

Fallen Angels *Architects of This Present Darkness*

III. Fallen Angels after the Tower of Babel: the Rulers Behind the Leaders of the Nations

There are additional evil beings besides Satan, Watchers, Nephilim, and demons

These other fallen angels fell with or more likely after Satan fell

These evil beings are the principalities and powers referred to Paul in Ephesians

Assigned regions of the earth

Originally by God!!

Now, likely by Satan

Dan 10:12-14

Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come."

Spiritual mapping and spiritual warfare: praying against principalities and demonic powers over towns, regions

A special calling

Intercession always done in a group

There is real danger of taking on principalities personally and without an anointed assignment, training, and support

And an unlikelihood of success

There appears to be a "third" fall of angels

1) Satan

2) The Watchers of Genesis 6

After the Flood, there was a "reboot:"

Gen. 9:7

But as for you (Noah and family), be fruitful and multiply; spread out across the earth and multiply upon it."

But, the next narrative in the Bible is that of the tower of Babel

Gen. 10:1-4

Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. And they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly." And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top

in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.”



Man was commanded to spread throughout the earth to occupy it and steward it
 Man's Tower of Babel plans resisted God's plan for human dominion of the entire world

The tower builders wanted to "make a name" for themselves—to be their own gods
 But, only God was to be worshipped
 Only God was to have a "name" for Himself
 Bricks and mortar symbolize man-made, not-natural buildings (vs. hewed stone)

Gen. 10:6-8

And the LORD said, “Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another’s speech. ”So the LORD dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city.

God's perspective: He creates a wonderful heaven and earth
 Heavenly beings rebel
 The first humans disobey
 The nephilim problem occurs
 Now the tower of Babel is built

God's responses

Condemning the fallen angels to torment
 Driving Adam and Eve out of the Garden
 The Flood
 Dispersing the folk at Babel by language confounding
 He then disinherited the nations
 And called of Abraham to form one nation that God can work with—Israel
 This doesn't work out, either

The "Sons of God" and the Nations

Deut. 32:7

Remember the days of old; consider the years of many generations; ask your father, and he will show you, your elders, and they will tell you. When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, He fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the *sons of God*. But *the LORD's portion is his people*, Jacob his allotted heritage.

"The sons of God" phrase: different in the KJV; RSV; CSB; NIV

Sometimes rendered as:

"sons of Israel"

"children of God"

"angels of God"

"heavenly court"

"guardian angel"

"heavenly beings"

Hebrew: different rendering in three different Jewish manuscripts

ben yisrael – sons of Israel (Masoretic text)

ben elohim – sons of God (divine counsel) (Septuagint and the 4QDeut fragment of the Dead Sea Scrolls)

Septuagint and Dead Sea Scroll rendering:

He set the bounds of the peoples according to the *"number of the angels of God"*

"When the Most High divided the nations, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the boundaries of the nations according to the number of the angels of God (aggelón theou). And his people Jacob became the portion of the Lord, Israel was the line of his inheritance"

Reliability of the Hebrew to English translations...

There are challenges in the translation of Hebrew to 21st century English

Masoretic text, Septuagint, the Dead Sea Scrolls: three main sources of OT scripture

Septuagint (LXX): 200-300 BC

Hebrew to Greek translation in Greek-controlled Palestine

Quoted frequently by New Testament writers and Jesus

Jesus and the disciples spoke Aramaic, Greek, and Hebrew (in the synagogues)

Dead Sea Scrolls: 300 BC – 100 AD (discovered in 1947)

Masoretic text (700 -1000 AD):

The main Hebrew source of Old Testament in most English Bible translations

Other Hebrew texts consulted in translation: The Peshitta (Syrian) the Targum (Aramaic)

The "judgment call" of modern translators

Modern translators draw mainly from the Masoretic text but also from the LXX and DSS

Your study Bible will tell you in the margins, often

Sons of God (heavenly host) is the best rendering

Sons of Israel makes no sense

Sons of Israel is likely a Masoretic text translation "judgment"

Deut. 32:15-17

"But Jeshurun (*Israel*) grew fat, and kicked; you grew fat, stout, and sleek; then he forsook God who made him and scoffed at the Rock of his salvation. They stirred him to jealousy with strange gods; with abominations they provoked him to anger. They sacrificed to demons that

were no gods, to gods they had never known, to new gods that had come recently, whom your fathers had never dreaded

Implication of the "sons of God:"

God assigned angelic beings from His heavenly counsel to rule the rebellious nations
As He "disinherits" the Tower of Babel disobedient nations

God immediately "starts over" with His plan for humans and the Spirit to have dominion on the earth by calling Abraham and establishing a favored, blessed nation of Abraham's descendants (*Israel*)...

With the hope of yet blessing the world with a godly people that stewards the earth correctly (instead of fallen heavenly beings like Satan)

Gen. 22:17-18

I will surely bless you (Abraham), and I will multiply your descendants like the stars in the sky and the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will possess the gates of their enemies. And through your offspring all nations of the earth will be blessed.

