

FORWARD TO FREEDOM SPIRITUAL WARFARE

The Big Picture - Part 2

WHAT KIND OF LENSES ARE YOU USING TO UNDERSTAND REALITY?

- ▶ Genesis 3:15; Romans 16:20; Ephesians 6:12

CONCEPTS OF REALITY... 3 DIFFERENT WORLDVIEWS [See Program Insert]

- ▶ Worldview = The general thought system we develop for explaining the world around us & our experiences in it.

❶ WESTERN / SECULAR WORLDVIEW (Review)

❷ ANIMISTIC WORLDVIEW (Review)

- ▶ QUESTION: How do we correctly understand & relate to the world around us?

- ▶ ANSWER: Revelation

❸ BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

- ▶ Isaiah 14:12-15; Ezekiel 28:12b-17; Revelation 12:7-12; Genesis 3:14-15; Romans 16:20
- ▶ Luke 10:18 - *Jesus said, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven."*
- ▶ A Biblical Worldview must make theological room for angels & the kingdom of darkness (Ephesians 6:12)

ABC'S ABOUT GOOD ANGELS

- ▶ MYTHS TO DEBUNK

- ❶ Everyone has a guardian angel
- ❷ Angels marry & reproduce (Matthew 22:30)
- ❸ People become angels after death

▶ IMPORTANT FACTS

- ❶ Origin – Created by God through Christ
(Psalm 148:2-5; John 1:1-3)
- ❷ Privileges – Dwelling before God's throne (Luke 1:19; Revelation 5:11-12)
- ❸ Attributes
 - a. Endless in existence
 - b. Established in order
 - c. Individual in personality
 - d. Intelligent
 - e. Rapid in travel (Hebrews 1:7)
 - f. Able to appear & disappear at will (Luke 2:9,15)
 - g. Powerful (Matthew 28:2)
- ❹ Limitations – Not omnipotent, omniscient or omnipresent
- ❺ Responsibilities – Ministering servants
(Hebrews 1:14) [See LifeGroup Questions]

THE BIG PICTURE

- ▶ Ephesians 2:1-7 - *God raised us up with Christ and seated us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.*
- ▶ Context of Spiritual Warfare
 - ❶ Contestants (Main Actors):
 - God - infinite, uncreated & omnipotent + all the holy angels (2/3rds)
 - Satan - finite, created & limited + all demons / fallen angels (1/3rd)
 - ❷ Stage: The Earth
 - ❸ Trophy:
 - Glory (Exodus 14:4; Habakkuk 2:14; Isaiah 42:8)
 - Human beings

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The Big Picture - Part 2

Sermons can be viewed online at creeksideeg.com/sermon

Questions are based on the NIV translation of the Bible

PRAYER

Begin your time together by thanking God that although we are in a spiritual war, Jesus has already won the ultimate victory at the cross.

MY STORY

The Star Wars movies were about galactic warfare? In your opinion, what made those movies so popular? What do you think the expression “may the force be with you” meant?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. What from Sunday’s message gave you new insight into “spiritual warfare”?
2. Briefly describe the three different worldviews addressed in Sunday’s message. Which one most closely describes the view you currently hold?

Western or Secular Worldview -

Animistic Worldview -

Biblical Worldview -

3. **Read Hebrews 1:14.** In the Biblical worldview the three spheres of reality are God, angels (holy and fallen), and humans. How do holy (good) angels minister to humans according to the following verses? Match the letters of the phrases on the opposite page to the verses below that they describe. More than one phrase may apply.

_____ Daniel 10:17-18; Matthew 4:11; Acts 27:23-25

_____ Daniel 9:20-23

_____ Zechariah 4:1-2,6; 5:5; 6:5; Rev. 1:1

_____ Genesis 21:17-19; 1 Kings 19:3-8

_____ Luke 16:22

_____ Acts 5:17-19; 12:5-10

_____ Matthew 13:39-42; 49-50

_____ Matthew 1:18-21; Acts 8:26

_____ Psalm 91:11-12; Daniel 6:22-23

- a. Angels reveal (deliver) importation information
- b. Angels offer guidance to people
- c. Angels provide for the needs of people
- d. Angels protect people from harm
- e. Angels deliver people from danger
- f. Angels strengthen and encourage people
- g. Angels are agents of answered prayer
- h. Angels separate the human race for judgment
- i. Angels escort the redeemed beyond death to God

4. Which ministry of angels listed above gives you the greatest comfort or encouragement? Why?

5. Thinking back on the ABC’s of Good (Holy) Angels addressed in the message, was there anything that surprised you or caused you to think deeper about the biblical presentation of such angels?

DIGGING EVEN DEEPER

6. What is the connection between Luke 15:10 and holy angels’ desire to see Christians be victorious in spiritual warfare?

TAKING IT HOME

7. Have you ever sensed that God used angels to protect you or minister on your behalf or on behalf of someone you know? Explain.
8. Memorize Luke 15:10. How does its truth affect you and your desire to be victorious in spiritual warfare?
9. What is the connection between Luke 15:10 and holy angels’ desire to see Christians be victorious in spiritual warfare?

PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for the needs of your group and thank God for good (holy) angels and the ministry they provide for those who love God.