

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works." —Ephesians 2:10

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Isaiah 64:8

Fallen Angels and Demons, by Tommy Thornhill

Two parallel New Testament scriptures deal with fallen angels: "For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment," **2 Pet 2:4.** "And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own habitation, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day," **Jude 6.**

First, what are angels? The word "angel(s)," from the Hebrew malakh, appears 108 times; in the New Testament Greek angellos appears about 186 times. The basic meaning for both is "messenger, one sent, one who delivers a message," sometimes human, Hag 1:13; Mal 2:7; Mk 1:2, sometimes heavenly, Heb 13:2; Mt 28:3; Ax 1:10-11. In either case, human or heavenly, they were created to carry out the will of God, Ps 103:20-21. The heavenly angels are a special creation of God Who created all things, Gen 1:1. He designed all things to work in harmony with His divine plan, Ps 19:1-3, and this includes angels, who were created to do His will, Neh 9:6; Ps 148:2-5; 103:20-21; Col 1:16. They were created before man. Job 38:4.7. In Heb.1:7 (quoting Ps 104:4) angels are called "spirits" (KJV), or "winds" in the Septuagint version.

These angels are neither human or God, but spirit beings higher than man,

Heb.1:5 (quoting Ps 8:4-5); 2:9-10; 2:16-17. Jesus was God in man, not God in an angel. Angels are ageless and sexless, Mt 22:30. They were created as moral beings, "sent forth to do service for the sake of them that shall inherit salvation," Heb 1:14. As created moral beings, they were endowed with free will, and thus subject to sin. The very definition of sin is lawlessness and unrighteousness, 1 Jn 3:4; 5:17. We learn from 2 Pet 2:4 and Jude 6 that some angels sinned. These angels "sinned" by rebelling against God. They chose not to "keep their proper domain, but left their own habitation," so God "cast them down to hell" (tartaroo) and "has reserved (them) in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day." These angels were not satisfied with their position or rank (proper domain) that God had assigned them (much as some men today are not satisfied with their proper position, such as being men and not women), so they left (rebelled against or abandoned) their abode. As a result. God cast them down and bound them under chains of darkness. These were figurative chains -they were restricted or restrained by God. They could do nothing unless He permitted them to do it. They were confined to "Tartarus," a descriptive term for "the deepest abyss in hades," the place of

torment in Lk 16:19-31. *Sheol/hades/*the grave has two sections. All people go to *hades* (the abode of our spirits) after death. The spirits of the righteous dead rest in Abraham's bosom/paradise, Lk 23:43; Ax 2:25; 2 Cor 12:4, and the evil dead will be in torment, *Tartarus*.

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We can see that these fallen angels were the demons who afflicted people in the first century. What are demons and where did they originate? The word, "demons," translated as "devils" in KJV, is the Greek word daimon or daimnion (79 times) and means evil or unclean spirits, Lk 8:2; Mk 5:12-13. There are multitudes of them, Mk 9:5 (legion). The Greek word for devil is diabolos, known as Satan, the slanderer, false accuser; there is only one Devil. Several passages point to the fact that these demons are the Devil's angels, Mt 12:24: 25:41. The Devil or Satan is called the "prince of the power of the air," Eph 2:2; "ruler of this world," Jn 12:31; 14:30; 16:11; and "ruler of the demons," Mt 9:34; 12:24; Mk 3:22; Lk 11:15. We know that demons, under the control of the Devil, their commander in chief, worked in the physical world during New Testament times. Demon possession was a unique phenomenon for the time of Jesus and His apostles, 1 Tim 4:1; 1 Jn 4:1. There is no record I in the Old Testament of demons possessing anyone,

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Fallen Angels/Demons, from p. 1 even though they were associated with pagan and false religions, Lev 17:7; Deut 32:17; 2 Chr 11:15; Ps 106:37. When we come to the time of Christ, we find demons possessing people and causing them to act in strange and dangerous ways. What demons did in people was beyond the power of an ordinary man. But demons were cast out by Jesus and His apostles, Mk 5:8-9; 9:27; Lk 4:33-35; 8:28-29; Ax 16:16-17; 19:15. When Jesus cast them out, they knew who He was and were aware of the judgment awaiting them, described in 2 Peter and Jude. Since they had been in heaven before being cast out, they would certainly know the identity of Jesus. Note some of the statements made by them.

