

Origin of Demons¹

The Damascus Document mentions Christ as the "Messiah" in the following Passage and then continues with a mention of the Watchers as follows: "And through His Messiah He shall make them know His Holy Spirit, and He is true, and in the true interpretation of His name are their names. But them He hated He made to go astray. Now therefore, children, listen to me and I will open your eyes to see and to understand the works of God. And to choose what He approves and reject what He hates. To walk uprightly in all His ways, and not to go about in the thoughts of an evil imagination and with eyes of fornication. For many were led astray by them, and mighty men of valor stumbled by them from ancient times until this day. Because they walked in the stubbornness of their heart the Watchers of heaven fell. By them were they caught because they did not keep the commandment of God.

And their children whose height was like the lofty cedars and whose bodies were like the mountains fell thereby. All flesh that was on dry land perished, and they were as though they had not been. ... By them went astray the sons of Noah and their families: because of them they were out off ... every man doing his own will." This account conforms to Gen 6:2-7 and designates the division of angels called Watchers as the Sons of God in verse four. Genesis suggests there was a mating between angels and human women but details are not included.

Peter also speaks of an angelic rebellion in 2 Pet 2:4. Jude writes of this in verse 6 and quotes the Book of Enoch (verses 14-15) concerning the coming judgment. Early Christian writers (Irenaeus, Clement of Alexandria, Tertullian) freely quoted the Book of Enoch as Scripture. R. H. Charles and other scholars of ancient manuscripts were convinced the early Apostolic church regarded the "Book of Enoch" as Scripture. Certain early Bible versions included Enoch. Enoch was used by the Qumran community and it conforms to the Bible filling out certain gray areas.

A few centuries later Christian leaders such as Augustine (354-430) discredited and placed a ban on the Book of Enoch. There may have been a severe penalty imposed for possession because the Book of Enoch virtually disappeared in the Western world until about 1800 when an Ethiopic version was located. Enoch provides many details concerning the spirit world and judgment. Prior to Augustine's time early Christian writers such as Irenaeus (c. 115-200) and Justin Martyr (c.100-165) looked for a literal Kingdom of God to be established on earth. Augustine taught that the book of Revelation was simply spiritual allegory and the one thousand year rule was fulfilled in the Church, and that the Church already existed in a state of grace. Augustine's teachings shaped the doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church and strongly influenced other church groups for centuries to come. Little wonder Augustine did not like the Book of Enoch because this writing has such explicit descriptions of the final days that it would have undermined Augustine's teachings.

The later Reformation did much to change many minds about Augustine's teachings. In the year 1800 a man named John Nelson Darby was born in London, and he had quite another view concerning the book of Revelation. He taught during the 1800s that the book of Revelation was a literal depiction of coming end time events. Many people in Britain and the United States believed Darby. During this century Cyrus Scofield, ascribing to this and other teachings of Darby, published the Scofield Reference Bible in 1909.

The Dead Sea Scrolls vividly dispute these teachings of Augustine but support the Darby/Scofield conclusions that the Last Days will indeed conform to a more literal interpretation as presented in the book of Revelation. Darby and Scofield did apparently introduce for the first time another concept however, called The Rapture, which tended to make their teachings more palatable. More on this later. These historical details were presented because the Book of Enoch seems to provide the only source for the details of the Watchers episode, preceding Noah and the flood, as mentioned in Genesis chapter 6. The account from this ancient writing of Enoch will be provided for the reader's evaluation.

The Watchers, according to Enoch, are also connected with the Azazel goat of Lev 16:80 & 1922. Some have thought this Azazel to represent Satan, but this does not seem to be the case. Considering the evidence of the Genesis version, the Scrolls, and the Book of Enoch writings may clear up some of the mystery concerning the evil spirits or Demons often mentioned in the Bible, especially in the New Testament. A condensed account from the Book of Enoch: In the days of Jared, sixth from Adam, a portion (200 in number) of angels of the order of Watchers began to notice the beautiful and comely daughters of men. These Watchers met on Mount Hermon and discussed the desire to choose wives to mate with and produce children on the earth. Semjazi and Azazel were two of their leaders, and all 200 bound themselves to do this with an oath on Mt. Hermon. Influenced to some degree by Satan these Watchers assumed human forms and chose women and made them pregnant and among their offspring were GIANTS as tall as cedar trees. These giants consumed all the food humans could produce then began to devour flesh with the blood in it and each other as well.

Azazel and the others taught the women secrets of metalworking, root-cuttings, cosmetics, enchantments, and other crafts which led mankind into deep corruption. This continued over a period of several generations of mankind until the days of Noah. Knowledge which enhanced violent conflict was included. As mankind perished their cry went up to heaven. Four of the Archangels, Michael, Uriel, Raphael, and Gabriel, saw the blood and lawlessness and listened to these cries. These four presented the case to the Lord who ruled that He would intervene. God sent Uriel to warn Noah to prepare for the flood, and ordered that the offending Watchers be bound and imprisoned. Azazel had become the worst offender of the lot it seems.

The Archangel Raphael then bound Azazel hand and foot and cast him into darkness in a place in the desert named Dudael. Raphael placed rough and jagged stones over Azazel and covered him in darkness where he would remain until the day of the great

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judgment. on that day Azazel and the other offending Watchers will be judged by the Son of Man (Christ) before all the world and cast into the lake of fire. God ruled that the earth had been corrupted through the works taught by Azazel and that to Azazel would be ascribed all sin resulting from these events. God placed Michael in charge of securing the other participating Watchers. Once bound in massive chains they were forced to see the destruction of their beloved children. Some of these children of the unions between Watchers and women killed each other while others died in the flood. The spirits of the unions between angels and humans inherited the quality of immortality from the Watchers and therefore their spirit survived the destruction of their mortal bodies.

The spirits of the children of the watchers lived on as disembodied spirits and were called Evil Spirits. Confined to the earth where they were born, they oppress, destroy, attack, do battle, work destruction on the earth, and cause trouble among mankind. They could assume other forms and would tempt, accuse, and torment mankind until they are gathered up and judged at the end of the age. These evil spirits take no food, yet they hunger and thirst as if they were mortals and cause offences among mankind. They shall rise up against the children of men and against the women and continue until the great judgment. After witnessing the physical destruction of their offspring the Watchers were bound in massive chains made by the Archangels and confined to the valleys of the earth (abyss) in darkness (as confirmed in 2 Pet 2:4 & Jude 6) for seventy generations.

These spirits of the offspring of the angelic Watchers and human women are the evil spirits (demons) which roam the earth and possess humans and animals because they have no bodies of their own. Jesus describes them as evil spirits, wandering and finding no rest, who are seeking humans to possess and corrupt (Matt 12:43-45). They are the spiritual forces under the rule of Satan, the Prince of Darkness, with whom humans must contend for a time.

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