

PERILOUS TIMES



SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND THE RISE OF DEMONIC ACTIVITY



Colossians 2:15

And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly,
triumphing over them in it.

“There are two equal and opposite errors into which our race can fall about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them.” – *C.S. Lewis*

“The greatest weapon in the world is the Bible in the hands of a person that truly believes it” –*R.E.G.*

*The Twilight Zone: 'The Howling Man' Episode
(Ellington after having unwittingly freed Satan)*

Ellington

*"I-I didn't believe you. I saw him and
didn't recognize him."*

JEROME

*"That is man's weakness... and Satan's
strength."*

By the pricking of my thumbs,
Something wicked this way comes.
2nd Witch, Macbeth Act 4, Scene1

Perilous Times: Spiritual Warfare and the Rise of Demonic Activity

“It is no wonder that truth is stranger than fiction. Fiction has to make sense.” - *Mark Twain*

The Paganizing of America

I Timothy 4:1

1Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

- Though the U.S. is an overwhelmingly Christian country, significant minorities profess belief in a variety of Eastern or New Age beliefs. For instance, 24% of the public overall and 22% of Christians say they believe in reincarnation — that people will be reborn in this world again and again. And similar numbers (25% of the public overall, 23% of Christians) believe in astrology. Nearly three-in-ten Americans say they have felt in touch with someone who has already died, almost one-in-five say they have seen or been in the presence of ghosts, and 15% have consulted a fortuneteller or a psychic. — *Pew Research*
- 42% of Americans believe in ghosts (especially younger people), 36% each believe in creationism and UFOs, 29% believe in astrology, 26% believe in witches and 24% believe in reincarnation — that they were once another person. — *Harris Poll Dec. 2013*
- Sixteen percent of all adults and 20 percent of all men have no religious affiliation. Among Americans under thirty, 25 percent have none. — *US Religious Landscape Survey, Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, 2008*
- Thirty percent of all married couples did not have a religious wedding; 27 percent of Americans did not want a religious funeral. *Michelle Bororstein “15 Percent of Americans Have No Religion” Washing Post, March 9, 2009*
- The nonreligious were the only group that added to its numbers in every state since 2001 — *Ibid*
- As a share of the US population, Christians declined from 86 percent in 1990 to 76 percent in 2004. — *Boorstein “15 Percent” Zoll, “more Americans”*
- The 2001 American Religious Identification Survey (ARIS), which involved 50,000 participants, reported that the number of participants in the survey identifying themselves as deists grew at the rate of 717% between 1990 and 2001. — *2001 American Religious Identification Survey*
- The American Religious Identification Survey gives Wicca an average annual growth of 143% for the period 1990 to 2001 (from 8,000 to 134,000 — *U.S. data / similar for Canada & Australia*) — *2001 American Religious Identification Survey*

More US Christians Mix In ‘Eastern New Age Beliefs- USA Today Article. Dec. 10th, 2009’

“Going to church this Sunday? Look around. The chances are that one in five of the people there find "spiritual energy" in mountains or trees, and one in six believe in the "evil eye," that certain people can cast curses with a look — beliefs your Christian pastor doesn't preach.

“In a Catholic church? Chances are that one in five members believes in reincarnation in a way never taught in catechism class — that you'll be reborn in this world again and again.

“Elements of Eastern faiths and New Age thinking have been widely adopted by 65% of U.S. adults, including many who call themselves Protestants and Catholics, according to a survey by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life released Wednesday.”

THE STAGE HAS BEEN SET

I. Occultism in the Old Testament & New Testaments

{OT}

Exodus 7:10-11

10And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent.
11Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments.

Sorcerers = Strong's H3784 *kâshaph kaw-shaf* A primitive root; properly to *whisper* a spell, that is, to *inchant* or practise magic: - sorcerer, (use) witch (-craft).

I Samuel 28:7-8, 11-15, 16-19

7 Then said Saul unto his servants, Seek me a woman that hath a familiar spirit*, that I may go to her, and enquire of her. And his servants said to him, Behold, there is a woman that hath a familiar spirit at Endor.

8And Saul disguised himself, and put on other raiment, and he went, and two men with him, and they came to the woman by night: and he said, I pray thee, divine unto me by the familiar spirit, and bring me *him* up, whom I shall name unto thee.

*Familiar spirit = *obe*

From the same as H1 (apparently through the idea of *prattling* a father's name); properly a *mumble*, that is, a water *skin* (from its hollow sound); hence a *necromancer* (ventriloquist, as from a jar): - bottle, familiar spirit –a demon
Familiar Spirit= Strong's H178 'obe' hence a *necromancer*, The Hebrew word is used to denote a necromancer, a conjuror; particularly one who was supposed to have power to call up the dead- *Barnes* ;
A medium that is controlled by a demon –Fuchtenbaum–Demonology The Doctrine Of Demons

11Then said the woman, Whom shall I bring up unto thee? And he said, Bring me up Samuel.
12 And when the woman saw Samuel, she cried with a loud voice: and the woman spake to Saul, saying, Why hast thou deceived me? for thou art Saul.
13And the king said unto her, Be not afraid: for what sawest thou? And the woman said unto Saul, I saw gods ascending out of the earth.
14And he said unto her, What form is he of? And she said, An old man cometh up; and he is covered with a mantle. And Saul perceived that it was Samuel, and he stooped with his face to the ground, and bowed himself.
15And Samuel said to Saul, Why hast thou disquieted me, to bring me up? And Saul answered, I am sore distressed; for the Philistines make war against me, and God is departed from me, and answereth me no more, neither by prophets, nor by dreams: therefore I have called thee, that thou mayest make known unto me what I shall do.

16Then said Samuel, Wherefore then dost thou ask of me, seeing the LORD is departed from thee, and is become thine enemy?
17And the LORD hath done to him, as he spake by me: for the LORD hath rent the kingdom out of thine hand, and given it to thy neighbour, *even* to David:
18Because thou obeyedst not the voice of the LORD, nor executedst his fierce wrath upon Amalek, therefore hath the LORD done this thing unto thee this day.
19Moreover the LORD will also deliver Israel with thee into the hand of the Philistines: and to morrow *shalt* thou and thy sons *be* with me: the LORD also shall deliver the host of Israel into the hand of the Philistines.