We read of two men possessed by demons in the country of the Gadarenes. When Jesus cast them out, they cried, "What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Mt 8:29. And in the parallel passage, "they begged Him that He would not command them to go out into the abyss," Lk 8:31. Unclean spirits were also known as demons. In a synagogue in Capernaum, Jesus cast out an unclean spirit of a man. "And he cried out, saying 'Let us alone! What we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did you come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God,' "Mk 1:24 (Lk 4:33-36). Note the plural "us." On another occasion. "And the unclean spirits, whenever they saw Him. fell down before Him and cried out, saying, 'You are the Son of God,' " Mk 3:11. Luke uses the terms demon and unclean spirit interchangeably: "Now in the synagogue there was a man who had a spirit of an unclean demon....And demons also came out of many, crying out and saying, 'You are the Christ, the Son of God.' And He, rebuking them, did not allow them to speak, for they knew He was the Christ," Lk 4:33, 41; cf. Lk 8:29; Rev 18:2. These fallen angels, or demons, were allowed to exercise unusual power over men while Jesus was on earth. This allowed Him to show His power over

Satan and his evil workers. By casting out demons, Jesus proved He was not only able to control the demons, but also their commander in chief. His power was far greater than that of Satan, Mt 12:28-29; Lk 11:14-23. Casting out demons was associated with the kingdom. Jesus said, "But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom is come unto you," Lk 11:20. He gave His apostles the ability to cast out demons in order to establish His coming kingdom, the church, and to confirm the word of God, Mk 16:15-20; Heb 2:3-4.

Just before His ascension, Jesus gave them the Great Commission. Not only was the Lord's kingdom established on Pentecost, but as the apostles spoke God's revelation, it was being brought to completion. After it was completed, there was to be no more divine revelation. 1 Cor 13:8-13. especially v. 10. Prophecies, along with tongues and special knowledge, were to cease " when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away." Context and grammar show "the perfect" in v.10 to be the completed word of God, see also Jude 3; Jas 1:25. When divine revelation stopped, so did demon possession. Note two prophecies which were clearly Messianic and prophesied such would cease: "I will cut off sorceries...soothsayers," Mic 5:12-13; "...I will cause the ... unclean spirits to depart from the land," Zech 13:1-9. Once the foundation for the church, God's kingdom of the Messianic age, was laid (beginning at Pentecost in Acts 2) and God's revelation was completed, then the unclean spirits, i.e. fallen angels/demons were also to depart and be cut off. So when divine revelation stopped, fallen angels/ demons could no longer enter people and control them.

We can be certain of some facts about demons. First, <u>demons are **not athe-**</u> <u>ists</u>. They believe in God, Mt 8:29; Mk 1:24; 3:11; Lk 4:41. In fact, they believe in only <u>one</u> God, Jas 2:19. But just because they believe in God does not mean they are saved. Saving faith has to be coupled with obedience shown in action, Jas 2:14-17, 22-24. Today, many say they believe, but their belief is no better than that of the fallen angels/ demons. And like that of demons, their faith is a dead faith, because they will not obey God, Mt 7:21-23; Heb 5:9. Second, the fallen angels/demons were not religious modernists. They did not believe Jesus just to be a mere man. They referred to Him as the Holy One of God, Mk 1:24; the Son of God, Mk 3:11. They were more correct than people who say Jesus was a good man but not God. Modernists are people who don't want to admit Jesus's virgin birth, His miracles, His resurrection. At least the demons made the confession that He was the Son of God, even though they tried to keep people from following Him.

Third, these fallen angels/<u>demons also</u> recognized Jesus had and still has all <u>authority</u>. They couldn't resist Him. When He commanded them to come forth, they had to yield. They entreated Him not to send them to the abyss, Lk 8:31, but they knew they had to obey. Fourth, they also know there is a hell

and judgment that awaits them, Mt 8:29. So many today want to deny hell exists, but the demons know it to be a fact and know that they are going to be in it, Mt 25:41. The people who deny its existence or live as if it doesn't exist will end up there with the Devil and his angels for eternity.

Isn't it sad that so many today have less knowledge of these things than the demons, yet they act worse because they have the opportunity to be saved, whereas fallen angels or demons have no such opportunity. But if the demons who believed could not escape the consequences of their actions, why do people today think they can? The same judgment awaits them that also awaits the Devil and the demons who serve him, an eternal punishment in hell, 2 Thes 1:7-9; Rev 20:11-15.



