

# It's War - Angels

Our society is fascinated with war stories. If you look at the new movies in the theatre it seems like there is always a new war movie that just came out or one is coming soon. The highest grossing movies are usually fantasy, but right behind them are the war movies. Even many of the "fantasy" movies include epic battles or ongoing wars.

But people are drawn to it because it entertains them. They are things that most consumers only hear stories about but never experienced in real life. To those who have been in a war, these movies and stories may not be something they want to see, it is not entertaining to them because it has been their reality. (Thank God for our troops who have sacrificed so much to keep freedom in our land.)

But today I'm here to say that we are all in a war. This is not a church that shies away from talking about sin and spiritual matters....Praise Jesus for that! We are in a REAL war...righteousness vs sin.....good vs evil.....spirit vs flesh.....

There are other movies that are meant to be "entertainment" but they are straight up demonic. If the intent of the movie is to scare you, then it is of the devil. Get that junk out of your life, don't watch it, don't let your kids watch it. They call these types of movies "horror movies"

Here is what horror means: an overwhelming and painful feeling caused by something frightfully shocking, terrifying, or revolting; a shuddering fear.....does that sound like something that is from God? The spirit of fear is from the devil! If you let him, he will feast on fear!

We are in a real war here, I fight the devil every single day. To me, dealing with the demonic is reality, it's not entertaining.....just like the war movie may not be entertaining to someone who has been shot at and had to shoot others.

I'm not saying you can't watch war movies it's just for reference, but I would say be careful what you watch, and if it's demonic, stay away! If you think those dark movies, books, even discussions are harmless...the devil has you fooled!

In 2 Corinthians, Paul talks about forgiveness and at the end of it he says "to not be ignorant of the devil's vices or schemes". We live in a spiritual world.....forever! This is why we need to grasp the fact that what we tend to live for isn't worth it, material things are temporary, this earth as we know it is temporary, the spiritual world is so much more important than this physical world.

We take physical war seriously.....it's time to take the spiritual war seriously! It's real.....it's NOW.....and like it or not, you are in the middle of it. You can't hide, you can't opt out, and you need to choose a side before it's too late!

**Ephesians 6:12 (NKJV)**

12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

It's not ISIS that is the enemy, satan is the enemy and he is working through bound and chained people that need freedom and deliverance.....

The people around you, in your life, who you consider your enemies, they are not the enemy...it's the spirits of darkness working in them or through them! They need some kind of deliverance in their life!

What brings freedom? The Spirit of God and the Word of God (TRUTH).

This Word is all that I know to be true. There may be questions you want answered that you can't find in here, but I want you to listen carefully..... God doesn't tell us everything we want to know, but He does tell us everything we NEED to know..... and He tells us everything we need to defeat the enemy!

Don't be looking elsewhere for answers.....what you will find are lies. They may not even seem harmful on the surface, some may even seem to support what the bible says, but this is our only absolute truth, mixture will lead you down a messy road....when you mix truth and lies...you end up with lies

Jesus was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, was abused and beaten and murdered for you and for me. He rose again on the third day in victory and is seated at the right hand of the Father on the throne in heaven TODAY!

Jesus was victorious over satan with His life, He was victorious in His death, and He was victorious in His resurrection! And if He is your Lord and Savior....they victory is YOURS!

**1 Corinthians 15:57 (HCSB)**

57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

If you have Jesus then you are victorious, that is the end result.....but the enemy is still loose (for a time) therefore we must continue to battle...it's war....and it's real.....

CS Lewis said there are two errors we can make concerning angels and demons and the spirit world.

- 1 - To believe they do not exist or do not matter.
- 2 - To have an unhealthy fascination with them.

You can't disregard angels and demons, they are real, they do impact this life....BUT don't become fascinated with them. Jesus is the only thing that deserves that much of your attention, be fascinated with Him, afterall, He created the angels and He defeated the demons! It's all about Him!

**1 John 4:4 (HCSB)**

4 You are from God, little children, and you have conquered them, because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

**1 John 5:4-5 (HCSB)**

4 because whatever has been born of God conquers the world. This is the victory that has conquered the world: our faith. 5 And who is the one who conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

In this series....It's War....we are going to study angels, demons, and spiritual warfare. We are going to get free up in this house in the coming weeks!

First, today let's take a look at angels.

Angels are mentioned 108 times in the OT, 165 in the NT. That's interesting since the NT covers a much shorter period of time. They have several names (messenger, ministering spirits, angels, holy ones, many more).

