His Word and I am confident He is not going to pull a fast one on us and have De'Andre show up in a glimmering tux. But, the Word of Faith guys will probably disagree. Again, God is not an Author of confusion and has given us parameters surrounded by 4,000 years of interaction with men. Also, Angels don't draw attention to themselves by wearing Armani suits.

Quote:

-----3. Are they performing roles beyond biblical context?

Again, not entirely sure what you mean by that. Could you give an example? We see angels performing miracles by God's direction, warring, delivering saints, executing judgement, giving specific life instructions, and a great many other functions. Not sure what you are meaning on this point? Maybe an

example could help me understand?

God does not send angels to have in depth conversations with His children. Do we see any examples of this in the Bible?

From "Angels on Assignment".

Gabriel had just introduced Roland Buck to Chroni and this exchange takes place.

"One night while Gabriel and Chroni were taking to me, there suddenly appeared a bluish shaft of pure light about eighteen inches in diameter from the ceiling to the floor of our study room. The instant the light appeared, both angels fell prostrate on the floor. They stayed in a prone position for at least five minutes without a single motion or sound. I didn't know what to do, so I fell on my hands and knees and worshipped God. They never told me what this was, but I feel that just as a bright light appeared to Saul on the road to Damascus, this also could have been an appearance of Jesus in the form of a bright light. It was awesome to me!"

Roland Buck has no idea what he bowed to. He was never told what he bowed to. He just bowed.

Quote:
-----4. Are they sources of additional revelation beyond biblical content?
Well I should certainly think so. This would be especially true if they were sent to give life guidance to a person. This happened several times in scripture. If a decision were important enough to send an angelic confirmation I suspect it WOULD be beyond Biblical content. For example who you marry, ministry you are involved in, country you should live in, town you should live in, employment you are to be involved in, people and traps the enemy may have set in your life to destroy you are all examples of critical information that is extra Biblical. The scripture does not address those things specifically to your circumstances. You have to get that information directly from God Himself, Jesus, and The Holy Spirit. Perhaps they may send angelic confirmation in especially critical times ... but it would certainly be revelation beyond Biblical content.
-- HOWEVER -- IF THE REVELATION IN ANY WAY CONTRADICTS BIBLICAL CONTENT THEN IT IS CLEARLY DEMONIC. The Spirit and The Word agree. If an angel brings a message not in line with scriptural content then it is to be totally rejected without any question. I am just noting that knowledge beyond Biblical revelation is not the same thing as revelation that contradicts Biblical content.

You answered your own question which signified that you knew what I was saying.

Quote:
-----5. Are they in any way proclaiming another gospel?
I am in 100% total, absolute, and complete agreement with that.

Amen!

Quote:
-----I have been more concerned as of late about folks seeking to take command of "their angels" and issue commands to them. NO WAY IS THAT HAPPENING!

I find it interesting that you seemed to have had many experiences with angels. Are these experiences you can share? Do they build up the Body of Christ? Were they edifying?

Quote:

-----Angels are servants of The Most High God and do not take orders from anyone else ... period. I can tell you will all knowledge and certainly that if you have actually seen a few you will never, ever, ever presume to issue orders to them. Their presence still pulsating and humming with the glory of God (much as Moses face after being on the mountain I have thought) will absolutely remind you that they serve The Father and no one else.... as we are to do as well. They are my teammates my fellow soldiers. However, they fight alongside me with eyes that see far more than mine . At times God gives messages to me through them. It is always a personalizing in my life of what he has already spoken in scripture. For example ... we are to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature. An angel might appear to me and give me specific direction about a person I will meet in town tomorrow. I am to share my faith with him and buy him lunch. That opens the doors to his salvation. All the angel did was deliver a message to me on how to specifically apply God's truth to the world I am living in right now.

I am not being argumentative at all. Hopefully that comes through in the tenor of my post. However, if you will consider your original criteria for evaluation on an angelic visitation and my responsive questions you will see that there is a much wider place for angelic revelation than is being supposed.

Thanks for sharing, Solomon. I did not take anything that you said as argumentative. They were very good questions. Have you submitted your experiences with Angels to the Body to check if anyone else has a witness to your experiences?

Re: , on: 2014/4/8 23:51

As you read Roland Buck's book, Angels on Assignment, you will realize many things, and one thing that keeps popping up is how "sensual" or "feeling" oriented, Roland is.

