

"THE ANGELS: GOOD AND BAD"**Introduction**

1. Our subject here is: the angels
2. Two angels are referred to here
3. They are very different in character

1. THE BIBLE TELLS US OF GOOD ANGELS

- 1) What are angels?
 - (i) spiritual beings – finite + limited – created
 - (ii) exist in very large numbers + in orders
 - (iii) are rational beings – holy – cannot die
- 2) When were they created?
 - (i) during the six days of God's creation
 - (ii) we know it was not before then
 - (iii) we do not know which day it was
- 3) How do they differ from us?
 - (i) no flesh and bone: Luke 24:39
 - (ii) do not marry: Matthew 22:30
 - (iii) invisible to our eyes: Colossians 1:16
- 4) What is their work?
 - (i) ordinary: praising God: Job 38:7; Isaiah 6 / rejoice at conversions / minister to saints / are present in the church / take believers to glory
 - extraordinary: in revelation / judgement

2. THE BIBLE TELLS US OF EVIL ANGELS

- 1) The TEXT speaks of "the devil" here
- 2) They were not created evil but fell

- 3) This clear from Jude 6 and 2 Peter 2:4
- 4) Their sin is not revealed – but is thought by theologians to be : self-exaltation
- 5) Some early Church Fathers thought:
 - (i) Satan fell through pride
 - (ii) the other angels through lust – they referred to in Genesis 6:2. Explain.

OBSERVE: There are 2 objections to this view:

 - i. angels have no sexual powers
 - ii. this would imply two falls
- 6) Satan is the head of them all
- 7) Satan ("Adversary") is opposed to God and to all that God does on earth.
- 8) He and they hate our souls and seek our hurt – but are limited by God: Job
- 9) They, with unbelievers, will be cast into the bottomless pit at last: Rev. 20:10

3. LESSONS FOR US ALL IN THIS TEACHING

- 1) Though unseen as a rule by us, the angels are looking after believers
- 2) Occasionally they appear in a form that is seen: examples
- 3) They are to be respected as unseen visitors in church services: 1 Cor. 11:10
- 4) They love to hear of conversions, as we also do.
- 5) They will escort believer's soul to glory
- 6) They will come with Christ at His Second Coming in glory

CONCLUSIONS

1. Only the Bible shows us these wonders
2. There are beings around us whom we do not see
3. The angels love God and all His people

PSALM

104: 1 – 7

148: 1 – 8

103: 19 – 22