



SAVED TO SERVE
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The Great Controversy, pt. 31: Agency of Evil Spirits
From #MeToo to #YouToo? Sexual Assault Allegations among High
Profile Men in America Snowballing, Why Now? The Baphomet Prophecy.

1. What is the title of chapter 31 of *The Great Controversy*? _____
2. What things are plainly revealed in the scriptures regarding God's angels and evil angels? _____

The connection of the visible with the invisible world, the ministration of angels of God, and the agency of evil spirits, are plainly revealed in the Scriptures, and inseparably interwoven with human history. There is a growing tendency to disbelief in the existence of evil spirits, while the holy angels that "minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation" (Hebrews 1:14) are regarded by many as spirits of the dead. But the Scriptures not only teach the existence of angels, both good and evil, but present unquestionable proof that these are not disembodied spirits of dead men. {GC 511.1}
3. See also Hebrews 1:14 and Ephesians 6:12.
4. Why is it important to consider this topic of the Agency of Evil Spirits? 2 Corinthians 2:11 _____
5. What do many people believe and while others disbelieve? _____

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6. Consider the fact that the Bible shows that angels existed before the death of the first human being. See Genesis 3:24; Revelation 12:7-9; Job 38:7.
7. How many angels are in existence? Revelation 5:11 _____
8. What are some of the characteristics of angels? Psalm 103:19-21; Daniel 9:21 _____
9. Read the following statement along with Psalm 8:4,5.

Evil spirits, in the beginning created sinless, were equal in nature, power, and glory with the holy beings that are now God's messengers. But fallen through sin, they are leagued together for the dishonor of God and the destruction of men. United with Satan in his rebellion, and with him cast out from heaven, they have, through all succeeding ages, co-operated with him in his warfare against the divine authority. We are told in Scripture of their confederacy and government, of their various orders, of their intelligence and subtlety, and of their malicious designs against the peace and happiness of men. {GC 513.2}
10. What is said of the evil angels? Revelation 12:4,12 _____
11. Consider the following statement, then meditate upon Mark 5:1-17

A striking example of their number, power, and malignity, and also of the power and mercy of Christ, is given in the Scripture account of the healing of the demoniacs at Gadara. Those wretched maniacs, spurning all restraint, writhing, foaming, raging, were filling the air with their cries, doing violence to themselves, and endangering all who should approach them. Their bleeding and disfigured bodies and distracted minds presented a spectacle well pleasing to the prince of darkness. One of the demons controlling the sufferers declared: "My name is Legion: for we are many." Mark 5:9. In the Roman army a legion consisted of from three to five thousand men. Satan's hosts also are marshaled in companies, and the single company to which these demons belonged numbered no less than a legion. {GC 514.2}
12. Note: Mark 7:26-30; Mark 9:17-27; Matthew 12:22; Luke 4:33-36 are accounts that we must personalize. See the video presentation for the commentary and the exposition of the above scriptures.
13. What did Jesus use to cast out the evil spirits? Matthew 8:16 _____

I saw how this grace could be obtained. Go to your closet, and there alone plead with God: "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." Be in earnest, be sincere. Fervent prayer availeth much. Jacob-like, wrestle in prayer. Agonize. Jesus in the garden sweat great drops of blood; you must make an effort. Do not leave your closet until you feel strong in God; then watch, and just as long as you watch and pray you can keep these evil besetments under, and the grace of God can and will appear in you. {MYP 131.3}
14. Consider the following scriptures along with this statement. Acts 8:9-11, 18-24; Acts 13:6-12; Acts 16:16-18.

