

THE IN-BETWEEN

Angels, Demons, the Devil, Heavenly Powers, Dark Powers, Human Beings Between Death and Resurrection

Section 7

The Spiritual Realm During & After the Jewish Exile

(about 586-400 BC)

Psalm 89:5-8 — According to this psalm, when you compare the heavenly beings and the holy ones with God, how do they compare?

Focal Point — “GUARDIAN CHERUB” AS A NAME FOR THE KING OF TYRE

Ezekiel 28:1-19

- If we read only verses 12b-17, ignoring 16a, we might think this passage describes the fall of Satan. List 2 or 3 descriptions in these verses that, at least in popular thought, might describe Satan:
- Notice verses 1 and 11. Against whom is this passage actually written?
- Are there any descriptions in this passage that would apply only to a human being and not to the devil? If so, list a few of them:
- Do we actually learn anything about the devil’s origins in this passage? If so, what? If not, why not?

Focal Point — AN ANGEL GUIDES EZEKIEL THROUGH A VISION

Ezekiel 40-47

Describe the appearance of the “man” who guided Ezekiel through this extensive vision:

- 40:3 — His appearance was like _____. He was standing in the gateway with a linen _____ and a _____ rod in his hand.

What did this “man” do?

- 40:4 — Ezekiel was brought to him to _____ carefully and _____ closely and pay attention to everything the “man” would show him, then tell the people of Israel everything he saw.
- Throughout this section, this “man” acts as a sort of tour guide, leading Ezekiel to see an idealized, renewed temple of God. For example, he leads Ezekiel to...
 - 40:6, the east _____ of the temple
 - 40:24, the south _____ of the temple
 - 40:28, the inner _____ of the temple

- 42:1, the _____ court and the rooms opposite the temple courtyard

- 44:4, the front of the _____

• As this “man” takes Ezekiel through the renewed temple in this vision, he measures the temple’s structures and furnishings. He measures...

- 40:5, the _____ - 41:13, the _____

- 40:6, the threshold of the east _____ - 47:3-5, the _____

- 40:47, the _____

• Most of the time in this vision, this “man” is silent. But from time to time, he explains to Ezekiel something about the vision the prophet is seeing. For example, in 47:8-12 he explains that the river that Ezekiel sees flowing from the temple makes the salty water of the _____ Sea fresh; there will be many kinds of _____ in that miraculous water; _____ trees of all kinds will grow along the sea’s banks; and the leaves of those trees will be used for _____.

Who do you think this “man” is? Why?

Why do you think Ezekiel need this “man”?

Daniel 4 — In his dream, Babylon’s King Nebuchadnezzar saw a holy one, a messenger/angel, coming down from _____. What, according to Daniel’s interpretation, did the holy one declare would happen to Nebuchadnezzar?

• verse 17 — Why was this verdict against Nebuchadnezzar announced by “holy ones”?

• verse 35 — Through this experience, Nebuchadnezzar learned that God “does as he pleases with the _____ of heaven and the _____ of the earth.”

Daniel 7 — Who do you think these “thousands upon thousands” who attended the Ancient of Days are (verse 10)?

• What did “one of those standing there” do for Daniel (verses 16-27)?

Daniel 8 — In verses 13-14, what did one holy one want to know? And what was the answer?

• In verses 16-26, who told Daniel the meaning of the vision? _____

Daniel 5 — This hand Belshazzar saw—was it the hand of an angel, of God, or of someone/something else? What do you think?

Daniel 9:20-27 — Which “man” came to Daniel during his prayer, and how did this “man” arrive?

Daniel 6 — According to Daniel (verse 22), how did God rescue Daniel from the lions?

Focal Point — GLIMPSES OF ANGELS & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Daniel 10 & 12

- 10:4-6 — What did Daniel notice about the appearance and the voice of this “man”?

food for thought — What do angels really look like? Consider all the different ways angelic beings appear in the passages we’ve studied and throughout the Bible. Why do you think they take on such a variety of forms in Scripture?

- 10:7 — Why do you think it is that sometimes only one person can see an angel?
- 10:7-9 — How did the appearance of this angel affect Daniel? How did it affect those nearby who could not even see the angel?
- 10:13 — Who is the “prince of the Persian kingdom”? How was this individual able to delay (for 21 days) the angelic being speaking to Daniel?
- 10:13, 10:21 — Who is Michael, according to this passage? What did he do?
 - Consider Daniel 12:1, Jude 9, and Revelation 12:7. What do we learn there about Michael’s rank and work?
- 10:20-21 — Consider how the angelic “man” speaks of “the prince of Persia,” “the prince of Greece,” and “Michael, your prince.” Do nations have angels over them? Why might they be called princes? What do you think?
- 12:1 — What does Michael do for Israel?
- 12:2-3 — When Michael arises, what will happen to those who have died?

Recurring Theme — Death Referred to as Sleep

Daniel 12:2 — “**Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake**: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.”