I Chronicles 10:13

13So Saul died for his transgression which he committed against the LORD, *even* against the word of the LORD, which he kept not, and also for asking counsel of one that had a familiar spirit, to enquire of it:

It is my opinion that what was called up was not Samuel but a demon impersonating Samuel. This belief is not without merit for we are told in **2Corinthians 11:13-14** 13For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. 14And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. The Lord had abandoned Saul because of his disobedience. It is unlikely that the Lord would allow Samuel to be brought up to speak with Saul when the Lord himself would not speak to Saul, or speak to him through the prophets. The Lord Himself had a prohibition against necromancy, familiar spirits. (**Lev. 19:31; Jer. 29:9**) and the practice of using them was punishable by death. The dead coming back to this realm will be addressed in detail later in this study.

II Kings 16:2-4

2Twenty years old *was* Ahaz when he began to reign, and reigned sixteen years in Jerusalem, and did not *that which was* right in the sight of the LORD his God, like David his father.

3But he walked in the way of the kings of Israel, yea, and made his son to pass through the fire, according to the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out from before the children of Israel.

4And he sacrificed and burnt incense in the high places, and on the hills, and under every green tree.

Pass through the fire= human sacrifice

II Kings 21: 1-2, 6

1Manasseh *was* twelve years old when he began to reign, and reigned fifty and five years in Jerusalem. And his mother's name *was* Hephzibah.

2And he did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD, after the abominations of the heathen, whom the LORD cast out before the children of Israel.

6And he made his son pass through the fire, and observed times, and used enchantments, and dealt with familiar spirits and wizards: he wrought much wickedness in the sight of the LORD, to provoke *him* to anger.

Joshua 13:22

22Balaam also the son of Beor, the soothsayer*, did the children of Israel slay with the sword among them that were slain by them.

Strong's H7080 qâsam - *kaw-sam'* A primitive root; properly to *distribute*, that is, *determine* by lot or magical scroll; by implication to *divine*: - divine (-r, -ation), prudent, soothsayer, use [divination].

{NT}

Acts 8:9-11

9But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:

10To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.

11And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

Acts 13:6, 8-11

6And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name *was* Barjesus:

8But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.

9Then Saul, (who also *is called* Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him,

10And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

11And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

II. Gods Prohibition against Consulting Spirits & Occultism

Exodus 22:18

18Thou shalt not suffer a witch to live.

Leviticus 20:6

6And the soul that turneth after such as have familiar spirits, and after wizards*, to go a whoring after them, I will even set my face against that soul, and will cut him off from among his people.

*Wizard = Strong's H3049 yidd'ômî - yid-deh-o-nee'

From H3045; properly a *knowing* one; specifically a *conjurer*; (by implication) a *ghost*: - wizard.

Deuteronomy 18:9-14

9When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations.

10There shall not be found among you *any one* that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or that useth divination*, or an observer of times*, or an enchanter*, or a witch*, 11Or a charmer*, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer*.

12For all that do these things are an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee.

13Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.

14For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so *to do*.

*Divination = Strong's H7081 qesem- keh'-sem

From H7080; a *lot*; also *divination* (including its *fee*), *oracle*: - (reward of) divination, divine sentence, witchcraft {i.e. fortune telling by magical means}

*Observer of times = Strong's H6049 'ânân - aw-nan'

A primitive root; to *cover*; used only as denominative from H6051, to *cloud* over; figuratively to *act covertly*, that is, practise magic: - X bring, enchanter, Meonemin, observe (-r of) times, soothsayer, sorcerer.

*Enchanter = Strong's H5172 nâchash - naw-khash'A primitive root; properly to *hiss*, that is, *whisper* a (magic) spell; generally to *prognosticate*: - X certainly, divine, enchanter, (use) X enchantment, learn by experience, X indeed, diligently observe.

{i.e. a magician who puts others under a demonic spell or under demonic control}

*Witch = Strong's H3784 kâshaph - kaw-shaf'

A primitive root; properly to *whisper* a spell, that is, to *inchant* or practise magic: - sorcerer, (use) witch (-craft).

*Charmer = Strong's H2266 châbar - khaw-bar'

A primitive root; to *join* (literally or figuratively); specifically (by means of spells) to *fascinate*: - charm (-er), be compact, couple (together), have fellowship with, heap up, join (self, together), league.

{i.e. one who practices magic miracles, incantations and hypnotism}

*Necromancer = Strong's H1875 dârash - daw-rash'

A primitive root; properly to *tread* or *frequent*; usually to *follow* (for pursuit or search); by implication to *seek* or *ask*; specifically to *worship*: *mûth*

*mooth*A primitive root; to *die* (literally or figuratively); causatively to *kill*: - X at all, X crying, (be) dead (body, man, one), (put to, worthy of) death, destroy (-er), (cause to, be like to, must) die, kill, necro [-mancer],

{i.e. a medium that consults the dead}

Leviticus 19:26, 31, 20:27

26Ye shall not eat *any thing* with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times.

31Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them: I

am the LORD your God.

20:27 A man also or woman that hath a familiar spirit, or that is a wizard, shall surely be put to death: they shall stone them with stones: their blood *shall be* upon them.

I Samuel 15:23

23 For rebellion *is as* the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness *is as* iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, he hath also rejected thee from *being* king.

Isaiah 8:19

19 And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?

Jeremiah 29:8-9

8 For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Let not your prophets and your diviners, that *be* in the midst of you, deceive you, neither hearken to your dreams which ye cause to be dreamed.

9 For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the LORD.

Micah 5:12

5:12 And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thine hand; and thou shalt have no more soothsayers:

Acts 19:18-20

18 And many that believed came, and confessed, and shewed their deeds.

19 Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found *it* fifty thousand *pieces* of silver.

Galatians 5:19-20

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

III. Angels & Demons

“The acknowledgement of evil spirits is characteristic of Christianity.” –*Theological Essays pg.32-34*

Angel = Strong's H4397 mal'âk - *mal-awk* From an unused root meaning to *despatch* as a deputy; a *messenger*; specifically of God, that is, an *angel* (also a prophet, priest or teacher): - ambassador, angel, king, messenger.

Angels are created beings. There is an important distinction that must be made between the Angels of God (YHVH) who are his messengers and serve Him, and the angels that fell with Lucifer\Satan.

Angels (Those that did not fall with Lucifer\Satan) are the messengers of God and spiritual beings that do the will of God. They have always appeared as men and are ministering spirits to the heirs of salvation. They are mentioned in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

In the Bible, angels:

1. Were never said to enter into anyone.
2. Have no affection for bodies, either as habitations or vehicles of action.
3. Have no inclination or favoring for tombs and monuments of the dead.

On the other hand, demons:

1. Have entered into human bodies and into the bodies of inferior creatures.
2. Demonstrate a peculiar affection for human bodies and seem to desire them both as vehicles of action and as places of habitation.

