

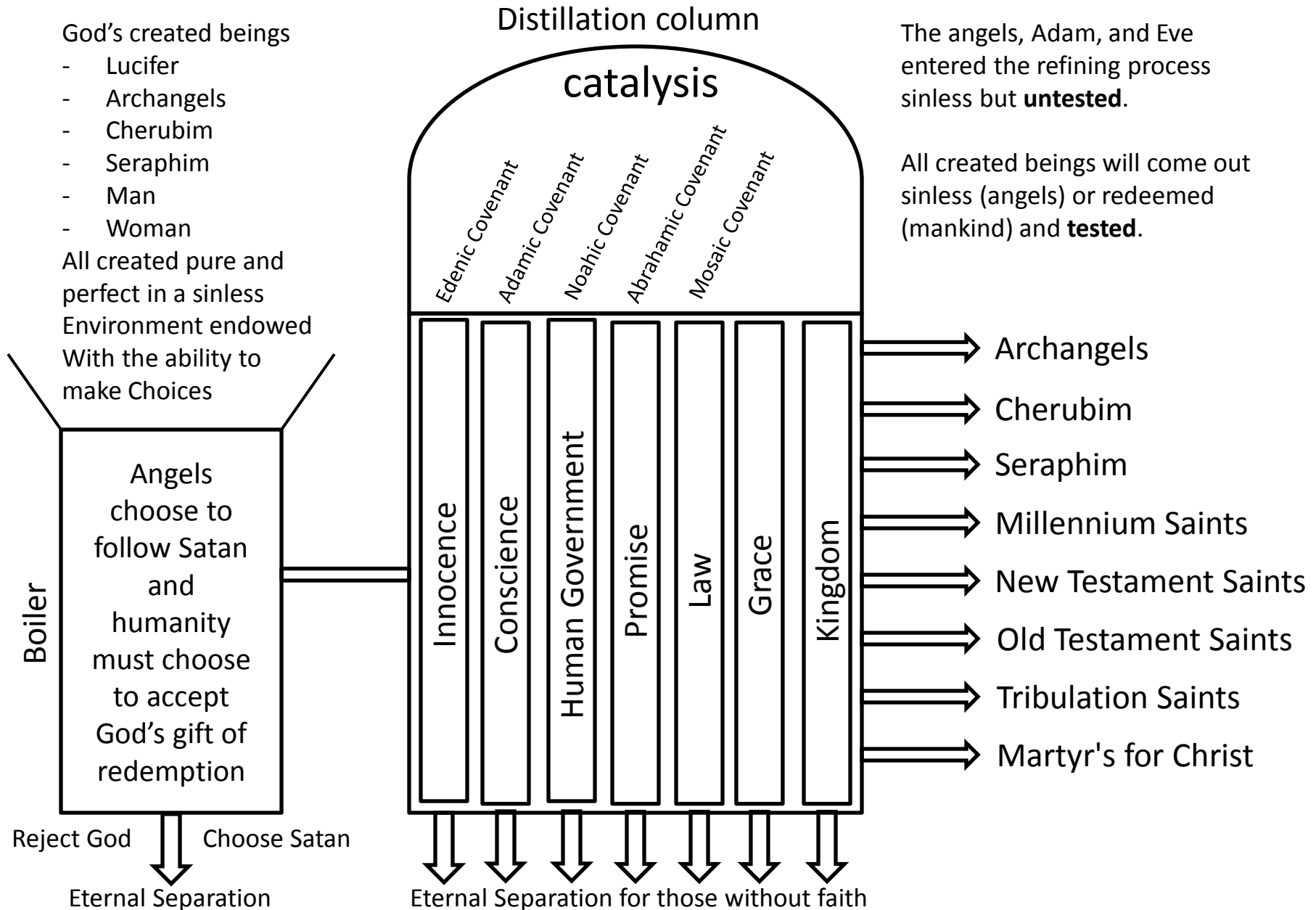
Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Revealed Plan of God from Eternity Past to Eternity Future



www.RefiningaCreation.org

God's Refining Process for His Created Beings



Refining a Creation for Eternity

God's Economies for Mankind

Overview



Edenic



Adamic

Innocence



Noahic

Human Government



Abrahamic

Promise



Mosaic

Law



Postponed

Grace



Fulfillment

Kingdom

Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

God is OUTSIDE and APART
from the Universe

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Review of past lessons

The Universe is HIS Creation

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We are GOD'S Creation

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We only know God by His
REVELATION to us