Those possessed with devils are usually represented as being in a condition of great suffering; yet there were exceptions to this rule. For the sake of obtaining supernatural power, some welcomed the satanic influence. These of course had no conflict with the demons. Of this class were those who possessed the spirit of divination,—Simon Magus, Elymas the sorcerer, and the damsel who followed Paul and Silas at Philippi. {GC 516.1}
15. What pleases Satan? _____

There is nothing that the great deceiver fears so much as that we shall become acquainted with his devices. The better to disguise his real character and purposes, he has caused himself to be so misrepresented as to excite no stronger emotion than ridicule or contempt. He is well pleased to be painted as a ludicrous or loathsome object, **misshapen, half animal and half human**. He is pleased to hear his name used in sport and mockery by those who think themselves intelligent and well informed. {GC 516.3}

16. See the video presentation for the exposition of the above statement, which includes "The Baphomet Prophecy."

17. What will happen in these last days? Revelation 16:13,14 _____

18. What is the condition of Babylon in these last days? Revelation 18:2 _____

19. What did the agency of evil spirits accomplish prior to the first advent of Jesus that will be repeated just before the second advent of Jesus?

"The deception of sin had reached its height...Satanic agencies were incorporated with men. The bodies of human beings, made for the dwelling place of God, had become the habitation of demons. The senses, the nerves, the passions, the organs of men, were worked by supernatural agencies in the indulgence of the vilest lust...What a spectacle for Infinite Purity to behold! Satan was exulting that he had succeeded in debasing the image of God in humanity. Then Jesus came to restore in man the image of his Maker. None but Christ can fashion anew the character that has been ruined by sin. He came to expel the demons that had controlled the will. He came to lift us up from the dust, to reshape the marred character after the pattern of His divine character, and to make it beautiful with His own glory." {The Desire of Ages, 36.3}

20. 56 lawsuits against Catholic Church that allege sexual abuse are before N.B. courts <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/new-brunswick/pedophile-priests-56-civil-lawsuits-1.4401729>

21. CATHOLIC CHURCH PRIESTS RAPED CHILDREN IN PHILADELPHIA, BUT THE WRONG PEOPLE WENT TO JAIL <http://www.newsweek.com/2017/12/08/catholic-church-priests-raped-children-philadelphia-725894.html>

22. Child abuse inquiry: Boy 'abused' by head of Catholic school <http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-42170433>

23. Same-Sex Marriage is now the Law of the (U.S.) Land: What Now for Christians? <http://www.christianitytoday.com/edstetzer/2015/june/same-sex-marriage-is-legal-what-now.html>

24. Australia same-sex marriage bill passes Senate hurdle <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-australia-42161019>

25. From #MeToo to #YouToo: Why We Need Male Allies To Help Stop Sexual Harassment <http://fortune.com/2017/11/21/from-metoo-to-youtoo-why-male-allies-stop-sexual-harassment/>

26. Trevor Noah Asks: #YouToo, AI? Blames All Men https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/trevor-noah-al-franken_us_5a0e7e00e4b045cf4370906a

27. Sexual harassment: You too? <https://www.lawgazette.co.uk/features/sexual-harassment-you-too/5063842.article>

28. Russell Simmons: Music mogul steps down after sex allegation <http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-42179107>

29. NBC News Fires Matt Lauer Over Allegations of Sexual Misconduct <http://www.breitbart.com/big-journalism/2017/11/29/nbc-news-fires-matt-lauer-allegation-sexual-misconduct/>

30. Yet this very class put forth the claim that the fast-spreading corruption is largely attributable to the desecration of the so-called "Christian sabbath," and that the enforcement of Sunday observance would greatly improve the morals of society. This claim is especially urged in America, where the doctrine of the true Sabbath has been most widely preached. Here the temperance work, one of the most prominent and important of moral reforms, is often combined with the Sunday movement, and the advocates of the latter represent themselves as laboring to promote the highest interest of society; and those who refuse to unite with them are denounced as the enemies of temperance and reform. {GC 587.1}

31. "I believe what's happening to our country is that there's a moral erosion of the soul of America," she said. "It's the soul that is corrupt. How we get back to a moral rebirth I don't know. Since we are slowly eroding religion at every opportunity that we have. **Probably we should be debating a bill requiring every American to attend a church of their choice on Sunday to see if we can get back to having a moral rebirth...**" <http://www.azfamily.com/story/28620533/az-senator-church-attendance-should-be-mandatory?clienttype=mobile>