## **Angelic Conflict**

AS BELIEVERS WE ARE ALL INVOLVED IN THE BATTLE OF THE AGES CALLED THE ANGELIC CONFLICT. AND we are in that battle/conflict if we want to recognize it or not! WE SHOULD COME TO BE AWARE OF OUR INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITY.

## Some things we know:

- 1. God is going to win in the long run.
- 2. The battle, revolt, conflict has to do with God and us.
- 3. There is an ALL OUT FIGHT (INVISIBLE WARFARE) BATTLE, REVOLT AGAINST GOD CAUSED BY ANGELS THE FIRST BEING AND CONTINUING TO BE SATAN LUCIFER!
- 4. The way that God is going to win is to create something lower than angels, weaker than angels, to bring about the solution. The solution is MAN MANKIND! WOW!!! FOR MORE THAN 6,000 YEARS SATAN HAS BEEN DISTURBED, SHAKING HIS HEAD ABOUT MAN. IT TEARS HIM UP TO SEE FOLK SAVED, ADVANCING, TRAVELING THE HIGHWAY OF GOD'S MATCHLESS GRACE.

ANGELIC CONFLICT (Eph. 1:21)

Satan – an Angel

Satan – Conflict in Heaven

Pro- Angel – before Fallen Angel

Pro- God - then Anti-God

Anti-God Angels – called Demons

- 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. Matt. 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.

## Angelic Conflict (Continued)

- 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. <u>Isaiah 14:13-14</u> 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!!! SO AN INFERIOR CREATURE WAS PRODUCED (MAN); INFERIOR TO ANGELS (HEB. 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.
- 6. 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 tested and is tested at the second tree (the Cross) by means of salvation through the Gospel.
- 7. Will a man accept or reject Christ today? Man's answer will always determine his destination. John 3:36
- 8. THE GREATEST SURPRISE THAT EVER CAME TO THE ANGELIC WORLDS WAS THE CREATION OF MAN. An inferior form of creation, unlike angels, could not travel through space and were limited in power and vision to one small planet. Yet this man was made in the likeness of God. Genesis 1:27
- 9. Angels and man had the power to choose for or against God.
- 10. When Satan exercised his volition and decided against God (<u>Isa. 14:12-15</u>; <u>Ezek. 28:15</u>), he drew a third of the angels with him. (<u>Rev. 12:4</u>) From the fact that the sentencing of Satan and his angels to the Lake of Fire (Matt. 25:41) is not to be carried out until the end of time (Rev. 20), we 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.