**1 - Angels are spiritual beings without physical bodies**

**Hebrews 1:13-14 (HCSB)**

13 Now to which of the angels has He ever said: Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies Your footstool? 14 Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve those who are going to inherit salvation?

Angels are spirits. You can't see them unless God opens your eyes to see them. Their working all around us all the time. We just can't see what they're doing. Because we can't see them doesn't mean they aren't there and working for us. They are sent to minister for us. Even before we're saved. ----- You don't know how many times you were kept from disaster because someone was praying for you.

**2 - Angels are created beings**

**Psalms 148:5 (HCSB)**

5 Let them praise the name of Yahweh, for He commanded, and they were created.

God made them. They are not equal to God, they are not equal to people, they are not superior to God or to people. Stop saying “heaven gained another angel” when a person dies. People are created in the very image of God, it’s a special privilege reserved for man. We don’t become angels! Angels were created....long before you ever existed.....they serve man at the command of God.

### **3 - Angels are personal beings**

having all the characteristics of personality.

**A - They have moral capacity.** We see this in the angels who sinned in the rebellion with Satan.

#### **2 Peter 2:4 (NKJV)**

4 For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;

**B - They have intellectual capacities.**

#### **1 Peter 1:12b (HCSB)**

Angels desire to look into these things.

**C - They have emotional capacities.**

#### **Luke 15:10 (HCSB)**

10 I tell you, in the same way, there is joy in the presence of God’s angels over one sinner who repents.”

### **4 - Angels are powerful beings.**

#### **Psalms 103:20 (HCSB)**

20 Praise the Lord, all His angels of great strength, who do His word, obedient to His command.

When they manifest in the physical, they are sometimes terrifying, they start with “do not be afraid” They are not chubby, harp playing, diaper wearing babies and they are not weak. The enemy has propagated this image so we wouldn’t have confidence in their fighting ability. Angels are warriors and they battle for you!

### **5 - Angels are limited spiritual beings.**

They are limited in space (can only be in one place at a time) Not omnipresent.

They are limited in knowledge. (don’t know everything.)

They are limited in power (can only do what God allows)

**Luke 1:26 (HCSB)**

26 In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth,

**6 - Angels can appear as physical beings if God gives them a temporary body.**

An angel appeared to Zacharias.

**Luke 1:11 (HCSB)**

11 An angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense.

**7 - They can appear in dreams and visions.**

An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and spoke to him.

**Matthew 1:20 (HCSB)**

20 But after he had considered these things, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because what has been conceived in her is by the Holy Spirit.

**8 - They can appear in other forms.**

**Daniel 10:5-6 (HCSB)**

5 I looked up, and there was a man dressed in linen, with a belt of gold from Uphaz around his waist. 6 His body was like topaz, his face like the brilliance of lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and feet like the gleam of polished bronze, and the sound of his words like the sound of a multitude.

**Matthew 28:2-4 (HCSB)**

2 Suddenly there was a violent earthquake, because an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and approached the tomb. He rolled back the stone and was sitting on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his robe was as white as snow. 4 The guards were so shaken from fear of him that they became like dead men.

**9 - We don't know when angels were created**, but for sure before the seventh day. Probably, on the first day. It makes sense when God created the heavens that He would create the inhabitants of the heavens. In Job 38 the Angels shouted for joy when the earth was created.

**10 - How many angels are there? There are multitudes of angels.**

**Matthew 26:53 (HCSB)**

53 Or do you think that I cannot call on My Father, and He will provide Me at once with more than 12 legions of angels?

A legion was considered to be between 3 to 6 thousand soldiers. Jesus said He had 36 to 72 thousand angels that could be called just to this one place to fight for me.

**Revelation 5:11 (HCSB)**

11 Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels around the throne, and also of the living creatures and of the elders. Their number was countless thousands, plus thousands of thousands.

Ten thousand times ten thousand is 100 million, plus thousands of thousands. So the answer is A Lot! These are just the ones around the throne.

**11 - Are there guardian angels assigned to each of us?**

**Matthew 18:10-11 (HCSB)**

10 "See that you don't look down on one of these little ones, because I tell you that in heaven their angels continually view the face of My Father in heaven. [11 For the Son of Man has come to save the lost.]

This is the verse commonly used to say we have assigned guardian angels.....but it does not suggest that each believer has a personal guardian angel. It refers to the fact that believers are served by angels in general.

Are there personal, assigned angels for each of us? Maybe, but not definitely. Ultimately...who cares? .....If we have an all-knowing, all-powerful, all-present, all-loving, infinite God with us, does it really matter whether or not there is a finite guardian angel protecting us? Who is your faith in?