"Some of the unique experiences God has blessed me with are so unbelievable from our human viewpoint that I am often hesitant to share them publicly. Here is one of them: During a visit one night, Gabriel said that God had sent me a little gift for my strength and energy as he handed me a round wafer approximately five inches in diameter and a quarter inch thick, that looked like bread. He instructed me to eat it; so I did. It had the taste of honey. When I finished the bread, he gave me a silver-like ladle filled with what appeared to be water. I drank every drop of it, and an overwhelming desire to praise and worship God instantly came over me. Rivers of praise billowed up to God, bubbling up out of my inner

Re: - posted by Solomon101, on: 2014/4/9 9:40

Hey Just-in,

I just have a moment this morning to post. However, I will hopefully get a few minutes free perhaps late tonight or tomorrow morning to focus on this issue a bit more.

I was at first encouraged to read your quote

Quote:

-----Great questions, Solomon. But, these steps were derived from the Scriptures. Let me explain (read on).

I then was disappointed to see that does not appear to be what happened.

I asked specific questions concerning the 5 steps you gave for criteria in evaluation of an angelic visitation. We fully agree on your 5th step. The other 4 are lacking scriptural backing in my estimation therefore I asked those questions. Your answers did not give any scriptural backing for your steps at all!

You gave a couple of general quips to my questions on steps 1 and 2. Questions asked about steps 2 and 3 were answered with quotes from books by the Hunter's and Roland Buck it seems. My questions to step 4 is one I didn't understand your response to. I did understand the step however I also raised some specific thoughts and questions about it. What was your response to those objections to your step? As stated, I fully agree with your 5th step. We are in full agreement there. We have a common ground to look at the issue from.

Just-in I was disappointed to see that your steps were not backed by even one single scripture in response to my questions after that was what you had suggested. I wonder how much actual deep Biblical research have you actually performed on this topic before formulating your opinions? The reason I ask is that your responses seem lacking in scripture and long on Roland Buck and the Hunters quotes. I can't ever remember actually reading anything written by the Hunters. I may have but if so it has been 25+ years or more ago ... and if so I don't remember it. I did read Roland Buck's book but it has been some 20+ years ago. I remember bits and pieces... but again... 20+ years is a long time to think back on a book's contents so I am not sure about his statements. However, I actually could not care less what Roland Buck or the Hunters said. They are people that may or may not have had the experiences they report. I don't know them or their personal integrity. Being so unfamiliar with their writings theological implications means I would be foolish to have an opinion of something I don't know well first hand.

Scripturally though that is another matter.

Just-in I would encourage you to go through the entirety of scripture and record every angelic encounter that was recorded. Keep a running journal of it during the study. Ask lots of questions about it from the text. Don't just take the surface glossing but really dig. Keep a log of each event and the results you find from Genesis - Revelation. I believe it will alter your 5 steps of evaluation. That is how I got my understanding of angelic activity. Every verse of scripture in its context. Everyone has an opinion .. but few have an opinion based upon the entirety of God's Word taken in balance and context with all of scripture. They are too lazy to dig that out ... but more than ready to spout opinions based on presumptions, etc.

Let me just give you an example of what I am talking about concerning getting an accurate full Biblical understanding in this area -

You stated

Quote:

-----God does not send angels to have in depth conversations with His children. Do we see any examples of this in the Bible?

Even if God did not record any instances of "in depth" conversations in scripture do you have even one shred of evidence from scripture where God indicated He could or would not at His pleasure send an angel to have that in depth conversation? That position is based on pure assumption that dictates to God what you believe He can or can't do. He will do as He pleases regardless of what we think about it. If He wants an in depth angelic conversation who are you to say He can't ... and ultimately scripture does not anywhere indicate that He won't at his pleasure send an angel for an in depth conversation. Further to answer your question directly ... YES, we do see examples of these lengthy in depth angelic encounters in scripture. That is why I made the earlier suggestion about a full cataloging of angelic encounters from scripture. I could list them here ... but that wouldn't help. Find them on your own as you explore for truth if you truly want truth in this area. I may list some of the things from scripture that are in opposition to your steps... depending on how the conversation goes ... but nothing is as helpful as digging things out on our own ... if we really want the truth and not just to defend a point of view. I pray you want truth. You have made some statements in this thread that claim to be "steps for evaluation of angelic encounters". Few people can ever back up and change a view once stated for others. I don't know you and your heart in that area. I pray it is open to change I pray mine is open to always learning more even if it means admitting I was mistaken in an area. I pray you feel the same.

One final thing. You stated in your last post,

Quote:

-----Another angel, named "Queenie" is introduced. (I guess she is the Queenie of Heaven).

That rang a bell with me. However, it has been a couple decades since I read Buck's book so I just Googled it up to be sure.

Queenie was Roland Buck's dog! Queenie was not an angel or ever called one in Buck's book. If you are reading a book thinking a guy is writing about angels when he is writing about his dog no wonder there is confusion.