3. Demonstrate a peculiar fondness for their former mortal tenements. We so often read of their carrying the possessed into graveyards, tombs, and sepulchers, where, perchance, their old mortalities lay in ruins.

ANGELS THAT DO THE WILL OF GOD & MANIFEST IN HUMAN FORM

Genesis 19:1

1And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing *them* rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;

Genesis 19:10

10The men put forth their hand, and pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door.

Genesis 19:11

11 And they smote the men that *were* at the door of the house with blindness, both small and great: so that they wearied themselves to find the door.

Genesis 19:13

13For we will destroy this place, because the cry of them is waxen great before the face of the LORD; and the LORD hath sent us to destroy it.

Mathew 28:2-5

2And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

3His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow:

4And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead *men*.

5And the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye: for I know that ye seek Jesus, which was crucified.

Mark 16:5

5And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.

John 20:12

12And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and the other at the feet, where the body of Jesus had lain.

Hebrews 1: 7, 13

7And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.

13But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool?

Hebrews 13:2

2Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Luke 1:26

26And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,

ANGELS MINISTER AND PROTECT BELIEVERS (Guardian Angels)

Psalms 1:14

14Are they (angels) not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

Psalms 9 1:11

11For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.

Psalms 3 4:7

7The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.

Daniel 6:21

21Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever.

Daniel 6:22

22My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. Also in the book of Revelation Angels:

- † Gave revelation to John {Rev. 1:1,2}
- † Worshipped God {Rev. 5:11,12}
- † Support preaching of the Gospel {Rev. 14:6,7}
- † Help the servants of God {Rev. 7: 2,3}
- † Brings Gods judgment on earth {Rev. ch. 8,9 and 11.}

DEMONS- ORIGINS

{The existence of demons is mentioned by every New Testament writer except the author of Hebrews, while not mentioning demons did mention Satan the prince of demons. (Heb.2:14)}

There is much discussion on exactly what demons are and their origin. Many Bible scholars and Biblical historians have differing opinions on this issue. I will attempt to bring clarity to this issue and make a case which I believe is the correct conclusion as to what demons are and their origin. Below are some important definitions for the word 'demon' that we should be aware of as we speak of demons:

Strong's:

G1142 daimōn *dah'ee-mown* From daiō (to distribute fortunes); a *demon* or super natural spirit (of a bad nature): - devil. (Matt. 8:31)

G1140 daimonion - *dahee-mon'-ee-on* Neuter of a derivative of G1142; a *daemonic being*; by extension a *deity*: - devil, god. (Luke 4:33)

G1141 daimoniōdēs - *dahee-mon-ee-o'-dace* From G1140 and G1142; *daemon like*: - devilish. (James 3:15) G1139 daimonizomai - *dahee-mon-id'-zom-ahee* Middle voice from G1142; *to be exercised by a daemon*: - have a (be vexed with, be possessed with) devil (-s). (Matt. 4:24)

G1174 deisidaimonesteros - *dice-ee-dahee-mon-es'-ter-os* The compound of a derivative of the base of G1169 and G1142; *more religious than others*: - too superstitious. (Acts 17:22)

G1175 deisidaimonia - *dice-ee-dahee-mon-ee'-ah* From the same as G1174; *religion*: - superstition.

(1) DEMONS AS THE DISEMBODIED SPIRITS OF DEAD MEN

All the Pagan authors of note, whose works have survived the wreck of ages, affirm the opinion that demons were the spirits or ghosts of dead men. From Hesiod down to the more polished Celsus, their historians, poets, and philosophers occasionally express this opinion. -*Alexander Campbell, Demonology (pg.3)*

The Jewish historians, Josephus and Philo, also avow this conviction. Josephus says, "Demons are the spirits of wicked men, who enter into living men and destroy them, unless they are so happy as to meet with speedy relief. Philo says, "The souls of dead men are called demons." The Christian Fathers, Justin Martyr, Ireneus, Origen, depose to the same effect. Justin, when arguing for a future state, alleges "those who are seized and tormented by the souls of the dead, whom all call demons and madmen." – *Alexander Campbell, Demonology (pg.4)*

Lardner, after examining with the most laborious care the works of these, and all the Fathers of the first two centuries, says, "The notion of demons, or the souls of dead men, having power over living men, was *universally* prevalent among the heathen of these times, and believed by many Christians. – *Alexander Campbell, Demonology (pg.4)*

The above referenced views are I believe incorrect. The pagan authors were uninformed in the things of God and left to their superstitions to make sense of spiritual phenomena. The Jewish historians and Christian fathers did not have the benefit of God's Holy Word and its revelation as we have today.

The Bible does give evidence against the view that demons are the spirits of dead men or that 'ghosts' are spirits of the dead that come back to haunt a place or person.

Ecclesiastes 12:7

7 Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it.

Job 7:9-10

9As the cloud is consumed and vanisheth away: so he that goeth down to the grave shall come up no more. 10He shall return no more to his house, neither shall his place know him any more.

(2) DEMONS AS THE SPIRITS OF FALLEN ANGELS

A second view is that demons are the disembodied spirits of the Fallen Angels who took wives of the daughters of men. While not to get weighed down in the debate of who the "Sons of God" were in Genesis Ch. 6. I will state that my belief and I believe it is upheld by the Bible itself is that the 'Sons of God' are indeed angels that fell with Lucifer\Satan and also committed a further transgression against God by assaulting the divine bloodline and attempting to stop the coming of the Messiah (**Gen. 3:15**)

Genesis 6:1

1And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,

Genesis 6:2

2That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they *were* fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.

Genesis 6:4

4There were giants* in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God* came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same *became* mighty men which *were* of old, men of renown.

Genesis 6:4 - When = Hebrew word 'asher' means: because, in order that, for as much, from whence.

Giants= Strong's H5303 n^ephî^l n^ephil *nef-eel', nef-eel'* From H5307; properly, a *feller*, that is, a *bully* or *tyrant*: - giant.

Sons of God = ben ha elohiym

Strong's H1121 bēn – *bane* From H1129; a *son* (as a *builder* of the family name), i

Strong's H430 *elohim* - *el-o-heem* Plural of H433; *gods* in the ordinary sense; but specifically used (in the plural thus, especially with the article) of the supreme *God*; occasionally applied by way of deference to *magistrates*; and sometimes as a superlative: - angels, X exceeding, God (gods) (-dess, -ly), X (very) great, judges, X mighty.

