

Angelic Conflict

EPHESIANS 1:21 FALL OF SATAN; CONFLICT IN HEAVEN

1. Angels are divided into two groups:
 - 1) Pro-God – called holy angels. [Mark 8:38](#)
 - 2) Anti-God – called demons.
2. Anti-God angels are judged and sentenced to the Lake of Fire. [Matthew 25:41](#) (Many years before Adam came into existence, these anti-God angels were sentenced. Hell was prepared for the devil and his angels.)
3. Satan objected – How do we know this? Because while hell was prepared for the devil and his angels, AS YET, NEITHER THE DEVIL NOR HIS ANGELS OCCUPY THIS PLACE PREPARED FOR THEM.

BECAUSE THE FALLEN ANGELS REJECTED GOD, GOD COULD NOT EXPRESS HIS LOVE TOWARD THEM IN TERMS OF GRACE.

God expresses His love toward the pro-God angels or elect angels.

4. How did we get fallen angels? Satan's negative response (volition) set the pattern. [Isaiah 14:12-14](#)
 - The only thing we have like angels is Free Will.
 - We do not have the kind of body they have.
 - We do not have the ability they have to travel in space.
5. To resolve the angelic conflict (to overrule the satanic objection – “How can a loving God cast His creatures into a Lake of Fire?” We already know the answer: GOD CANNOT EXPRESS HIS LOVE TO CREATURES WHO REJECT HIM.) – An inferior creature was produced (man), inferior to angels ([Hebrews 2:7](#) “*Thou madest him a little lower than the angels*”) except in one respect and that is choice (volition). Here angels and man are on common ground.

MAN HAS BEEN TESTED IN TWO WAYS:

- 1) His negative response was tested at the first Tree of Innocence – “*Do not take.*”
- 2) His positive response was and is tested at the second tree (the Cross) by means of Salvation through the Gospel.

Angelic Conflict (Continued)

WILL A MAN ACCEPT OR REJECT JESUS CHRIST TODAY? – MAN’S ANSWER WILL ALWAYS DETERMINE HIS DESTINATION. [John 3:36](#)

The greatest surprise that ever came to the angelic world was the creation of man! An inferior form of creation, unlike angels, could not travel through space and was limited in power and vision to one small planet. Yet man was made in the likeness of God. [Genesis 1:27](#) Angels and man had the power to choose for or against God.

When Satan exercised his volition and decided against God ([Isaiah 14:12-15](#); [Ezekiel 28:15](#)), he drew a third of the angels with him. ([Revelation 12:4](#))

From the fact that the sentencing of Satan and his angels to the Lake of Fire ([Matthew 25:41](#)) is not to be carried out until the end of time ([Revelation 20](#)), we can conclude two things:

- 1) Satan must have appealed his sentence.
- 2) Man was created by God to resolve something that happened at the end of that trial.

The name “SATAN” “DEVIL” means “ADVERSARY, ACCUSER, and ATTORNEY.” The fallen angels (demons) were crying “NOT FAIR.” Then God created man to reveal how He could save a creature and maintain His righteousness.

When God put man in the garden, He provided him everything he would ever need, plus the ability to exercise his volition. ([Genesis 2:17](#))

Why the prohibition at all? GOD NEVER COERCES LOVE OR OBEDIENCE FROM HIS CREATURES!!

[Genesis 3](#) – In spite of everything God had given man, man chose against God. At that moment Satan became the victor in the first part of the conflict here on earth, for Satan took control of this world and of man. [II Corinthians 4:1-5](#)