It honestly seems like you have an axe to grind with Buck and/or the Hunter's. They are the majority of what you are quoting not scripture. Perhaps they, or others in their camps, did you wrong or hurt you in some way. If so I am sorry ... it happens to us all at some point in life. However, if that is the case I encourage you to not let that be a framework for you

ur beliefs. Don't let your beliefs become reactionary. Let God's Word alone be the framework.... even if it takes you to places you thought it would not. If you truly dig in this area you may well find that the scripture depicts something different than you have seen thus far.

We agree in your 5th step completely. However, if it can be civil I would be willing to explore those other 4 steps from different perspectives. I would also welcome any scriptural responses to the questions I asked. Question 4 as well your thoughts in regards to what I posted. Yes, I understood your statement but my response brings that statement/step into question.

Again, not being argumentative or contentious at all. I am just seeing the steps you gave for judging angelic encounters and they appear to be lacking in scriptural authority. That is why I raised the questions and waited for Biblical answers. Angelology is not a front burner major issue Biblically. However, it is also one that has much error and is on many peoples minds at the moment so an exploration of it seems appropriate.

Have a great day and blessings to you!

Re: Today's Great Deception Built on the Deception of the 80's and 90', on: 2014/4/9 11:08

Angels, as God's Servants

Angels have specific yet limited roles to play in declaring God's will and purposes for humanity.

Angels are God's servants

Ps 103:20 See also Heb 1:7; Ps 104:4

Named angels

The archangel Michael: Da 10:13; 12:1; Jude 9; Rev 12:7

Gabriel: Da 8:16; 9:21; Lk 1:19,26

Angels as agents of God's salvation

Heb 1:14 See also Ex 23:23; 32:34; 33:2; Nu 20:16; Isa 63:8-9

Angels do not fully understand God's salvation 1Pe 1:10-12

Angels deliver God's people from their enemies 2Ki 19:35 pp 2Ch 32:21 pp Isa 37:36; Ac 5:19; 12:6-11

Angels as mediators

Ac 7:53 The law was mediated by angels to Moses and Israel See also Job 33:22-26; Ac 7:38; Gal 3:19; Heb 2:2

Angels as revealers of God's will

Zec 1:8-10 See also Da 7:15-16; Zec 4:11-14; Rev 17:1; 21:9

Angels convey and fulfil God's instructions Zec 3:4 See also Nu 22:21-35; Zec 3:6-7; Mt 2:13; Gal 1:8; Rev 7:2

Angels Attend to the Needs of God's People

Angels provide food at special times 1Ki 19:5-7 See also Ps 78:23-25

Angels provide protection Ps 91:11-12 See also Ge 19:15; 48:16; Ps 34:7; Da 3:28; 6:22; Mt 18:10; Ac 27:23-24

Angels give guidance

Ex 23:20 See also Ge 24:7,40; Ac 8:26

Angels serve Jesus Christ

Angels care for Jesus Christ's needs Mt 4:11 pp Mk 1:13 See also Lk 22:43

Angels are ready to protect Jesus Christ Mt 26:53 See also Mt 2:13,19-20; 4:6 pp Lk 4:10; Ps 91:11-12

Angels are inferior to Jesus Christ Heb 1:5-13

Angels, as God's Messengers

Spiritual messengers with the special role of making known God's work of salvation.

Angels give hope through the words of the prophets

Isa 40:3-5 The voice in this passage may be that of an angel.

Isaiah: Isa 40:1-2,6-8

Daniel: Da 8:15-16; 10:12,14-21; 12:8-13

Zechariah: Zec 1:12-21; 2:3-5; 4:1-7

Angels and the coming of the Messiah

An angel foretells the birth of John the Baptist Lk 1:11-13 See also Lk 1:14-19

Angels foretell Jesus Christ's birth Mt 1:20-21 See also Lk 1:26-38

Angels announce Jesus Christ's birth Lk 2:8-11 See also Lk 2:12-20

Angels announce Jesus Christ's resurrection

Mt 28:5-7 pp Mk 16:5-7 See also Lk 24:4-7,23; Jn 20:10-14

Angels foretell Jesus Christ's second coming

Ac 1:10-11

Angels reveal the gospel for the Gentiles

Ac 11:13 See also Ac 10:1-5,30-33; Rev 14:6-7

Angels foretell God's final triumph

Rev 1:1 See also Rev 19:9; 22:1,6,16

Angels, as agents of God's Judgment

Spiritual beings who assist God in carrying out his judgments. Angels will be especially active when Jesus Christ returns for the last judgment.