The rest of the nations were disinherited: assigned "other gods"

In the OT the people of these other nations are called considered unclean, pagan, and needing salvation by the Jewish nation

They ended up worshipping their "gods," these angels God has assigned to them

The angels received their worship and fall to become:

Baal, Asherah, Molech, Chemosh, Dagon, Isis, and the gods of Egypt, Greek, Roman, and Norse mythology

In Psalm 82 God rebukes these fallen angels for leading humanity corruptly

Psalm 82

God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods (*Heb. elohim*) he holds judgment. "How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; uphold the rights of the afflicted and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; save them from the hand of the wicked. They (*the people*) do not know or understand; they wander in the darkness. All the foundations of the earth are shaken.

I have said, 'You are gods (*Heb: elohim*); you are all sons of the Most High.' But like mortals (*Heb: ke-adam*) you will die, and like rulers you will fall." Arise, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations are Your inheritance.

Another example of another "god"

Dan. 10:12-14

Do not be afraid, Daniel," he said, "for from the first day that you purposed to understand and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. However, the prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me for twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left there with the kings of Persia. Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision concerns those days."

Israel was commanded, unlike the nations, to not worship these other gods (the host of heaven)

Deut. 4:19-20

When you look to the heavens and see the sun and moon and stars—*all the host of heaven—do not be enticed to bow down and worship* what the *Lord your God has apportioned to all the nations under heaven*. Yet the Lord has taken you and brought you out of the iron furnace, out of Egypt, to be the people of His inheritance, as you are today.

But, unfortunately, Israel, unlike their faithful Patriarchs, did worship the host of heaven

Judges 2:2

"And they (Israel) forsook the Lord God of their fathers, which brought them out of the land of Egypt, and followed other gods, of the gods of the people that were round about them, and bowed themselves unto them, and provoked the Lord to anger."

Psalm 106: 34-37

They (Israel) did not destroy the (*Canaanite*) peoples as the Lord had commanded them, but they mingled with the nations and adopted their customs. They worshiped their idols, which became a snare to them. They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons.

I Cor. 10:19-20

Am I suggesting, then, that food sacrificed to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God.

Rev. 9:20-21

Now the rest of mankind who were not killed by these plagues still did not repent of the works of their hands. They did not stop worshiping demons and idols of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk.

The consequence for Israel? – they were captured and removed from the Promised Land by the Assyrians first and then the Babylonians

1 Kings 9:6-7

"But if you or your sons indeed turn away from following Me, and do not keep My commandments and My statutes which I have set before you, and go and serve other gods and worship them, then I will cut off Israel from the land which I have given them, and the house which I have consecrated for My name, I will cast out of My sight.

The worship of other god's "contaminated" the holy land, and made Israel like the other nations
Remember their clamoring for a king? To be like the other nations
Recall the Lord's love for the holy land itself

Lev. 18: 26-28

But you shall keep my statutes and my rules and do none of these abominations, either the native or the stranger who sojourns among you (for the people of the land, who were before you, did all of these abominations, so that the land became unclean), lest the land spew you out when you make it unclean, as it spewed out the nation that was before you.

Who are the heavenly beings that God placed over the nations after the Tower of Babel?

Are they all evil, fallen?

It is likely that good, not-yet-fallen angels were assigned to rule the disinherited nations

They were worshipped by their people

The angels encouraged and chose to accept the worship of "their" nation

The fate of fallen angels?:

They ended up ruling the disinherited nations as evil "*princes,*" *principalities,* and *powers*

An exception? Michael the Prince over Israel (*but not ruler—only Jehovah rules Israel*)

Who did these fallen angels become?

They became the false "gods" of ancient Mesopotamian History and Western Mythology:

The famous "gods" of the middle east: Baal, Astarte, Molech, Chemosh, Osiris, Ashur, Morduch

The famous "gods" of Greek, Roman and Norse mythology: Zeus, Jupiter, Thor, Odin

Greek Mythology:

Uranus (sky) / Gaia (earth) > the Titans > the Olympians

Titans: 1st generation: Cronos, Rhea, Oceanus, Hyperion

2nd generation: Atlas, Prometheus,

Olympians: Zeus, Hera, Apollo, Aphrodite, Artemis, Poseidon, Hades, Athena, Ares, Hermes, Dionisius, Demeter

The Titans overthrew Uranus

The Olympians overthrew the Titans

The overthrown were confined to Tartarus in Greek Mythology

II Peter 2:4-5

For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell (*Gr: tartarus*) and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment; if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly

In Mesopotamian and Western mythology there are demi-gods

These demigods are offspring of the gods and humans: all from Olympians, not Titans

Famous demi-gods:

Greek: Achilles, Perseus, Orion, Helen, Asclepius, Narcissus, Orpheus, Castor and Pollux, Clytemnestra

Roman: Hercules, Bacchus, Romulus and Remus,

Sumerian/Mesopotamian: The Apkallu, Gilgamesh, Nimrod

Nimrod: Gen. 10:8-9

Cush was the father of Nimrod, who began to be a mighty one (*Heb: gibbor*) on the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD;

Recall, in Genesis 6:4 the Nephilim are described in Hebrew as *hag-gibborim*: mighty men, or champions.

