



The Gospel Way Catechism

Question 8: What is the unseen world?



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

What are your initial thoughts when you hear angels and demons? Do you think they are active today? What is your proof?

Why is it important that there is an unseen realm? What are other proofs of the unseen realm besides angels and demons?

QUESTION 8: What is the unseen world?

ANSWER: The physical world is not all there is. The Bible describes an unseen realm of spiritual realities, with angels and demons engaged in cosmic struggle over God's plan of redemption.

PRINCIPLES:

This world is comprised of the physical world.

Genesis 1, Colossians 1:16

There is more to this world than the physical realm.

Colossians 1:16, Ephesians 6

The Bible has many terms for angels.

Sons of God – Job 1:6, 2:1 holy ones – Psalm 89:5, 7
Spirits – Heb 1:14 watchers – Daniel 4:13, 17, 23
Thrones, dominions, principalities, authorities – Col. 1:16

Angels and Demons (fallen angels) are described in the Bible.

Angels are created beings: Nehemiah 9:6, Psalm 148

Angels worship: Isaiah 6:1-6, Revelation 4:8

Different kinds of angels or heavenly beings:

Cherubim- Gen. 4, Exodus 25, Ezekiel 10

Seraphim- Isaiah 6

Archangel- (Michael) 1 Thessalonians 4:16, Jude 1:9

Messenger angel- (Gabriel) Daniel 8, 9, Luke 1

Fallen- Luke 10, Mark 5, 1 Timothy 4

Characteristics of Angels

Can only be in one place at a time - Daniel 10:12-14

There is a rank and order – Dan. 10, Rev 12

Guard over us – Psalm 91, Matthew 18:10

They do not marry – Matt. 22:30, Luke 20:34-36

Can be part of our seen world – Heb 13:2

Angels are proof of the unseen world

We are joining with them as believers – Hebrews 12

Not all can see them – 2 Kings 6:17

Fallen Angels or Demons:

Cast away from God – 2 Peter 2:4, Jude 6

Lead by Satan – Job 1:7-2:7, 1 Chronicles 21:1 Zechariah 3:1

Satan originated sin – Gen 3:1, John 8:44, 1 John 3:8

They oppose the work of God – Matthew 4:1-11, Rev 12:9, John 10:10, 2 Cor. 4:4

They are limited by God – Job 1:12, 2:6

Can be resisted by people – James 4:7

FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION:

Followers of Jesus: The Bible talks a lot about angels, why do you think we avoid this topic? What are some false beliefs people have about angels and demons? Does studying angels and demons bring you closer to God? Why or why not? How can we apply Hebrews 13:1-2 more to our lives? How do these verses make you feel about some of our encounters with strangers in this world?

Seekers or agnostics: Do you see evidence of an unseen realm? Why or why not? How do you explain the existence of an unseen realm, or of things that do not seem to exist in the physical world?