The expression 'Son of God' is used in Job 1:6; 2:1; 38:7 Psalms 29:1; 89:6 and Daniel 3:25 as indicative of angels and there is no reason or scriptural authority for taking the expression to mean something different in Genesis 6: 2. Their sin is also made clear in the very same verse. The offspring of this abominable union between fallen angels and the daughters of men are the 'Nephilim' translated as giants Gen. 6:4.

That the 'Sons of God' are the sons of Seth and the 'daughters of men' are the daughters of Cain, to me makes no sense in light of scripture. Also are we not told in God's word that women are to cover their heads because of the angels?

1 Corinthians 11:10

For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head because of the angels.

Now it is the belief of not a few that it is the disembodied spirits of these fallen angels that mingled with the daughters of men that are the demons. However I believe that this is also an incorrect conclusion in that the spirits of these fallen angels are now held in captivity and not free to roam the earth and do the works of Satan.

2 Peter 2:4

4 For if God spared not the angels that sinned, (sin of Gen. 6:2) but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment.

Jude 1:6

6 And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

Jude 1:7

7 Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

There are two confinements for the one-third of angels that fell with Satan. (Rev. 12:4, 9) These angels are confined temporarily in the bottomless pit (abyss) to be released for the purpose of performing specific judgments during the Great Tribulation. (Rev. 9:1-11; 13-21)

The angels that committed the sin of Gen 6:2 producing the Nephilim are "delivered into chains of darkness, to be reserved to judgment" Their confinement is permanent in hell (tartarus*) separate from those confined in the bottomless pit.

Strong's G5020 *tartarōs* - *tar-tar-o'-o* From *Tartaros* (the deepest *abyss* of Hades); to *incarcerate* in eternal torment: - cast down to hell.

NOTE: Those who disagree that angels mingled with the daughters of men reference Matthew 22:30 **For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.**

I think a distinctive must be made between the physical body and the resurrection body and the angels OF GOD in heaven and those that left their first estate and perhaps in this realm took on flesh.

(3) DEMONS AS THE DISEMBODIED SPIRITS OF THE NEPHILIM

Now that I have attempted to show that demons are not (I believe) the spirits of dead people, or of the fallen angels we are left with one last possibility. That demon's are the disembodied spirits of the Nephilim, the offspring and abomination of the intermingling of the Sons of God with the daughters of men. The Nephilim are part angelic and part human and an abomination to the order of creation of the Lord. While this is a supposition I believe this is the most likely origin of demons. Their spirits neither fully angelic nor fully human. They did evil while upon this earth and it is their spirits that are the demons. Their spirits lost to heaven and not yet sentenced to Hell.

The Bible does not speak of the origin of the demons specifically. However regardless of the origin of demons we do know that they do exist and they do influence, harass, and possess humans and animals. We know this because Jesus himself cast out many demons. Jesus also gave power to the apostle's and disciple's to cast out demons as well.

DEMON CHARACTERICS

- Have Personal Names can Communicate:

Luke 8:27-30

27And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in *any* house, but in the tombs.

28When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, *thou* Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not.

29(For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.)

30And Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him.

- Have Intelligence:

Mark 1: 23-24

23And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

24Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

-
- Have Emotions:

Luke 8:28

28When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, *thou* Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not.

- Have Will:

Mark 1: 25-27

25And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

26And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him

27And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine *is* this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

- Seek to Physically\Mentally Control Human Beings:

Luke 8:27-30 (causing mental derangement, insanity, social mania)

27And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in *any* house, but in the tombs.

28When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, *thou* Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not.

29(For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.)

Mark 9: 17-18, 22

17And one of the multitude answered and said, Master, I have brought unto thee my son, which hath a dumb spirit;

18And wheresoever he taketh him, he teareth him: and he foameth, and gnasheth with his teeth, and pineth away: and I spake to thy disciples that they should cast him out; and they could not.

22And oftentimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: but if thou canst any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.

- Cause Physical Disabilities

Matthew 9:32-33

32As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil.

33And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel.

Luke 13:11

11And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself

Matthew 17:15-18

15Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.

16And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him.

17Then Jesus answered and said, **O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me.**

18And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour.

- Receive Power from Sin

I Corinthians 7:5

5Defraud ye not one the other, except *it be* with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.

Incontinency = lack of self restraint

II Corinthians 4:4

4In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

- Demons Different from manmade idols

I Corinthians 10:19-20

19What say I then? that the idol is any thing, or that which is offered in sacrifice to idols is any thing?

20But *I say*, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.

- Demon Possession Distinct from Sickness and Diseases

Matthew 4:24

24And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them.

Mark 1:32

32And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils.

IV. Distinctive of Demonic Possession – (*Demon Possession & Allied Themes, Rev. John L. Nevis*)

(A) The chief differentiating mark of so-called demon-possession is the automatic presentation and the persistent and the consistent acting out of a new personality. *Pg 86*

1st person pronouns represent – demon
2nd person pronoun represent – bystanders
3rd person pronoun-represents – the possessed

(B) Evidence of knowledge and intellectual power not possessed by the subject. *Pg. 190*

Ex. Speaking in languages unknown to the possessed.

(C) Intimately connected with the assumption of the new personality is, that with the change of personality there is a complete change of moral character. *pg. 194*

Ex. The character represented is debased and malicious, having and extreme aversion and hatred to God, and especially to the Lord Jesus Christ and Christianity.

V. Future Activities of Demons

As it is the belief of this writer that demonic activity will be increasing in America as the paganization of the country increases. Demonic activity abounds in countries with pagan roots beliefs and influences. This is why demonic activity has been well known in the third world countries of Africa, Indonesia, South America, and also in industrialized countries that are pagan or Godless such as China. As the influence of the True Blood Bought Born Again Church diminishes in America and the work and restraint of the Holy Spirit is weakened by churches that have a Christless Christianity and have loss there way: (**2Timothy 3:5** Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.) The works of Satan and his demons will increase, including the following:

- Spreading False Doctrine in the Church.

1 Timothy 4:1-3

1Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

2Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron;

3Forbidding to marry, *and commanding* to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

- Continued and Increased Worship of Satan and Demons in the Coming Perilous Times and Tribulation

1Corinthians 10:20

20But *I say*, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils.

Revelation 9:20

20And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and

brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk:

- Perform Miracles and Deceptions

Revelation 16:13-14

13And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs *come* out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.