Angels as agents of earthly judgments

Ps 78:49

Against Sodom and Gomorrah See also Ge 19:13,24-25

Against opponents of God Ex 12:23; 2Ki 19:35 pp 2Ch 32:21 pp Isa 37:36; Ps 35:4-6

Against Israel Ex 32:35; 2Sa 24:16-17 pp 1Ch 21:15-16; 1Co 10:10

Against Herod Antipas Ac 12:18-23

Angels restrained by God's mercy

1Ch 21:15-16 pp 2Sa 24:16-17 See also Ge 18:20-32

Angels and Final Judgment

Angels proclaim God's sovereignty Rev 12:10-12 See also Rev 10:1-4; 11:15

Angels announce God's final invitation Rev 14:6-7 See also Rev 14:9-13; 19:9

Angels hold back the final judgment Rev 7:1-3

Angels carry out preliminary warning judgments Rev 8:1-13; 9:1-16; 10:5-7

Angels accompany Jesus Christ when he returns to judge 2Th 1:7 See also Mt 16:27; 25:31; Mk 8:38 pp Lk 9:26; 1Th 3:13

Angels gather everyone for the final judgment Mt 13:37-41 See also Mt 13:49-50; 24:31; Rev 14:15-19

Angels announce the final judgment Rev 14:15 See also Rev 10:8-11; 17:1-3,7,15; 18:1-2,4

Angels enact the final judgment Rev 15:1 See also Rev 14:16-19; 15:6-8; 16:1-21; 18:21; 19:17-18; 20:1-3

Angels are subject to judgment
1Co 6:3 See also 2Pe 2:4; Jude 6

It is clear that angels play an important role in the lives of believers and of the whole world itself. At every level angels are used of God for His purposes. In the end the most sobering thing may be that which Paul says, "Know ye not that we are to judge angels?" (1 Cor 6:3).

If we can accept that the fall of man was at the hand of an angel, as has every deception which has prevailed thereafter in any significant way, including Islam, then it may make sense to comprehend the justice of God in entrusting to the church the judgement of those beings which have so wickedly laid hold of mankind and destroyed that which God Himself loves.

Which is where I tend to agree with Just-In and why his position reflects a cautionary note. Personally I have seen angels on two occasions. Yet I would not in any way whatsoever encourage anyone to have a mind to communicate with angels directly. The idea that we can reject an angel when they bring a different gospel seems to point to some naiveté arising from the fact that Paul makes this assertion clearly. Angels who are intending to deceive are least likely to come with another gospel in recognition of that fact. Deception is by nature unknown, else it is not deception at all, but a deceiver. In short if we are deceived by intimate communications with angels then we will not even know it. If we are not deceived and yet promote and teach another gospel, obviously then we are become wicked ourselves.

Yet the scope and range of service to God and men which are carried out by angels is clearly very broad, albeit limited in its direct scope to men individually.

Re: , on: 2014/4/9 11:12

Hi Solomon,

I went back to read the passage about Queenie and you are correct. I read it too quickly. The angel is playing with his dog. No, I do not have any axe to grind with Roland Buck or the Hunters or other teachers of angels. But, there is much to learn from their experiences that they have recorded on tape, CD and in books. Let's keep this about recognizing whether angels that are sent are either from God or not.

How far beyond scripture do you propose we can go when it comes to angels?

We see that God used Angels many times in the OT. From the Book of Acts to Jude, show me 10 occurrences where God used angels in the NT Church.

I propose that the entirety of scripture has been given to us as parameters. They are our boundaries, aren't they? And of

course, the Holy Spirit will lead us into all truth and will let us know if the spirit is a "bad angel".

Thank you for letting us know that you have read the book "Angels on Assignment". Obviously, it interested you because you have had many experiences with angels. Did you have these experiences before or after reading the book, and do you seek these experiences? I am asking because I think we are all interested in how you determine their authenticity as coming from God. How do you test the spirits?

Gal_1:8 But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.

Here is a principle that many take advantage of. The Roman Catholic Church, specifically takes advantage of this. We know that what is said in the Scriptures is very important and we are commanded not to take away from the Scriptures. We are also warned not to add to the Scriptures. The principle of which I speak is not what is said in the Scriptures but WHAT IS NOT SAID. The RCC has often taken the liberty to add to Scriptures by saying that "it is not specifically written against" and "it is a good thing". This is what I have seen being done in the non-RCC church world. Their experiences are adding to scriptures because contained in their experiences are subtle changes or additions or even omissions of Scripture.

We have to be cognizant of not only what is in the Bible, but what is NOT in the Bible.