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God has revealed Himself to all
of us through the **SCRIPTURES**

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Review of past lessons

God's Revelation to His
Creation



Man moved by the
Holy Spirit



Inspired
Scriptures
Inerrant

Old Testament
recognized by
Jewish synagogue



New Testament
recognized by
Christian church

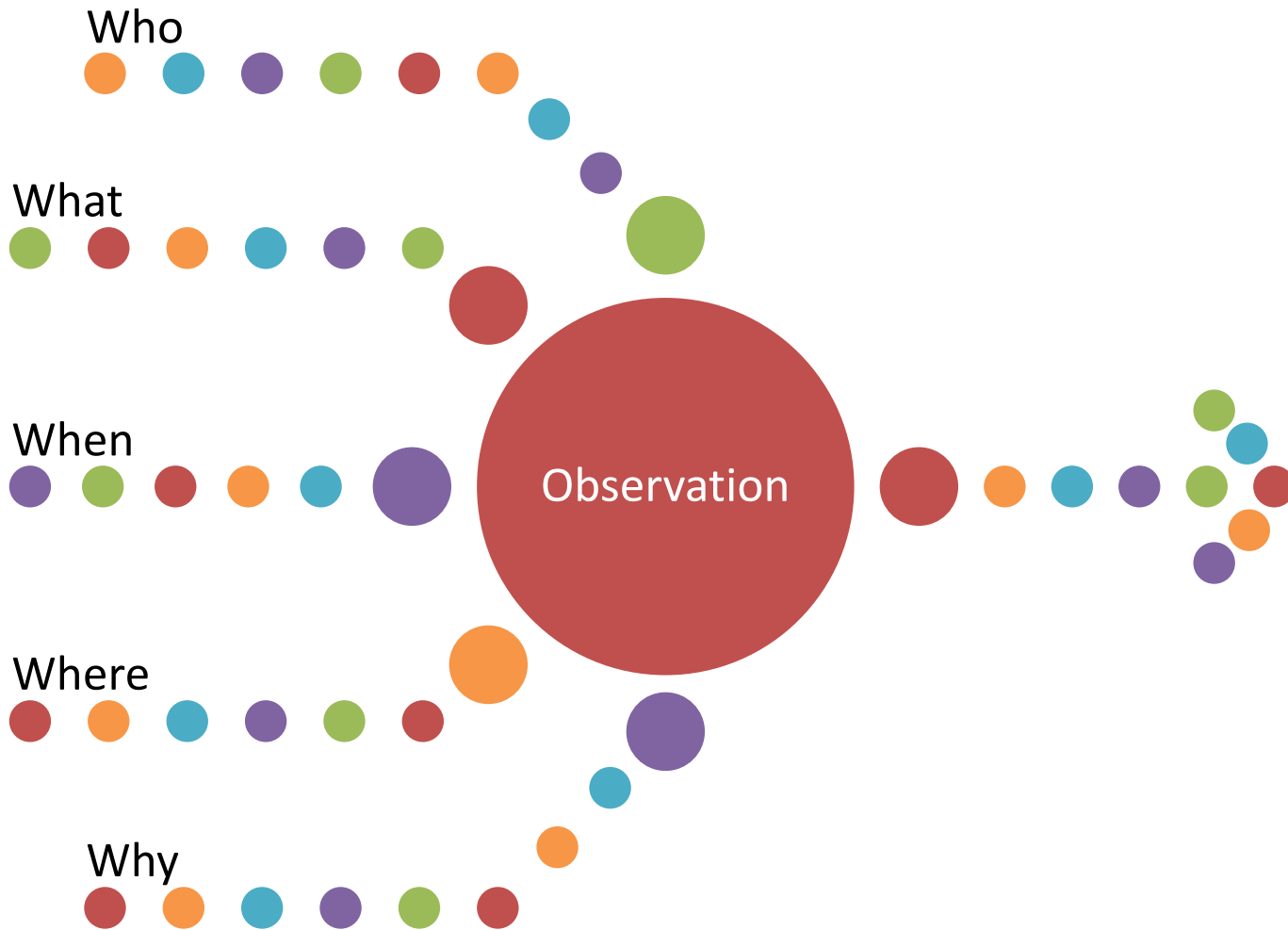


CANNON

We believe that in the composition of the **original manuscripts**, the Holy Spirit guided the authors even in their choice of expressions and this throughout all the pages of the Scriptures still without eroding the personalities of the different men.

Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons



Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

1. Scripture interprets
scripture



2. Meaning of words by
usage



3. Context,
context, context



4. Grammatico-historical
interpretation



5. Assume literal or
normal interpretation



Literal
Interpretation

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Review of past lessons

6. Figurative language
convey actual concepts



7. Human drama must
come forth



8. Culture, history,
social, etc. play part



9. Recognize God's
management in economy



10. Recognize progressive
revelation



Literal
Interpretation

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Review of past lessons

Original audience



Modern audience



Application is a bridge between the Biblical meaning and the present-day life situations

Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

1. Observation



2. Interpretation



3. Application



“All the historical, doctrinal, and practical truth of the Bible is for one purpose: to promote the spiritual prosperity of man. The Bible is not an end; it is a means.” Bernard Ramm

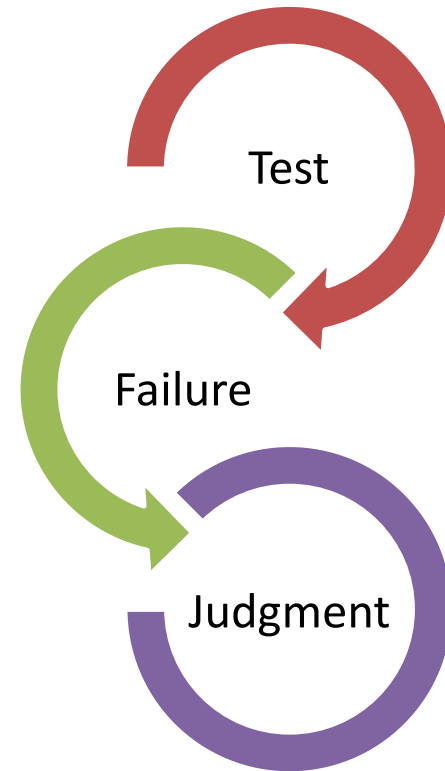
Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Dispensational Theology

“A dispensation is a distinguishable economy in the outworking of God’s purpose.”

The Greek word *oikonomia* comes from the verb that means to manage, regulate, administer, and plan. The word itself is a compound whose parts mean literally “to divide, apportion, administer or manage the affairs of an inhabited house.”



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Review of past lessons

Dispensational Theology Definitions

Covenant

- Bilateral, two-sided, temporary
- Unilateral, one-sided, permanent

Tribulation

- First purpose to bring about conversion of Nation of Israel
- Second to pour out judgment on unbelieving man and nations

Pretibulation Rapture

- The church, dead and alive, will be resurrected and translated prior to tribulation
- Rests on the literal method of interpretation

Premillennial view

- Christ will return to earth, literally and bodily before millennial age begins

Millennial Kingdom

- 1000 literal years of fulfillment of the promises given in the Abrahamic Covenant

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Review of past lessons

Indispensable Positions of a Dispensationalist

Israel & Church Distinct

- The substance of Judaism is God's consistent and **earthly** purpose
- The substance of Christianity is God's consistent and **heavenly** purpose

Distinction born out of literal interpretation

- Literal method of interpretation extends to eschatological studies
- Prophecies concerning Christ's first coming were literal, expectation of prophetic passages of second coming will be literal

Purpose of God is His divine glory

- Scripture is not man-centered as though salvation were the main theme, but it is God-centered because His glory is the center
- Salvation is not an end in itself but is rather a means to the end of glorifying God

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Review of past lessons

Dispensations Recognized by the Apostle Paul

Past ages – Prior to the Church

- Colossians 1:25-26 -Of this church I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God, that is, the mystery which has been hidden from the **past ages** and generations, but has now been manifested to His saints,

The Church – The stewardship of God's grace

- Ephesians 3:1-3 - For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles if indeed you have heard of the **stewardship of God's grace** which was given to me for you; that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief.