14For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, *which* go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

(Through God's mercy the believer will be spared much of The LORDS coming wrath I **Thessalonians 4: 13-17** and I **Thessalonians 5:9**)

VI. Spiritual Warfare

“All war is based on deception. Know thy self, know thy enemy. A thousand battles, a thousand victories. If ignorant both of your enemy and yourself, you are certain to be in peril.” –*Sun Tzu*

Ephesians 6:12

12For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

2Corinthians 10:4

4(For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds:)

Principalities= chief rulers of first rank and order in their kingdom

Powers= Authorities, whose power and authority derived from the Principalities

Rulers of Darkness the World= The Rulers of the world, the heads of the darkness in this reality.
kosmokratōr - *kos-mok-rat'-ore* From Strong's [G2889](#) and [G2902](#); a *world ruler*, an epithet of Satan: - ruler.

Spiritual Wickedness = spiritual things of wickedness, falsehood disguised as the truth.

There is spiritual warfare going on in the heavenly realm which impacts us in the present world. This warfare is conducted to hinder the collective work of the church in spreading the gospel, and in the lives of the individual believer to hinder or destroy the works of the believer in serving the true living God (YHVH) Jesus the Christ.

Daniel 10:12-13; 20

12Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.

13But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

20Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come.

This battle between the angel and the prince of Persia was conducted in the heavenly realm and as the King of Persia was Cyrus who God would use to deliver His people. The prince of Persia spoken of was evil and in opposition to the plan God had for King Cyrus (perhaps the building of the temple). This prince of Persia hindered the angel sent to Daniel for 21 Days.

This spiritual warfare is often an individual battle fought against the individual believer, to destroy or hinder the individual's fruitfulness and thus the collective work of the church.

2Corinthians 12:7

7And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.

There is much conjecture in what was the thorn in Paul's flesh. It has been proposed to be eye trouble, headache, gout and other sicknesses and diseases. Although we will never know this side of heaven my belief is that the answer to the question as to the thorn is answered in the very same verse. I believe that the thorn "in the flesh" was a physical ailment of some kind and it was caused by demonic powers and that Paul was also buffeted by demonic harassment, "a messenger of Satan to buffet me"

Messenger = Strong's G32 *ang'-el-os* - From ἀγγέλλω *aggellō* (probably derived from G71; compare G34; to *bring tidings*); a *messenger*; especially an "*angel*"; by implication a *pastor*: - angel, messenger.

As we see the messenger was an angel and this particular angel was "a messenger of Satan. We have as an example Job.

Job 2:7

7So went Satan forth from the presence of the LORD, and smote Job with sore boils from the sole of his foot unto his crown.

We also do well to remember.

1 Peter 5:8

8Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

Whatever the thorn, Paul is an example of the saint in spiritual warfare buffeted by Satan and his evil influences. Paul's end must be every saint's end that is engaged in the spiritual fight against the principalities, powers, rulers of darkness, and spiritual wickedness that are ever trying to stop the gospel.

2Timothy 4:7

7I have fought a good fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith:

VII. The Supernatural (UFO's, Ghosts, NDE)

The term "supernatural" originates in sixteenth-century, medieval Latin: *supra*, which means "above," plus *naturalis*, meaning "nature." Thus, it describes transcendence of the natural realm. It is defined in a standard dictionary as: 1) Of or relating to an order of existence beyond the visible observable universe; especially: of or relating to God or a god, demigod, spirit, or devil. 2) a departing from what is usual or normal especially so as to appear to transcend the laws of nature; b: attributed to an invisible agent (as a ghost or spirit)

GHOSTS

The mention of the word ghost conjures up images of transparent figures and things that go bump in the night. There is much debate as to the existence of ghost and are they spirits of the departed. I will attempt to answer this later. For the purposes of this study we will look at 'ghost' as the word is used in the Bible. The word ghost is used in the Bible (KJV) 109 times in 108 verses. I will not here for the sake of space give a brake down of each verse. But we will look at the Hebrew and Greek words translated into English as 'ghost' to get the context and meaning. Ghost is most often used in the Bible in the context of 'gave, give, given or yielded up the ghost' and as the 'Holy Ghost'. As we see below the word ghost is never used in the context of the disembodied spirit of a dead person.

Ghost: gave up or yielded up

(Hebrew) Strong's H1478 gâva' *gaw-vah'* A primitive root; to *breathe* out, that is, (by implication) *expire*: - die, be dead, give up the ghost, perish.

Ghost: Holy Ghost(Greek) Strong's G4151Pneuma - *pn̄yoo'-mah* a *current* of air, that is, *breath (blast)* or a *breeze*; by analogy or figuratively a *spirit*, that is, (human) the rational *soul*, (by implication) *vital principle*, mental *disposition*, etc., or (superhuman) an *angel*, *daemon*, or (divine) God, Christ's *spirit*, the Holy *spirit*: - ghost, life, spirit (-ual, -ually), mind.

Two interesting verses are:

Matthew 14:26

26And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

Mark 6:49

49But when they saw him walking upon the sea, they supposed it had been a spirit, and cried out:

Some Bibles translate the word 'spirit' in the above verses as ghost. Many who believe in ghosts and believe that the Bible confirms their existence use these verses as proof of their reality. They say that since Jesus did not rebuke or correct the disciples in claiming to have seen a 'spirit/ghost' then these spirits or ghosts must exist. For if they do not Jesus would have rebuked or corrected the disciples in their belief of seeing a spirit\ghost. Let us look closely at the Greek word translated as spirit in Matthew 14:26 and Mark 6:49.

Spirit

Strong's G5326 phantasma *fan'-tas-mah* a (mere) *show* ("phantasm"), that is, *spectre*: - spirit.

While the word means a specter or spirit it does not imply ghost in the sense of the disembodied spirit of a dead person and it does not translate as a demon either. The below verses do help me draw a conclusion as to the question of do ghosts as the spirits of disembodied dead persons exist?

Job 7:9-10

9As the cloud is consumed and vanisheth away: so he that goeth down to the grave shall come up no more

10He shall return no more to his house, neither shall his place know him any more.

And beside all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence.

Hebrews 9:27

27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment

My belief is that ghosts do not exist. There is no reality of a deceased human coming back into this realm as a disembodied spirit. My belief is that 'ghosts' are demonic beings that come back disguised as deceased humans to trick and fool those that are participating in the occult. I also believe that demons are disguising themselves as other entities as well to deceive mankind.

UFO\UFO ABDUCTIONS

"We all know that UFOs are real. All we need to ask is where do they come from, and what do they want?"
Apollo 14 Astronaut Capt. Edgar Mitchell

Do I believe in UFO's? Yes in the sense that there are such things as Unidentified Flying Objects. Although I have never seen one I do believe that there are people that have and there are also those that claim to have but are being dishonest. Do I believe that UFO's are alien space craft with 'Martian' life forms piloting them? NO.