1. Nothing is ever said about what they wear. But all of a sudden in the end-times we know what they wear and they seem to be pretty cool looking suits (appealing to the lust of the eyes).
2. Nothing is ever said about how tall they are. Again, modern experiences are appealing to the senses (pride of life).
3. We have been given two names in the Bible for angels. Gabriel and Michael. Not Moroni, Nephi, Chroni. Interestingly, these names all end in "i". Is "i" a suffix and what does it mean. Anyone know?
4. Mostly, I hear and read that Jesus Christ is appearing to people. There are many testimonies that He has appeared to Muslims and it is a well-known testimony that He appeared to Sadhu Sundar Singh. He used angels many times in the OT and He even appeared as the "Angel of the Lord", but in NT times, He appeared to Paul, and others. There are not that many occurrences of angels in the Early Church (NT), but their activity has exploded in the End Times. Just as prophesied and oftentimes these are not good angels.
5. We know Can bad angels can quote scripture? Matthew 4:6; 1 Timothy 4:1. That is why we should submit our experiences to elder brothers.
6. We know that bad angels can disguise themselves as good angels (angel of light). 2 Corinthians 11:14.
7. We know that Demons disguise themselves as servants of righteousness: 2 Corinthians 11:15.
8. We know they believe and fear God, so we should not be taken in by their quoting of scripture or talking about God in a reverential way. James 2:19, 2 Peter 2:11.
7. We know bad angels can do miracles. 2 Thessalonians 2:9.
8. How do we know if they are bad?
As stated, bad angels will preach a different message than what is in the Bible: Galatians 1:8. Also, if you read all the occurrences of angels in the Bible their messages, proclamations, instructions and commands given were simple and to the point. Truth is simple and pure devotion to Christ: 2 Corinthians 11:3-4.
9. You will know them by their fruits: Mathew 7:15-20
10. Can we believe in lies? Yes. People trusted in lies in Jeremiah 28:15; 29:31.
11. Are bad angels active today? We are told they will deceive the elect if possible. Matthew 24:24 and bring false doctrines: Galatians 1:6-9.

12. Angels don't bring us new information today, because "the faith was once for all delivered" Jude 1:3 and "the whole purpose of God has been declared". Acts 20:27. "We have everything pertaining to life and godliness" 2 Peter 1:3.

AND THE BIGGEST REASON IS THAT GOD DWELLS WITH US and IN US BY HIS HOLY SPIRIT.

Solomon, how do you test these angels that come and visit you? You obviously have more experience than probably all of us combined, so I think we would like to know in light of the activity of "bad angels", how you verify and confirm they are from the Lord?

I have read all the instances of angels in the Bible, but it does not give me license to embellish them and imagine them in other ways to the point where I may start receiving visitations. I firmly believe anyone that receives several visitations from angels should submit those experiences to their local body. From your postings, and correct me if I am misunderstanding you, you seem to have received several visitations from angels. How many is several and have you submitted these visitations to your local body of brothers?

I stand by my 5 tests and all the scriptures I have given. And, I stand by what is not written to us as something to be wary of. One can only prove my list is not correct with their experiences, not with Scripture. Do you have any evidence from scripture that my 5 points are not scriptural or are you just relying on your experiences and imagination? We can certainly imagine that Angels sent from God can look like anything, wear anything, play with our dogs and cats, sit down and converse with us and even bring us energy drinks. These are all cool things and don't seem harmful on the surface, right? God cares about our health, our energy levels, our pets, so why can't we imagine good things from these angels? And if one starts actually having visitations from angels that are conducting themselves in this fashion, then it only solidifies one's imaginings. I am not saying this is not reality and people are not receiving visitations.

I hope I have been able to communicate to you my thought process on this matter and where I am coming from.

Blessings to you, too.

Re: A spirit/ angel ponder - posted by Sidewalk (), on: 2014/4/9 11:26

2 Chronicles 18:19-22 NKJV

And the LORD said, "Who will persuade Ahab king of Israel to go up, that he may fall at Ramoth Gilead?" So one spoke in this manner, and another spoke in that manner. Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD, and said, 'I will persuade him.' The LORD said to him, 'In what way?' So he said, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And the LORD said, 'You shall persuade him and also prevail; go out and do so.' Therefore look! The LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of these prophets of yours, and the LORD has declared disaster against you.

A fascinating story from scripture that challenges my comprehension of how God operates in the realm beyond my vision.

Re: , on: 2014/4/9 12:02

Quote:

-----by amrkelly on 2014/4/9 11:08:57

Angels, as God's Servants

Yet the scope and range of service to God and men which are carried out by angels is clearly very broad, albeit limited in its direct scope to men individually.

Amen, to that Andrew and thank you for that great list of scriptures.