God makes my heart clean in 2015 "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." —Ps 51:10

Mizzou Protests, from p. 4

incredulity, befuddlement, anger, disdain, and repulsion. But what if the leftist temper tantrum that we're witnessing is in fact something of a last gasp, a sudden recognition that their long-awaited nirvana is never going to come? Deep down, they must realize that the only real career path for the campus radical is to join some leftist organization in a professional capacity or to stay on campus and attempt to become a professor (or become US President). Corporate America may pay off agitators, but they aren't terribly eager to hire them or give them any real responsibility. The audience for leftist agitprop is pretty limited.

Sure, leftists have gained tighter control over the academic world over the past generations, but they're recognizing obvious limitations on their ability to influence the culture at large from there. They call for racial justice while the state of black America slips further and further into self-described crisis. They police micro-aggressions while the culture grows coarser. They fight for feminism while "sugar daddies" are now in vogue in some circles of young women, advertising is as objectifying of women as ever, millions of women obsess over celebrities' bodies, and women put 50 Shades atop the bestseller lists. Their effort to divest from oil and natural-gas companies is flopping; divestment from Israel has passed in only a handful of schools. In fact, we get pampered and coddled students screaming that colleges are hotbeds of racism, homophobia, sexism, and the rest of the "31 Flavors of Oppression" just as the higher-education bubble is bursting. What's the point of controlling the

Discipleship Here At Home

world's most distinguished schools at the precise moment many Americans decide they're not worth the debt to attend them? Safe Spaces for Me, Spit for Thee. The prudish mob understands force. It's not cool to let people do what they want. No, everyone must be forced to care. If you can leave aside the threat to Western Civilization these little totalitarians pose, it's a glorious comeuppance university staff are getting. For generations, liberals have cultivated the notion that college should be a safe space for political liberalism and even libertinism. Instead, these frightened, failed libertines want to impose order from below. The administrators see themselves as Robin Williams in Dead Poets Society, and the ungrateful brats respond by demanding subsidized all-organic sticks to lick. Oh, and having a stick to lick is not voluntary. No, no. We all must have sticks to lick. We must not chuckle at the linebacker's Caitlyn Jenner Halloween costume. And those who do laugh must be punished or banished. That's the most infuriating part about this "safe space" inanity. One person's safe space is another person's oppressive cult. These kids are exactly the little Robespierres cultural Marxists have been waiting for. Just as the "free speech movement" was never actually for free speech, the safe spacers aren't really for spaces that are safe. They are for little zones of political absolutism, where their worldview and, yes, their privilege, are unguestioned and celebrated. By all means, deal with students who assault other students. But to the extent colleges are supposed to be safe spaces, they are supposed to be safe places to disagree with one another! And yet, when the William F. Buckley Program at Yale held a panel discussion, the privileged Huns responded by spitting on them.

The Missouri General Assembly should take a long, hard look at the Mizzou's funding and cut it back—severely. If football players or coaches want to play politics, let them go do it—but not with one red cent of tax money. If weak, leftist professors and administrators want to

PRAY FOR healing, protection, help

 Rod Green—cut off tip of finger
 Kory Tope's uncle, Skeeter Schulz—broken hip

 Judy Strand—preparing for liver transplant by chemo drugs; also broken arm, post-surgery pain
 Sheryle McNeill—pinched nerve

• Ernesto Gonzalez's father Fidencio-stage IV

- lymphoma, some improvement after 2nd chemo • Linda Szymanski's grandson Slade—broke elbow
- Letha Fink's brother Kenneth Morrison of GA— liver
- disease, diagnosed with neuro-muscular disease

 Kaylee Chavez—age 10, cancer; REJOICE—off chemo; at St. Jude's in Memphis through Nov

Bill Dennis—home recovery following rehab
 Larry Campbell's FL partner Terry Hargadine's wife
Michelle—cancerous lymph nodes removed, latest

 Kayla Knighten, Christine Adams's daughter, needs our prayers; Judy Strand requests prayer for her son Joe; pray Ed's son Rodney Schulz and

Sheryle's daughter Tiffany receive the gospel; pray Jeff and Pat's son Mike and grandson Drew return to the Lord.

