

Doctrinal Statement

Angelology

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June 7, 2025

Angels are personal and spiritual beings, created holy by God and for God's glory (Heb. 1:14; 1 Pet. 1:12; Col. 1:16). They are a distinct order of creation, higher than man, but not to be worshiped (Heb. 2:7; Col. 2:18). Angels are ministering agents on God's behalf, worshiping God in endless praise, acting as messengers and servants to God's people, and battling the demonic powers of this world (Rev. 5:11-14; Luke 1:26-38; Ps. 34:7; Dan. 10:13). They attended to Jesus at His temptation and crucifixion and are understood to still attend believers today (Matt. 4:11; Luke 22:43; Matt. 28:10). One day, angels will accompany Jesus at His second coming as they help wage the final war against the evil ones (Matt. 16:27; Rev. 12:7-9).

The satan, also referred to as Beelzebul and the Great Dragon, is a spiritual being who was cast out of heaven with those angels, demons, who followed him due to their rebellion against God (Matt. 12:24; Rev. 12:3-4; 2 Peter 2:4). He is the adversary, accuser, anti-messiah, and leading commander of all who oppose God (1 Peter 2:8; 1 John 2:18-22). As the thief, prince, and god of this world, he comes to steal, kill, destroy, and spiritually blinds people so that they will not see, know, and believe in the good news of Jesus the Messiah (John 10:10; 2 Cor. 4:4). As a result, the satan and his army are the real working agents behind the atrocities of this world- wars, genocides, murders, famines, diseases, demonic possessions- as well as the evils that lie deep within one's heart- anger, pride, envy, deceit, and greed, and selfishness- that can also manifest itself in smaller, but just as evil, actions (Eph. 6:12; 1 John 4:3; Rev. 16:13-16). While Christians have been rescued out of the dominion of darkness into the Kingdom of God through Jesus's life, death, and resurrection, canceling all demonic rights and authority over a believer, they can fall prey to deception and yield themselves to demonic influence (Col. 1:12-14; 2:8-15; 1 Peter 5:6-11; 2 Cor. 10:3-5). Ultimately, the destiny for satan and his army of demons is eternal damnation in the lake of fire (Rev. 20:10).