It is important to discern what doctrines their message(s) leave out. Especially, if they are visiting you on numerous times. Are they leaving out the Centrality of Christ and Sanctification. And are they constantly appealing to your senses and to things that put you in "awe" of THEM?

But, right off the bat, I would be alarmed with one visit, let alone many visits. The fact that I would be alarmed at one visit would not mean I was rejecting them. But, I don't ever want to become "comfortable" with them. The Holy Spirit has a way of giving me peace if a friend is nearby or rising up inside me if a foe is present. We must learn to trust and rely on the Holy Spirit and the Word of God.

Re: - posted by ginnYROSE (), on: 2014/4/10 9:23

QUOTE:

Does anyone else whose memory reaches that far back remember any similarly significant events from the spring of '83?

I moved in different church circles than mainstream Christianity. Although that was the case, we were not left untouched by what was going on then.

The church leaders were very concerned about the impact the Charismatic movement had on their people. Some Charismatic leaders were very overt in their promotion and others more subtle.

There was Bob Mumford, Derek Prince et al who published "New Wine" detailing the latest insights into scripture. A little later I heard Bill Gothard touting similar principles that "New Wine" was teaching. What Gothard said came right near to being the gospel truth as far as the Mennonite church was concerned.

The Charismatic movement promised new sensational experiences that proved very attractive to those caught in dead legalism. They swallowed it hook, line and sinker. With it all caution was thrown to the winds because experience trumped Biblical truth.

It was during this time that Rosalind Rinker's writings rose to dominance. She emphasized "love" in very attractive ways. "Christianity Today" magazine in their surveys have found that she ranks among the most influential writers among Christians in the 20 century.

Rinker's writings had a sweet quality about themselves. I loved her book - forget the title. A ladies group I belonged to then studied it. (She wrote more than one book.) Years later CT reported that she was the darling of the Gay/Lesbian community! Indeed she was/is! I did my own online search and found this to be true. I fervently believe this paved the way for Christians to be more accepting of people who lived in overt sin without being 'judgmental'.

It was about this time where the practice of calling out sin was considered to be judgmental. It was also during this time when we were told that the word "fear" in the scriptures does not mean fear but love. When you redefine this word you will destroy a person's fear of the end time judgement among other important Truths. In other words God becomes like a cute teddy bear, all sweet and cuddly - like my cat.

This is my take as I recall events from that era. It did not happen overnight but was a gradual process.

I learned a lot from that. The main lesson is the danger in following popular, or otherwise, speakers, writers, preachers. Today, I rarely will read a book by a contemporary writer dealing with theological writings. Instead, I concentrate on the WORD. Presently, I am concentrating on the OT prophets. I know so little about them I think it is shameful to ignore them but at the same time know in detail what Mr. So-and-So has to say. AND...one does not have to fear about being misled when you focus on the WORD. God opens one's understanding of the message included therein which gives me immense delight and joy. (My testimony.)

Anyhow, this is what I remember - been around a few years - born in 1947 - not quite a dinosaur, yet...

God bless!

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2014/4/10 9:50

I was going to edit my last post but decided to write another one instead.

My religious heritage is Mennonite. I deeply appreciate the blessings it afforded me. It did not save me nor will it anybody else. It just is a blessing in that it provided me with rich opportunities to learn the WORD because it was highly esteemed by its leaders, teachers. I still am a part albeit a small Alliance...and the reason is that we need mutual encouragement to remain faithful. Just said this to help you know where I am coming from.

The Charismatic movement had a huge impact on the Mennonite Church. Like I said it trumped experience over Biblical truth. What was once dearly held as absolute was now questioned. Having said that, I am also aware the Charismatic movement made us aware of things we were not aware of but needed to know. Indeed, it was/is a time of eating the meat and spitting out the bones.

I suggest that it was during this time which came on the heels of the hippie movement where the younger peoples rejection of the elders insights were challenged and given credibility. They worked hand-in-glove. They fit perfectly.

Younger people - my generation - got very educated, learned how to use logic, exploring new ideas, giving them credibility and promoting them as worthwhile subjects to be studied. Consider:

When I was in Bible School I took the class "Group Dynamics in Evangelism". It was taught by a sociology student who was studying at a secular university. He was also a preacher. In this class we learned about mental telepathy, hypnosis and its value in persuading others in evangelism, that it was a worthwhile tool to be utilized. He told us they know it works but did not know why. Later, this man became the president of a major Mennonite College. (To the Bible Schools credit he never did teach there since nor was this class ever taught again. Never learned why. If I remember I will ask if I meet the right person.)