The Kingdom – The fullness of the times

- Ephesians 1:9-10 - He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him with a view to an administration suitable to **the fullness of the times**, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth.

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Review of past lessons

Common throughout all Dispensations

History is from the viewpoint of God.

Clear time when one ends and another begins but allowing for transition.

God is moving everything in His ordained direction.

New revelation designates shift from one dispensation to another.

Some things remain the same but other things differ. Salvation always by faith.

Each has own responsibilities and tests.

Each dispensation moves God's plan closer to completion.

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Review of past lessons

Angels - Nature and Attributes

Spirit beings

- Reveal in the form of human bodies (Gen. 18:3), “spirits” (Heb. 1:14), no marriage (Mark 12:25) no death (Luke 20:36).

Created beings

- The Lord created the angels by His word (Ps. 148:2–5). Angels sang praise (Job 38:6–7). Christ created (Col. 1:16).

Created simultaneously and are innumerable in number

- Singular act (Col 1:16); no reproducing (Matt. 22:30), “myriads” (Heb. 12:22), “countless thousands” (cf. Rev. 5:11).

Higher order than man

- Mankind, is “lower than the angels” (Heb. 2:7). No death (Luke 20:36). greater wisdom (2 Sam. 14:20), yet limited (Matt. 24:36). Greater power (Matt. 28:2; Acts 5:19; 2 Pet. 2:11), yet limited (Dan. 10:13).

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Review of past lessons

Angels - prominent individuals

Michael

- Michael (Dan. 10:13; 12:1; Jude 9). The name Michael means “who is like God?” and identifies the only one classified as an archangel in Scripture. Michael is the defender of Israel who will wage war on behalf of Israel against Satan and his hordes in the Tribulation (Rev. 12:7–9). Michael also disputed with Satan about the body of Moses, but Michael refrained from judgment, leaving that to God (Jude 9).

Gabriel

- Gabriel (Dan. 9:21; Luke 1:26). His name means “man of God” or “God is strong.” Gabriel explained the events of the seventy weeks for Israel (Dan. 9:21–27). In Luke 1:26–27 Gabriel told Mary that the One born to her would be great and rule on the throne of David. In Daniel 8:15–16 Gabriel explained to Daniel the succeeding kingdoms of Medo-Persia and Greece. Gabriel also announced the birth of John the Baptist to Zacharias (Luke 1:11–20).

Lucifer

- Lucifer (Isa. 14:12) means “shining one” or “star of the morning.” He may have been the wisest and most beautiful of all God’s created beings who was originally placed in a position of authority over the cherubim surrounding the throne of God.

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Review of past lessons

Angels - divine attendants

Cherubim

- Cherubim are “of the highest order or class, created with indescribable powers and beauty. Proclaimers and protectors of God’s glorious presence, His sovereignty, and His holiness. They stood guard at the gate of the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3:24); Golden figures covering the mercy seat (Exod. 25:17–22); Attended the glory of God in Ezekiel’s vision (Ezek. 1). Extraordinary appearance with four faces—that of a man, lion, ox, and eagle. They have four wings and feet like a calf, gleaming like burnished bronze. In Ezekiel 1 they attended the glory of God preparatory for judgment.

Seraphim

- Seraphim, meaning “burning ones,” are pictured surrounding the throne of God in Isaiah 6:2. They are described as each having six wings. In their threefold proclamation, “holy, holy, holy” (Isa. 6:3), it means “to recognize God as extremely, perfectly holy. Therefore, they praise and proclaim the perfect holiness of God. The seraphim also express the holiness of God in that they proclaim that man must be cleansed of sin’s moral defilement before he can stand before God and serve Him.”

Refining a Creation for Eternity

Review of past lessons

Angels - divine attendants

Angels predicted His birth - Luke 1:26–38

Angels protected Him in infancy - Matt. 2:13, 20

Angels ministered to Him after the temptation - Matt. 4:11

Angels strengthened Him at Gethsemane - Luke 22:43

Angels announced His resurrection - Mt. 28:5–7; Mk 16:6–7; Lk 24:4–7; Jn 20:12–13

Angels attended His ascension - Acts 1:10

Angels will attend His Second Coming - Matt. 25:31

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The Angelic Conflict

Angels

Ministry of Angels (cont.)