• Sylvia Chapman, Brett's grandmother—third stage pancreatic cancer; Brett's grandmother Sue, and Aunt Bonnie Doss—cancer returned

 Brittany Tope's mother—breast cancer, improving; grandmother—on dialysis

grandmother—on dialysis CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Christian Harrod; Addison Tope; Pat Wilkes; Ann Cox; Logan Corray; Rocco Jr.—asthma Orchid Cox—chronic blood clot condition Autumn Hadders—epilepsy; celiac disease Kirk Johnson—MS; Amanda Mailloux—IBS Menards—Lloyd diabetes, Alzheimers; VA help; Virginia, blindness from macular degeneration Sandra Perry—diabetes complications; oxygen Cheryl Reames—fibromyalgia; diverticulitis Judy Sartin—rotator cuffinjury; spinal stenosis Judy and Mike Strand—hepatitis treatment Lynda Szymanski—COPD, lung weakness Bereaved Randy Reames's mother passed away recently.

<u>Travel</u> Meredith Walker is at a family gathering in FL until Thursday.

conduct a morality play based on Stalin's purges, that is their business—but not on public property or with public resources. The General Assembly needs to act quickly before the next attack is launched. By ridding Missouri of the rot and cultural Marxist disease now, the General Assembly will be doing a great service to the entire country and set a shining example of exactly how the thugs and vandals should be treated, Rm 1:21-31; 2 Tim 3:2-4; Jude 18.



Exposing current trends

education

Lawless Mizzou Protesters Deserve Mockery, by Miller, Goldberg, et al "Last week, the country and our media were demanding that public spaces, including women's restrooms and locker rooms, be open to all. This week, apparently, private 'safe spaces' in public areas must be acknowledged and respected by everyone, including media." —Stephen Miller

The American public should learn some lessons from the confrontational protests by black football players to boycott future games at the University of Missouri last week that culminated in resignation of the school's president and chancellor. Outside of the actual headquarters of the Democratic party itself, no major institution in America today is more thoroughly run and controlled by the Left than academia.

First, in a truly sweet taste of just desserts, the white liberal academic establishment got beaten by the very politically-correct thought police that they have unleashed on America. Good. It is about time the self-important, arrogant thugs of the Ivory Tower complex get a taste of the brutish, antiintellectualism they have created to resemble a replay of Mao's Cultural Revolution. All we need is to have the femi-Nazis and the rich black kids pretending to be oppressed walking around with Barack's little red book.

Second, the open hostility to liberty, constitutional rights, and simple civic discourse would be shocking if it had not become such a norm. The reporter being bullied, threatened, and physically assaulted by the mob at the university while he simply tried to do his job seems to belong to some third world dictatorship, not the heartland of America. But perhaps that is the lesson; that the left is working overtime to turn the US into just such a hell-hole dictatorship. They want the lecturer and administrator who defended wearing fun costumes on Halloween booted from their positions & homes.

Third, since when do so-called "student athletes" become political tools? Many, if not most, of the school's football team attend the university on scholarships. They are there to entertain the students and to make money for the university and maybe get an education for themselves. If they decide that their politics are more important, fine. But they should lose the scholarships and either pay their own tuition or vacate the school. The coddling of these spoiled babies will only encourage more such temper tantrums.

Finally, public universities have become rat's nests of radical Marxists who act in the most odious ways possible, yelling for strong-arm thugs to shut down the exercise of First Amendment freedoms. And they are doing it with taxpayer money. Assistant Professor in Mass Communications Melissa Click's inciting the mob against an Asian reporter demanding that she get some *"muscle over here"* to deal with the student press was an insult to every taxpayer in Missouri who was forced to pay her salary. Anyone who writes academic papers on the import of Lady Gaga is suspect to begin with; but her lapse into open assaults on free speech made her resignation welcome. This is the sad state of higher education in America. There's good reason to look at what's going on in America's college campuses with *continued on p. 3*



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Assembly Schedule

Sunday	
Bible classes	9:00 am
Morning assembly	10:00 am
Afternoon assembly	1:30 pm
Wednesday	
Bible classes	7:30 pm

Sunday morning

• adult Bible class, A Life-Changing Encounter with Christ from "*The Gospel* According to John," Kenny Boyd

• sermon, "The Highway of Holiness," Jim Reingrover

Sunday afternoon

• sermon, "Scriptural Fellowship," Brian Shreve

Feeding on His Word Reading

Everyone is invited to an open Bible reading of <u>1 Kings</u> next Sunday evening, 11/22, 4 pm, at the Corrays' house, supper after the reading. See **Joel Walker** for schedule.