

DOCTRINE | Satan & Demons

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT DEMONS?

Demons are fallen angels (Revelation 12:9, ESV)

Some of the demons are already locked for their sin. (Jude 1:6, ESV)

Others are free to roam (Ephesians 6:12 ESV)

Demons, as spirit beings, have the ability to take possession of a physical body.

Jesus, during His earthly ministry, encountered many demons. (Matthew 8:16 ESV)

Satan and his demons now look to destroy the work of God and deceive anyone they can.

The demons/fallen angels are enemies of God, but they are defeated enemies. (Colossians 2:15 ESV)

WHO IS SATAN IN THE BIBLE?

Satan is described in the Bible as an angelic enemy of God and, by extension, the enemy and opponent of those who follow God. (Colossians 2:15 ESV)

Concerning Satan, the Bible gives the following information:

- Satan is a personal being, with a mind, emotions, and a will (Job 1; Matthew 4:1–12)
- He is a created being and is not equal to God (Ezekiel 28:15)
- Satan does not rule hell.
 - Hell was created as a punishment for Satan and his demons (Matthew 25:41).
- Neither does Satan live in hell, as the Bible describes how he can enter heaven and roam the earth (Job 1:6–7)
- The devil can only do what God allows (Job 1:12).
- Satan is not omnipresent.
 - But he does oversee a horde of demons, called “the powers of this dark world and . . . the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms” (Ephesians 6:12).
 - He uses this network to tempt and deceive people.
- He actively works to nullify the effect of the Word of God in people’s hearts (Matthew 13:3–4, 19) and he blinds the intellect of those who do not believe so they cannot understand the gospel (2 Corinthians 4:4).

Christians should be mindful of the schemes of Satan (1 Peter 5:8 ESV)

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