

# What Every Christian Should Know



Core Beliefs to Help You  
Stand Strong in a Shifting World

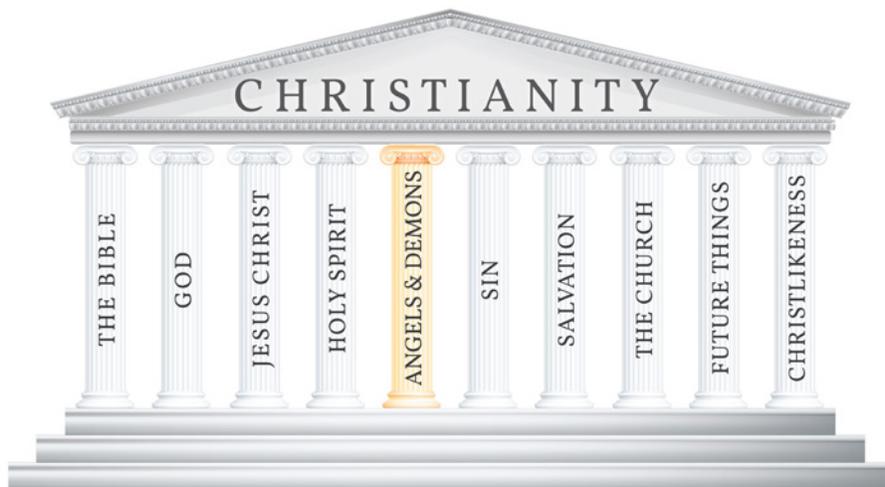
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## “What Every Christian Should Know About Angels and Demons” Part 2

HEBREWS 1:13-14

**Introduction:** Last week we examined the reality and purpose of God’s holy angels. Today, we are going to discover what the Bible says about another group of angels we know as demons.

### 10 PILLARS OF HISTORIC CHRISTIANITY



#### I. Our Heavenly Allies: God’s Holy Angels

A. Angels Are Created Beings (Colossians 1:16)

1. Angels are direct creations of God
2. Angels will exist forever
3. Angels have intellect
4. Angels have emotions
5. Angels have a will
6. Angels have limitations
7. Angels can appear to be human

B. Angels Minister to Believers (Hebrews 1:13-14)

1. God uses angels to sustain and encourage us (Matthew 4:11)
2. Angels reveal God’s will to us (Matthew 1:20-21)
3. Angels protect us from physical and spiritual harm (Psalm 91:11-12)
4. Angels minister to us in death (Luke 16:22)

C. Angels are “Ministers” to Unbelievers

1. Angels are ministers of God’s goodness to unbelievers (Genesis 16:7-12)
2. Angels are ministers of judgment to unbelievers (Psalm 78:49)
3. Angels are ministers of eternal death to unbelievers (Matthew 13:49-50)



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### II. Our Spiritual Adversaries: Demons

#### Up Close And Personal With Demons

Luke 8:26-39 tells of Jesus’s confrontation with demons who were tormenting a man in the country of the Gerasenes. From this encounter, we discover four things about demons:

1. Demons have intelligence. They immediately recognized Jesus as the Son of the Most High God.
2. Demons have emotions. They were afraid of being cast into the abyss.
3. Demons have a will. They offered Jesus an alternative solution: to be cast into a herd of swine. When Jesus agreed, they submitted themselves to the will of God and entered the swine.
4. Demons have names. The chief demon identified himself as Legion, a military term for a group of six thousand soldiers. As believers in Jesus Christ, we need not fear demons, but we do need to understand them.

#### A. Demons Attempt to Lead Unbelievers Astray (Deuteronomy 32:17)

Deuteronomy 32:17 “They [Israelites] sacrificed to demons who were not God, to gods whom they have not known, new gods who came lately, whom your fathers did not dread.”

Galatians 1:8 “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!”

1 John 4:1 “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”

#### B. Demons Attempt to Harm Believers

1. Demons can work through nature (Ephesians 2:2)
2. Demons can work through physical illness (2 Corinthians 12:7)
3. Demons can work through mental illness



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4. **Demons can work through suicide** (Mark 9:14-29; John 8:44)
  
5. **Demons can work through people** (Luke 4:31-36; 40-41)

### Where Is Satan Right Now?

Even though Satan’s work is being done on earth, he’s not necessarily the one doing it. According to Revelation 12, Satan is in heaven, where he levels constant accusations against believers. He is doing everything he can to get God to change the deal He made with us for eternal life. Satan points at our sins and says, “Look at what she’s doing. How can she call herself a Christian?” Or, “Why would You want to spend eternity with him? Let me have him.” The good news is that every time Satan levels an accusation against Christians, Jesus acts as our Advocate (1 John 2:1). Seated at the right hand of God the Father, He counters Satan’s charges by reminding His Father of the price He, Jesus, paid for our sins.

### III. **Can Christians Be Demon-Possessed?** (Matthew 16:23; Ephesians 5:18)

Matthew 16:23 “But He [Jesus] turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind Me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to Me; for you are not setting your mind on God’s interests, but man’s.’”

Ephesians 5:18 “And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.”

### IV. **A Strategy For Spiritual Victory** (1 Peter 5:8-9)

#### A. **Be Alert to Satan’s Attack** (1 Peter 5:8)

1 Peter 5:8 “Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”



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### B. Be Aware of God’s Provision (1 Peter 5:9)

#### WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT EXORCISM

1. **The gift of exorcism is attached to specific individuals.**  
(Matthew 10:1-4)
2. **The gift of exorcism is rarely mentioned in Scripture.**  
(1 Corinthians, 1 Timothy, Ephesians 6)
3. **The gift of exorcism has limited effectiveness across time.**  
(Luke 11:24-26)

1 Peter 5:9 “But resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.”

James 4:7 “Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

Conclusion