While one can take some Bible passages and claim that they reference UFO's Ezekiel Ch. 1 being the main passage. I think the real question to be asked is not do UFO's exist but as Apollo 14 Astronaut Capt. Edgar Mitchell asked 'where do they come from and what do they want?' As to alien abductions I believe that some people do experience an event that is true to them and very traumatic. However, I believe that the experience is not of alien origin but demonic in nature.

"A 1969 Study by the National Academy of Sciences, while recognizing there are reports "not easily explained," concluded that "the least likely explanation of UFOs is the hypothesis of extraterrestrial visitations by intelligent beings... - *Dr. Carl Sagan, author of the book CONTACT, later made into a movie.* He did not find it rational to believe that aliens were visiting us with what he called "casual impunity".

"One theory which can no longer be taken very seriously is that UFOs are interstellar spaceships." -*Authur C. Clark British SF author, wrote 2001: A Space Odyssey*

"...it's quite possible that some of the stories that you get from people are essentially induced hallucinations in sincere witnesses – the witnesses are not lying. They really have been exposed to something genuine..." *Dr. JacquesVallee- pioneer of secular UFO Research, author of 10 books, and inspiration of the scientist character in Stephen Spielberg's movie Close Encounters of the Third Kind.*

"Research has showed that some people professing to be Christians were indeed reporting that they had encountered this experience (alien abduction) in their lives. The same experience that people of all faiths or no faith had been reporting over the many years of UFO research. Research polls through the years have shown that upwards of 5 million people may have experienced some form of this phenomenon." –*CE4 Research Group <http://www.alienresistance.org/ce4.htm>*

I don't believe that these people are actually abducted but are more likely under the influence of demons and given visions. There is also an underlying message that most 'abductees' claim they are told by these beings. This message runs contrary to the Word of God and is in opposition to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. (What enemy of God would want to spread these lies?) **Galatians 1:8** *But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.* Many 'abductees' and those that have experienced Near Death Experiences (NDE) are told:

- 1."We were the ones who designed all life on earth"
- 2."You mistook us for gods"
- 3."We were at the origin of your main religions"
4. "that mankind must unite, through alien supervision, into a one-world government and a one-world religion in order to survive"
5. "Aliens profess that they are gods and they are our creators. Aliens teach that Jesus was half human, was an avatar sent from the "Spiritual Hierarchy of Masters" We are told this earth has been visited many times in the past and presently by different types of extra-terrestrials. These ET's have been involved with our creation, evolution, religions, myths, beliefs, etc.

The same theme runs through those that claim to have had a Near Death Experience.

1. Death is good and there is no judgment.
- 2) There is no hell and everyone will go to heaven.
- 3) The Bible is wrong and the Eastern/occult view of death is correct.

4) Occult practice is beneficial. Christian authors John Ankerberg and Robert Weldon argue, “These occult messages are frequently conveyed by the ‘being of light’ and the alleged spirits of the dead – *Life After Death*

These messages are nothing new but are the vain philosophies of the New Age Movement and Spiritualism. Satan was a liar from the beginning. (**John 8:44** *Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.*)

It is another attempt by Satan to deceive and bring authority and worship to himself. Satan sets the stage and at the appointed time Satan’s spirit will enter the antichrist and he will demand to be worshiped as God

Thessalonians 2:4

4Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

Is it such a great or strange thing that Satan and his ministers (demons) would disguise themselves as dead loved ones or aliens in order to deceive, mislead, and hinder the plan of God? No, deceptions are within the powers of Satan, as allowed by God.

2Corinthians 11:14

14And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

2Corinthians 11:15

15Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness ; whose end shall be according to their works.

Is it possible that the deceptions of Satan and his demons will work? Yes, God will allow it.

II Thessalonians 2:9-11

9*Even him*, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders,

10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

11And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

There is also a commonality between demonic activities and the ‘alien abduction’ phenomenon that is a telling clue as to who is behind this deception. The subjection to the Authority of JESUS CHRIST.

“Through the research into the case testimonies it was found that some of the experiencers (of abductions) were able to stop or terminate the experience. There was a recognized commonality in the method that was used among the Christian experiencers. The experience was shown to be able to be stopped or terminated by calling on the name and authority of JESUS CHRIST. Not as a magic word but by their allegiance to and personal relationship with Him. CE4 Research Group <http://www.alienresistance.org/ce4.htm>

VIII. Power and Authority in the Name of Jesus Christ

The name of Jesus a name above all names. The source of the believer’s authority, strength, endurance, and power is Jesus. The name of Jesus and His Word equips us to do battle and in His name and sustained by our Faith....we cannot fail.

Proverbs 18:10

10The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.

Jeremiah 10:6

6Forasmuch as *there is* none like unto thee, O LORD; thou *art* great, and thy name *is* great in might.

Matthew 28:18

18And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, **All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.**

Mark 3:11

11And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of God.

Luke 4:41

41And devils also came out of many, crying out, and saying, Thou art Christ the Son of God. And he rebuking *them* suffered them not to speak: for they knew that he was Christ.

Luke 10:17

17And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.

Acts 16:16-18

16And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

17The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

18And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

James 2:19

19Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

Philippians 4:13

13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

IX. The Danger of an Unbelieving and Faltering Faith.

Hebrews 11:6

6But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Acts 19:13-16

13 Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth.

14And there were seven sons of *one* Sceva, a Jew, *and* chief of the priests, which did so.

15And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye?

16And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.

These exorcists had no faith. All that they knew of Jesus was that He was the one 'whom Paul preached.' Even the name of Jesus is spoiled and is powerless on the lips of one who repeats it, parrot-like, because he has seen its power when it came flame-like from the fiery lips of some man of earnest convictions.

This absence or feebleness of personal faith is the explanation of much failure in so-called Christian work. No doubt there may be other causes for the want of success, but after all allowance is made for these, it still remains true that the chief reason why the Gospel message is often proclaimed without casting out demons is that it is proclaimed with faltering faith, tentatively and without assured confidence in its power, or imitatively, with but little, if any, inward experience of the

magic of its spell. The demons have ears quick to discriminate between Paul's fiery accents and the cold repetition of them. Incomparably the most powerful agency which any man can employ in producing conviction in others is the utterance of his own intense conviction. 'If you wish me to weep, your own tears must flow,' said the Roman poet. -*MacLaren*

Matthew 17:14-21

14And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a *certain* man, kneeling down to him, and saying,

15Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.