This was my personal experience. While it may have been unusual, its spirit is more subtle in other ways, not as overt. But the devil will take his time - he knows what he is dealing with. Some folks are more gullible than others and he knows this.

Understand what I am saying? New ideas explored, not questioned but pursued.

I suspect what happened in the Mennonite church was repeated all over the country in many different forms because the devil was behind it all. He will use whatever is at hand to wreck havoc.

My observation from my place on this planet.

ginnyrose

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2014/4/10 10:42

Just one more word...no maybe a few more than that.

One time I was sharing my lament with some church leaders about the apostasy that befell my generation. We had the best Bible teachings at church, parochial schools, Bible Schools, colleges and yet there was wholesale abandonment of complete Trust in the WORD. WHY? Why did it happen? They were silent - they were well aware of what I spoke. Then one asked me, "why did you not apostasize?" I was totally stumped, never thought of that before. Then the words came to me and I replied, "the hand of God was upon me." This is true. It was not because I earned it but it is simply the mercy and grace of God at work. No other explanation exists.

I would guess this is why there are still faithful folks around - all because of the hand of God. I do not think any other explanation will do.

EDITED

Re: - posted by Solomon101, on: 2014/4/11 12:27

Just-In ,

I will go at least one more post here and then see. Not sure any profitability to be had on this discussion if we are not looking for wisdom from scripture ... but will just see how it plays out.

I will answer a few of the things you asked/stated

Quote:
-----Thank you for letting us know that you have read the book "Angels on Assignment". Obviously, it interested you because you have had many experiences with angels. Did you have these experiences before or after reading the book, and do you seek these experiences? I am asking because I think we are all interested in how you determine their authenticity as coming from God. How do you test the spirits?

1. Just-in, it appears that is an exaggeration designed to "stick" me to Roland Buck. Perhaps you did not mean it that way ... but it surely appears so. ACTUALLY I said I read his book over 20+ YEARS AGO. Never since. I only brought it up because you have quoted it again, and again in the thread. I don't remember my interest level at the time 20+ years ago. I consistently read on average a book a week. That is a lot of books over time. In addition I read the New Testament every week for several years. If you reread my actual statement I said I have no real knowledge of Buck's book and actually could not care less what he said. Scripturally though ... that is another matter.

2. I never said I have had "many experiences with angels." You said that. I have had the number of experiences that the Father deemed necessary for me to accomplish His will in the earth. Whether that is a few or a great many by any man's count I care not.

3. Buck's book has had no (as in ZERO in my estimation) effect on my life. My experiences in God were sweet and marvelous before reading his book (a book that I can hardly remember) decades ago. My experiences in God have been sweet, marvelous, and unchanged after reading his, or any book. His book has had no real impact on my life that I can see. However it obviously impacted you greatly. You bring it up again and again. You quote it again and again. It frames much of your theology in this area. However, it is reactionary theology. Many of your steps were formed as reactions against what you read in his book it seems. It has definitely affected you.

4. I do not ever go seeking experiences. Those are at God's pleasure and purpose. I simply keep my life and heart in a place before Him that I can hear Him accurately if He wishes to communicate anything with me. If He desires to witness in my spirit, send a person with a confirming word, speak to me from His Word, send an angel because of the crucial nature of the situation, or any of countless other ways He may choose to speak to us I am merely an available and listening son. Never go actively seeking experiences but always be open to any experiences that the Lord may wish to send. Seeking after experiences can potentially take you into error. However, not being open to experiences that He may legitimately wish to send will take you into error just as quickly. Both are forms of rebellion. They are just opposite ends of the same envelope. I simply let God know I am available and open to anything He wishes for me. After that the call is His.

5. You ask how I would "test spirits". I am going to just list a very basic set of steps that I would use for any supernatural encounter. I will then contrast them with your 5 steps.

Steps For Evaluation Of A Supernatural Encounter

- A. "Does their message in any way contradict the Gospel of Scripture (Is their Gospel the same as a sinless Christ crucified for our sins, dead, buried, raised in victory conquering death, hell, and the grave)"
- B. Is their message in full agreement with the message of the scriptures (Spirit and Word agree) this is similar to A but applies if a wider message is delivered
- C. Does their message and ministry honor The Father, Christ Jesus, and The Holy Spirit."
- D. What fruit does their coming and message bring. (The fear of the Lord, Christ exalting, turning hearts to God, information for harvest, etc.)
- E. If something is asked of me would my part be in full and total agreement with the scriptures.

F. Is it something that The Holy Spirit has already spoken to my heart about. In essence is this encounter merely a strong confirmation of what The Holy Spirit has already dealt with me about.