**12 - There are many different roles that angels have.** Some may be assigned to you personally. Some may be assigned to cities, nations, churches, some are standing around the throne day and night worshipping God. In Revelation 2 & 3 Jesus writes to the Angel "messenger" of each church. We will see next week with demons "evil angels" that they also are assigned to different roles....

**13 - What "types" of angels are there?**

**A - Cherubim** - Their responsibility is to protect and proclaim the glory of God around the throne. They were given the task of guarding the Garden of Eden (Genesis 3:24). They were given charge to accompany the Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 25:21).

**B - Seraphim** - Literally means "ablaze" or burning ones in adoration of God. These are continually worshipping the Lord. We see them in Isaiah and Revelation singing Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty, the whole earth is full of His glory"

**C - Messengers** - We know of at least one, Gabriel. We see him telling a man the meaning of his vision in Daniel 8. We see him tell Mary and Joseph of Jesus' supernatural conception by the Holy Spirit

**D - There are others** that we see referenced briefly, Living Creatures, Holy Angels, and we see evil angels which we'll talk about next week.

**E - Angel of the Lord** - this is sometimes in reference to Jesus - before His earthly birth - (Genesis 28:10-22, 31:10-13) and other times distinguished from the Lord (2 Samuel 24:15-16)

**E - Then we have the Archangel Michael.** The name represents authority over other angels.

**Daniel 10:13 (HCSB)**

13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me for 21 days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me after I had been left there with the kings of Persia.

"Chief Princes" implies a descending order of Angels of which Archangels are the highest in charge of other Angels. Here Michael is called one of the chief princes, which means there are other chief princes.

**1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 (HCSB)**

16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the archangel's voice, and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are still alive will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air and so we will always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Can you imagine this! One day the Lord is going to come with the Archangel's call and we will be with the Lord. He's going to say come on Michael, I'm ready. Make the call. Let's go.

So how does this relate to us? How do they affect our lives personally?

- **Angels administer our protection.**

In Daniel 6 it was an angel who shut the mouths of lions.

**Psalms 91:11-12 (HCSB)**

11 For He will give His angels orders concerning you, to protect you in all your ways.  
12 They will support you with their hands so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

- **Angels war in the heavens**

**Revelation 12:7 (HCSB)**

7 Then war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels also fought,

Here we see Michael and His angels that he had charge over fighting against Satan and his angels. (Michael led the fight at the fall of Satan and his angels. Notice, God didn't enter this fight.) There are personal angelic battles, but this shows that there are also cosmic worldwide angelic battles for direction of the nations and the world.

Understanding that both the Kingdom of God and Satan is highly organized helps us to engage in this fight.

- **We must not worship Angels**

**Colossians 2:18-19 (NKJV)**

18 Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, 19 and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase that is from God.

- **Don't talk to angels.....**

We are not to ask Angels to protect us or try to give them orders. They don't take orders from us, but God. Any attention given to Angels is attention that belongs to God alone.

**Revelation 19:10 (HCSB)**

10 Then I fell at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow slave with you and your brothers who have the testimony about Jesus. Worship God, because the testimony about Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

Angels are great, but they are not God. There is a real danger in becoming fascinated by Angels, demons and the spirit world. We can get our eyes off Jesus and on to the details and strategy of spiritual warfare. Our fascination should only be with Jesus. This is how people become weird.

- **Don't be deceived by Angels**

**2 Corinthians 11:14 (HCSB)**

14 And no wonder! For Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

The Mormons claim an angel came to Joseph Smith and gave him the revelations that their religion is based on. A fact that is contrary to the teaching of scripture. Now they believe the lies over the truth of the Word of God.

There is much more that could be said of angels. If you have a question I didn't cover, email me and I'll get an answer to you.

The main thing to take away today is that angels are good, they war on your behalf.

Angels glorify God and obey His will. Not yours....don't exalt angels, don't talk to them, they are not the mediator between you and the Father....Jesus is! Jesus is your healer, protector, defender, savior, deliverer. He is all you need. If angels are needed, HE will order them into action!

Pray and worship.....when we worship, we give glory to God. This is what the enemy tries to stop us from doing....if he can get us to feel like we can't worship, he's winning. We must worship in good times and bad.....when we do we join the angels in serious spiritual warfare, giving all glory to God and none to satan.....

\*\*Much of these notes on angels came from Dr. David Platt's teaching in "Secret Church".