16And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him.

17Then Jesus answered and said, **O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me.**

18And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour.

19Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, **Why could not we cast him out?**

20And Jesus said unto them, **Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.**

21**Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.**

But by fasting and prayer: that is, in the exercise of a miraculous faith, expressed in solemn prayer to God, joined with fasting. It seems that Christ not only suggests, that faith was greatly wanting in his disciples; for which reason they could not cast out the devil, and heal the lunatic; but they had been wanting in prayer to God, to assist them in the exercise of their miraculous gifts. -*Gill*

James 1:6-7

6But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.

7For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

X. Perilous Times

As we approach the end of the 'church age' (the true blood bought born again believers in Jesus Christ) will be and are now facing "perilous times". While the church is not appointed to wrath **1Th 5:9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,** and will be called up in the rapture **1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.**

These "perilous times" of the "last days" will become an assault upon the church, and a dark and sinful time for mankind. **2Ti 3:1-5 1This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. 2For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, 4Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 5Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.**

I believe that in these perilous times of the last days we will experience an increase in demonic activity and paranormal events. This belief is not without doctrinal support. **1Ti 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;** Some key points in this verse are

the “spirit speaketh expressly” this is the Holy Spirit speaking distinctly that some will depart from the faith giving heed to “seducing spirits” not seducing men, but seducing spirits. The Spirit that speaketh expressly is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is always singular. The seducing spirits spoken of are evil spirits and the doctrines mentioned are not doctrines of men, but rather doctrines of devils. The word devil is daimon from Strong’s G1140 meaning a daemonic being, deity, and is a derivative of Strong’s G 1142 a demon or supernatural spirit (of a bad nature – devil). God does not leave us without warning for He tells us what our warfare is to be and whom it will be against, **Eph 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.**

It is interesting to note that the belief in supernatural and paranormal activity is on the rise especially among the secular. A 2005 Gallop poll indicated that 3 out of 4 Americans believe in the paranormal, 37% believe houses can be haunted and 21% believe they can personally communicate with the dead. In another Gallop poll comparing belief in the paranormal from 1990-2001 there is an interesting trend in that paranormal belief increased in all areas except one, which declined – the only decline in paranormal belief was in DEMON POSSESSION. What is the deception here? Demons are real and they are active doing the work of Satan. Also a 2009 BARNAsurvey on VIEWS OF SPIRITUAL BEINGS showed the following: Four out of ten Christians (40%) strongly agreed that Satan “is not a living being but is a symbol of evil.” and most Christians do not believe that the Holy Spirit is a living force, either. Overall, 38% strongly agreed and 20% agreed somewhat that the Holy Spirit is “a symbol of God’s power or presence but is not a living entity.”

We are not prepared for the coming spiritual battle. Sun Tzu one of the greatest military minds of all time said “All war is based on deception”, “Know thy self, and know thy enemy”, “A thousand battles, a thousand victories”. “If ignorant both of your enemy and yourself, you are certain to be in peril.”

The believer knows that spiritual warfare is real and that Satan and his demons seek to control and influence human beings, cause mental anguish suicidal mania, **Luke 8:27-29** and **Mark 9:22**, cause physical disabilities muteness, blindness, deformities **Mat. 9:32-33**, **Mk, 9:17-29**, **Mat. 12:11**, **Lk. 13:11-17**, **Mat. 17:15-18**, and **Lk. 9:39**. We should be aware of the enemy and his devices and that we are in a spiritual warfare and we the church (the blood bought born again, worshipping in spirit and truth church) had better prepare individually and collectively. Troubled times are coming and it is time to wake up to the reality that we are in a spiritual war. May we be prepared for the battle until the LORD calls us home and our job here is finished. **2Ti 2:3 Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 2Ti 2:4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.**

R.E.G

JESUS SAVES

The Below Appendix's - Taken From 'Demon Possession and Allied Themes'
By Rev. John Livingston Nevis, Missionary to China, 1894

APPENDIX I.

(d)

CASE OF A SLAVE GIRL.

In the south-eastern part of the district of En-Chiu, in the village of Yang-kiatswen, lives a man of the family Niu, who had an experience supposed to be attributable to an evil spirit. The case is familiarly known and often referred to by the villagers in that neighborhood. Several Christians living from two to four miles distant from Yang-kiatswen, are well acquainted with the story which they related to me. It is as follows:

"Some years since Mr. Niu was very much troubled by spiritual manifestations in his family. Strange noises and rappings were frequently heard about the house. The buildings were also set on fire in different places in some mysterious way. Everything went wrong. These misfortunes were supposed to be caused by a demon, which at times took possession of a female slave in the family. Mr. Niu made every possible effort to get rid of the demon but without success.

¹ A Christian visited him about this time and urged him to become a Christian in order to be free from the inflictions of demons. He found him, however, very reticent and timid. He talked as if he thought some one was overhearing him, and ready to call him to account for what he said. A short time afterwards he was visited by another Christian whom he frankly told that he did not care to get rid of the demon, in fact that he had made peace with it by worshiping it, and giving it a recognized place and authority in the family. It had taken permanent possession of the female slave. It was consulted and its advice followed in all domestic and business matters, and now everything went on prosperously. This female slave afterwards gained a great reputation for telling fortunes through the aid of her familiar spirit, and her fortunetelling was the means of making a great deal of money for her master. She was consulted by people from far and near. Before the man Chu became a Christian he himself consulted her with regard to his child who was ill."

• Compare Acts xvi, 16-18.

APPENDIX I.

(e)

CASE IN EASTERN EN-CHIU.

In the year 1883 a boy eighteen years of age, named Liu Yao-kwe, from the village Tung en-tai, in eastern En Chiu, was received as a pupil in the High School at Teng-Chowfu, when in the following year he was taken ill of fever and died. The news of his death together with an account of his good deportment in school, the high esteem in which he was held by his teachers, the sympathetic care he had received during his illness, and the evidences he gave that he was a true Christian, were sent to his mother who was then interested in Christianity but not a church member. She was comforted by this in her great grief, and continued her preparation for baptism with increased interest and assiduity. About two months afterwards (as is reported and believed by the family and the neighbors), her two daughters-in-law were possessed by a demon, and this demon professed to be the spirit of the deceased boy. It gave the mother a harrowing account of what the boy had suffered from the hands of his foreign teachers, and assured her that he had died from starvation and ill-treatment. The mother believed the story, gave up Christianity and hated foreigners with a bitter hatred, supposing them responsible for the death of her favorite son. The father of the boy was not deceived, as his wife had been, and applied to Christians in the village to come and cast out the evil spirit from his two daughters-in-law. They declined, however, on account of the unbelief and opposition on the part of the other members of the family. When we last heard from them this same state of things continued. This affair has had a great deal to do with checking and almost putting a stop to the progress of Christianity in that village.