So if I were to have an encounter with an angel tomorrow I would ask those questions. If my answers were that the angel I had the same Gospel of Christ that we do, their message was in full agreement with the scriptures, their message and ministry honored The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, they and their message produced good and Godly fruit, the part they asked of me was in full and total scriptural agreement, and it was confirming something that The Holy Spirit has already been speaking to me about then I will accept it as from The Lord.

Let me now contrast my steps with yours. You stated your 5 steps were -

Quote:

- 1. Are the angels identified by non-biblical names?
2. Are the angels given non-biblical descriptions?
3. Are they performing roles beyond biblical context?
4. Are they sources of additional revelation beyond biblical content?
5. Are they in any way proclaiming another gospel?

When I asked you for scriptural backing on these steps you provided absolutely zero scriptural support except for step 5. A step which I whole heartedly agree with.

Some of your steps are easily side stepped by even a low level demon.

For example if a demon were to show up and call himself Michael he would pass your first step. However, if God himself were to send an angel to you with critical information and his name was Nathan you would reject him even though sent by God Himself. You are picking some steps to judge by that are foolish. As you can see a demon could pass this step. This step could also keep you from actually receiving information from God.

Again, your second step is set up to fail at being an effective means of evaluation. Several demons could show up and momentarily present themselves in whatever physical manner you felt necessary to meet the step. However if God Himself were to send an angel in a form you were unfamiliar with, or even a Biblical form you were not acquainted with, you would reject it even though it was from God Himself. With your second step it is quite possible to have a demon pass your step and an angel fail it. You are focusing on the wrong criteria you are looking on the "outside".

Just-in ... you are concerned over the arrangement of consonants and vowels in their name what clothes they appear to have on really?!?!?

I do not wish to offend you ... and I tried to go the back door route however your command of scripture is a bit lacking in this area and it is leaving you focused on things that don't matter and rejecting the things that do. Again, I do not wish to offend but you made several definitive statements in a few of your posts stating emphatically what God would and would not do. The problem was I immediately had several scriptural passages come to mind that are in direct opposition to your statements. For example

you stated

Quote:
----- "1. Nothing is ever said about what they wear. But all of a sudden in the end-times we know what they wear and they seem to be pretty cool looking suits (appealing to the lust of the eyes).

Well Just-in ... again I don't want to hurt your feelings but that is just 100% incorrect. Immediately I think of 3 instances where angelic clothing is mentioned in scripture. There may be more but 3 come readily to mind. It really seems irrelevant most of the time. I would suppose the reason more clothing isn't recorded is because it is of no real importance to the message or ministry they were performing. In fact scripture says of one particular angel that he was wearing a cloud! I feel fairly certain that if someone had told you they saw an angel wearing a cloud you would have labeled them as deceived and dangerous. However, it is straight from scripture and happened to one of the 12 apostles. Will you heap the same judgment on him that you would on a person that told you that today?

You made five other similar statements that are flat contradictions to clear scripture. I won't list them here as it may seem like piling on at this point.

Just-in, again please don't be offended. However, it seems very apparent to me that your knowledge of scripture on this topic is still pretty shallow. You need to do some real deep digging on this area if you want the truth. If you still just feel the need to defend you 5 steps then there is nothing to be done for now. If however you truly want truth and to be a blessing to the body then start over without anyones books. Don't just read every scripture but immerse yourself in each and every one. Ask exploratory questions from every angle of the text. Keep a log/journal of your findings in every instance. Only then after your personal study is fully completed should you begin to read further and then only true scholars of Biblical language, historic culture, history, etc. that can actually add context and substance to what the original message though the Biblical author was. Forego the current "hot" books if you are after truth. Only after much time spent in this way will you be found to have dug sufficiently to gain true gold in this or any area of scriptural study. You don't find large quantities of real gold just lying around on top of the ground... you have to dig for it. The same is true Biblically. You have to invest much study and time if you want the truth. This is the path if you want truth on any topic... including angels. If this seems to arduous then perhaps it is not truth you are actually seeking but anything that will support your ideas. If you simply go to scripture looking for proof texts to support an already determined idea then you will always be short of truth and often deceived. You must let the text of scripture shape your beliefs even when the text destroys what you previously held to so deeply.

If you wish to continue the discussion based on Biblical ways of evaluation, the steps I have shared as opposed to the 5 steps you gave earlier, or any actual thoughts on the Biblical idea of angels I would continue it. However, I have no desire to discuss current pop philosophy or someones books on angels or pop philosophy and books on much anything else for that matter.

If it progressed civilly centered on a Biblical discussion I might be willing to share an event or two I have witnessed that could help people understand how those Biblical stories about angels play out when applied to actual life in 2014 America.