Josephus wrote about Nimrod, stating that he:

Persuaded mankind not to ascribe their happiness to God but to think that his own excellency was the source of it. He changed things into a tyranny, thinking there was no other way to wean men from the fear of God, than by making them rely upon his own power.

Gen. 10:8

Nimrod's kingdom began in Babylon, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. From that land he went forth into Assyria, where he built Nineveh, Rehoboth-Ir, Calah, and Resen,

So, Nimrod was the founder of Babylon and likely involved in the Tower of Babel (which was built in the land of Shinar). Babylon represents the earthly "city" that opposes the heavenly "city" of God

Rev. 18:9-10

And the kings of the earth...when they see the smoke of her burning, standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, "Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! for in one hour is thy judgment come."

Nimrod was perhaps Satan's first "anti-Christ," raised up to be a human universal ruler of men

Nimrod was likely a Nephilim

More demi-gods in history

Norse: Slipeinir, Bragi

Polynesian: Maui in the Disney movie Moana

Open your eyes, let's begin

Yes, it's really me, it's Maui: breathe it in

I know it's a lot: the hair, the bod!

When you're staring at a demigod



Superhero "worship" in 2022!! – the Marvel Universe

The "Eternals" movie

The gods of mythology are likely the angels assigned to the nations after the Tower of Babel who received worship and fell

The demigods of mythology are likely the nephilim of Gen. 6 and "after" the Flood

So...not only is Christianity, God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit NOT myths

Pagan mythology is based in spirit fact and is not "just" a myth

Pagan gods are likely real supernatural gods – just fallen and evil

Gen. 6 is a "polemic" by Moses dissing the "gods" of the nations around Israel as:
 Created (unlike Jehovah the Creator)
 Wishing malice toward their unfortunate, deceived people (unlike Jehovah who loves his people)
 Not impressive at all compared to our Lord

Psalm 33:12
 Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,
 The people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.

Implying, that "cursed" is the nation whose god is *not* the creator God
 Nations (like people) can chose to worship God (although most will not)
 We citizens of the U.S.A still have this option
 No doubt the Jamestown settlers and Pilgrims intended our nation to be followers of God and be blessed as a result of this
 A blessing that truly happened
 But is at risk of being lost

Nations that worship other gods are excluded from God's national blessing and are cursed
 And all have fallen in history

Satan and Jesus' Temptation

Matt. 4:1-2, 8-11

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights...Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. "All this I will give You," he said, "if You will fall down and worship me." "Away from Me, Satan!" Jesus declared. "For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.'" Then the devil left Him, and angels came and ministered to Him.

At present, Satan, his fallen angels, and humans who follow them are reigning on earth
 The extensively of their reign and influence is blunted only by the Holy Spirit and His influence through Christian believers and leaders

Believers are destined to take over the ruling of the kingdoms of this world
 Like God's original plan

Dan. 7:26-27

"But the court will convene, and his (the antichrist's) dominion will be taken away and completely destroyed forever. Then the sovereignty, dominion, and greatness of the kingdoms under all of heaven will be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will serve and obey Him.'

As Christians, we cannot co-rule with the fallen (what fellowship has...(II Cor. 6)
 We can influence, we can educate, we can speak out
 We can "rule" from the ground up (*but not from top down*)

There may be a continuing risk of angels falling (like us humans with a free will)
 The Fall of the fallen angels and Satan – one pre-human fall?? – no Biblical evidence

The verse cited to make a case for a one-time only demonic fall

Revelation 12:9

“And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.”

Can angels yet fall?

Rev. 22:8-9

And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things. But he *said to me, “Do not do that. I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book. Worship God.”

I Cor. 11:10

Therefore the woman should have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.

The three + falls:

Satan in the Garden Ezekiel 28 and the King of Tyre

The "Watchers" in Gen. 6 and after the Flood

The angels over the nations after the Tower of Babel

Disobedient angels now (?!?)

We believers also in moments of sin, serve Satan and worshipping other gods (!!)

John 8:33-34

We are Abraham’s descendants,” they answered. “We have never been slaves to anyone. How can You say we will be set free?” Jesus replied, “Truly, truly, I tell you, everyone who sins is a slave to sin...You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out his desires.

Rom. 6:12-14

Therefore, do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its desires. Do not present the parts of your body to sin as instruments of wickedness but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and present the parts of your body to Him as instruments of righteousness. For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.

When we believers live godly lives, avoid sin, share our faith, pray for healing and deliverance from evil spirits, and serve others generously

We are overcoming this reign of terror of Satan and are ruling and reigning in life

When we do not do these things, we contribute to the problem, worship the heavenly host in essence, and help advance Satan’s kingdom

Luke 10: 17-19

The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in Your name.” He told them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy. Nothing will harm you.

Our obedience, faithfulness, wise decisions, devotion to Christ and to those He has given us:
No matter how small
Is helping the Holy Spirit rule and reign on earth
And helping to take back from Satan and his host some of his reign of terror

Matt. 10:42

"And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is My disciple, truly I tell you, he will never lose his reward."