Ministry to believers

Physical protection

Physical provision

Encouragement

Direction

Assist in answers to prayer

Carry believers home

Relationship to unbelievers

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The Angelic Conflict

Angels

Angelic Observation

1st Timothy 3:16

By common confession, great is the mystery of godliness: He who was revealed in the flesh, Was vindicated in the Spirit, **Seen by angels**, Proclaimed among the nations, Believed on in the world, Taken up in glory.

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Angels

Angelic Observation

1st Timothy 5:21

I solemnly charge you in the **presence** of God and of Christ Jesus and of **His chosen angels**, to maintain these principles without bias, doing nothing in a spirit of partiality.

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Angels

Angelic Observation



1st Peter 1:12

It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—**things into which angels long to look.**

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Angels

Angelic Observation



1 Corinthians 4:9

For, I think, God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a **spectacle to the world**, both to **angels** and to men.

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Comparison between fallen and unfallen angels

Purpose

To promote Satan's program in opposing God (Rev 12:7) by promoting rebellion (Gen 3), idolatry (Lev 17:7), false religions (1 John 4:1-4), and oppression of mankind.

To serve God in worship (Rev 4:6-11), in ministry (Heb 1:7), in being God's messengers (Ps 103:20), to act in God's government (Dan 10:13,21), protecting God's people (Ps 34:7), executing God's judgment (Gen 19:1).

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Comparison between fallen and unfallen angels

Relationship to Believers

Wage war (Eph 6:10-18), accuse (Rev 12:10), plant doubt (Gen 3:1-3), tempt to sin (Eph 2:1-3), persecute (Rev 12:13), prevent service (1 Thes 2:18), disturb the church (2 Cor 2:10-11).

Reveal truth (Gal 3:19), guide (Mt 1:20-21), provide physical needs (1 Kings 19:6), protect (Dan 3:24-28), deliver (Acts 5:17-20), encourage (Acts 5:19-20), act in answering prayer (Dan 9:20-24), accompany the dead (Luke 16:22).

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Comparison between fallen and unfallen angels

Relationship to Christ on Earth

Satan tempted Christ (Mark 1:13), led people to betray and kill Him (Luke 22:3-4); Christ cast demons out and finally defeated them on the cross (Col 2:15)

Announced the birth of Christ (Luke 1:26-38), guided Joseph to safety (Matt 2:14), ministered to Christ (Matt 4:11; Luke 22:43), announced his resurrection (Matt 28:2-4), ascension and return (Acts 1:11).

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Comparison between fallen and unfallen angels

Place of Habitation

Heavenly (spiritual) realms (Eph 6:12), abyss (Rev 9:1-11), people (Mark 9:14-29), the bonds of darkness (Jude 6).

In God's presence (Isa 6:1-6), heavenly realms (Eph 3:10).

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The Angelic Conflict

Comparison between fallen and unfallen angels

Destiny

Defeated by Christ (Col 2:15), cast into the abyss during Millennium (Rev 20:1-2), cast into lake of fire as final punishment (Rev 20:10)

To be in God's presence and Christ's presence in His kingdom (Rev 21-22)

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The Angelic Conflict

Satan

The Beginning



Isaiah 14:12-14

“How you have fallen from heaven, O star of the morning, son of the dawn! You have been cut down to the earth, You who have weakened the nations! “But you said in your heart, ‘**I will** ascend to heaven; **I will** raise my throne above the stars of God, And **I will** sit on the mount of assembly In the recesses of the north. ‘**I will** ascend above the heights of the clouds; **I will** make myself like the Most High.’

Refining a Creation for Eternity

The Angelic Conflict

Satan

The Beginning



Isaiah 14:15-17

“Nevertheless you will be thrust down to Sheol, To the recesses of the pit. “Those who see you will gaze at you, They will ponder over you, saying, ‘Is this the man who made the earth tremble, Who shook kingdoms, Who made the world like a wilderness And overthrew its cities, Who did not allow his prisoners to go home?’”