Matthew 9:23-24 / Mark 5:38-39 / Luke 8:52-53 — When Jesus entered the synagogue leader’s house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, he said, “Go away. **The girl is not dead but asleep.**” But they laughed at him. / When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. He went in and said to them, “Why all this commotion and wailing? **The child is not dead but asleep.**” / Meanwhile, all the people were wailing and mourning for her. “Stop wailing,” Jesus said. “**She is not dead but asleep.**” They laughed at him, knowing that she was dead.

John 11:11 — After he had said this, he went on to tell them, “Our friend **Lazarus has fallen asleep**; but I am going there to **wake him.**” His disciples replied, “Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better.” **Jesus had been speaking of his death**, but his disciples thought he meant natural sleep. So then he told them plainly, “Lazarus is dead...”

Acts 7:59-60 — While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, **he fell asleep.**

Acts 13:36 — “Now when David had served God’s purpose in his own generation, **he fell asleep**; he was buried with his ancestors and his body decayed.”

1 Corinthians 11:30 — That is why many among you are weak and sick, and **a number of you have fallen asleep.**

1 Corinthians 15:6 — After that he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though **some have fallen asleep.**

1 Corinthians 15:16-20 — For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost... But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, **the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

1 Corinthians 15:51-52 — Listen, I tell you a mystery: **We will not all sleep**, but we will all be changed... For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.

1 Thessalonians 4:13 — Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about **those who sleep in death**, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.

1 Thessalonians 5:10 — He died for us so that, **whether we are awake or asleep**, we may live together with him.

- Consider 1 Thessalonians 4:16. When Jesus comes again and the dead are raised, what will the archangel do?
- 12:6-7 — What did one of the angelic men want to know? And what answer was given?

Zechariah 1:7 to 2:5 — What forms do the angelic beings take in this vision?

- 1:8-9, a man on a _____ horse, standing among _____ trees
- 1:8-11, red, brown, and white _____
- 1:12-13 — What blessing for Jerusalem and the towns of Judah did the angel of the Lord seek from the Lord? And how did the Lord reply?
- 1:14 — The angel proclaimed that the Lord was _____ for Jerusalem and Zion and very _____ with the nations that feel secure.
- 2:1 — Zechariah saw an angel with a _____ line in his hand.
 - *In what other books of the Bible do angelic beings measure Jerusalem or the temple there? List one or two, if you know:*

Zechariah 3 — The Hebrew word “satan” means “adversary.” What does Satan (used as a name here) attempt to do to Joshua the high priest?

- How does the Lord respond to Satan?

- What did the angel of the Lord do for Joshua...

...in verses 3-5?

...in verses 6-10?

Zechariah 4:1 to 6:8 — This angel from chapter 1 continues to guide Zechariah through a series of visions. With the angel present to explain what he is seeing, Zechariah sees...

...in 4:2-3, a solid gold _____ and two _____ trees.

...in 5:2, a flying _____.

...in 5:6-7, a _____ with a woman inside it.

...in 6:1-3, four chariots with horses of these four colors: _____, _____, _____, and _____.

Zechariah 14:1-9 — According to this prophecy, how will “the holy ones” be involved when God comes to do battle against the nations attacking Jerusalem?

Recurring Theme — The Lord Will Come with His Holy Ones

Zechariah 14:5 — Then the Lord my God will come, and **all the holy ones** with him.

Matthew 16:27 — “For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father’s glory **with his angels...**”

Mark 8:38 — “If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father’s glory **with the holy angels.**”

Luke 9:26 — “Whoever is ashamed of me and my words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his glory and in the glory of the Father **and of the holy angels.**”

Matthew 24:30-31 / Mark 13:26-27 — “And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory. And **he will send his angels** with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of the heavens to the other.” / “At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And **he will send his angels** and gather his elect from the four winds...”

Matthew 25:31 — “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and **all the angels with him**, he will sit on his glorious throne.”

1 Thessalonians 3:13 — May he strengthen your hearts so that you will be blameless and holy in the presence of our God and Father when our Lord Jesus comes **with all his holy ones.**

2 Thessalonians 1:7 — This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire **with his powerful angels.**

Jude 14-15 — “See, the Lord is coming **with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones** to judge everyone...”

Psalm 91 — Verses 9-13 speak God’s protection upon the person who says, “The Lord is my refuge,” and makes the Most High their dwelling (verse 9). According to verse 11, God will command his angels to guard this person, and the angels will lift this person up in their _____ so that this person will not strike their _____ against a _____.

- See Luke 4:9-12. What did the devil try to make this promise mean? How did Jesus respond?

Psalm 104:2-4 — *The imagery of these lines suggests that God commands winds and flames of fire with the same authority as that with which he commands the angels/messengers who serve him. Conceptually, the forces of wind and fire evoke the mystery and power of angels: wind for its invisibility, fire for its power to effect change.*

Psalm 148:1-6 — What does this psalm call on God’s angels and heavenly hosts to do for him?

- According to verses 5-6, how did the angels and hosts of heaven come to be?