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APPENDIX I.

(g)

EXPERIENCES OF CHU CHING.

Chiu Ching is a prominent and highly esteemed native Christian living in eastern En Chiu. He was the first convert in that region, and the stations in that vicinity, now numbering seven, owe their existence mainly to his influence and labors. In cases of supposed possession by evil spirits, he was the person generally applied to in that neighborhood for assistance. He has given me at length his views and experiences, but there is in the main so little to distinguish them from each other, and from those that have already been narrated, that there is no occasion to record them. He states that he undertook this business with great reluctance, but feeling that he could not conscientiously decline it. He says that he has never failed in a single case, and the effects of his labors in this direction have

been helpful to him in his evangelistic work. One case that greatly tried his faith and courage I give below as narrated by him, and in his own words, "I was applied to one day by a man of a very respectable family to go to see his mother who was possessed by a demon which they could not by any means rid themselves of. When possessed she insisted on being provided with wine and meat which she took in inordinate quantities, though in her normal condition she never took wine at all. I went to the place in company with a few other Christians. Arrived at the bouse, we found a large number of relations and neighbors assembled, and the woman wild and unmanageable, and several strong men with difficulty kept her under control. It was with fear and trembling that I commenced the work before me. When I addressed the demon demanding that it should leave, the woman flew at me like a fury, exclaiming, ' Who are you?' I knelt down in prayer, the sweat streaming from every pore, and oppressed Avith an awful sense of personal weakness and responsibility. The woman was at once restored, and with unaffected surprise and chagrin apologized for the condition in which her visitors had found her and her house. She was convinced of the truth and importance of Christianity and commenced studying Christian books, but was afterwards restrained from continuing their study by the influence of the male members of the family. Her malady did not return."

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APPENDIX I.

(h)

THE CASE OF A FAMILY IN EN CHIU.

In the year 1885 in visiting the mission station in Kintswen in south-eastern En Chiu, a family consisting- of a man and his wife and five children, together asked for admission to the church. This is the story as given by the eldest son vrho acted as spokesman for the family. It was concurred in by the Christians in the village and neighborhood.

"For several months my mother was sorely afflicted by an evil spirit. The attacks were frequent and violent. She pined away until she was a mere skeleton. You see how thin and pale she is now, but she is well compared to what she was, and is constantly growing stronger. We applied to the Christians here to cast out the demon, which they did, but it as often returned. Then we following our Christian neighbors' advice determined as a family to believe on and trust in Christ. These attacks are now less and less frequent. Whenever they come on some one of us kneels down and prays to Jesus, and my mother is at once restored. Some days since she had an attack when no one was in the house except my little sister, (pointing to a little girl present about five years old), who immediately knelt down and commenced 'Our Father

who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name,' etc., when my mother darted towards her as if she would tear her to pieces, saying, 'You little wretch,' but she fell down insensible before she got to her; and very soon rose up well."

The members of the family have since been baptized by Rev. Mr. Laughlin, of Wei Hein.⁴²

Resource Data

2009 BARNA SURVEY –VIEWS ON SPIRITUAL BEINGS

- All 1,871 self-described Christians were asked about their perception of God. In total, three-quarters (78%) said he is the “all-powerful, all-knowing Creator of the universe who rules the world today.” The remaining one-quarter chose other descriptions of God – depictions that are not consistent with biblical teaching (e.g., everyone is god, god refers to the realization of human potential, etc.).
- Four out of ten Christians (40%) strongly agreed that Satan “is not a living being but is a symbol of evil.”
- More than one-fifth (22%) strongly agreed that Jesus Christ sinned when He lived on earth
- Most Christians do not believe that the Holy Spirit is a living force, either. Overall, 38% strongly agreed and 20% agreed somewhat that the Holy Spirit is “a symbol of God’s power or presence but is not a living entity.”

Inconsistencies Noted:

The study also identified a number of instances in which people’s beliefs seemed inconsistent. Among those were the following:

- About half (47%) of the Christians who believed that Satan is merely a symbol of evil nevertheless agreed that a person can be under the influence of spiritual forces such as demons.
- About half (49%) of those who agreed that the Holy Spirit is only a symbol but not a living entity also agreed that the Bible is totally accurate in all of the principles it teaches, even though the Bible clearly describes the Holy Spirit as more than a symbolic reference to God’s power or presence.
- About one-third (33%) of the self-defined Christians who agree that the Bible, Koran and Book of Mormon all teach the same truths simultaneously contend that the Bible is totally accurate in its principles, even though the three sacred books have very different ideas about truth, salvation, and the nature of God.

2007 Pew Research Poll- US religious Landscape Survey

- The Landscape Survey confirms that the United States is on the verge of becoming a minority Protestant country; the number of Americans who report that they are members of Protestant denominations now stands at barely 51%
- The survey finds that the number of people who say they are unaffiliated with any particular faith today (16.1%) is more than double the number who say they were not affiliated with any particular religion as children. Among Americans ages 18-29, one-in-four say they are not currently affiliated with any particular religion.

Pew Research Poll-2007

Supernatural Experiences and Beliefs		
	<u>Total</u>	<u>Christians</u>
<i>% who have...</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
Been in touch w/dead	29	29
Had ghostly experience	18	17
Consulted psychic	15	14
<i>% believe in...</i>		
Spiritual energy in trees, etc.	26	23
Astrology	25	23
Reincarnation	24	22
Yoga as spiritual practice	23	21
Evil eye (i.e., casting of curses)	16	17
Sample size	2,003	1,589
Q291a-Q292c.		

Though the U.S. is an overwhelmingly Christian country, significant minorities profess belief in a variety of Eastern or New Age beliefs. For instance, 24% of the public overall and 22% of Christians say they believe in reincarnation — that people will be reborn in this world again and again. And similar numbers (25% of the public overall, 23% of Christians) believe in astrology. Nearly three-in-ten Americans say they have felt in touch with someone who has already died, almost one-in-five say they have seen or been in the presence of ghosts, and 15% have consulted a fortuneteller or a psychic.

Supernatural Experiences			
<i>% felt you were in touch with someone who has already died</i>	<u>Jun</u> <u>1990</u>	<u>Sep</u> <u>1996</u>	<u>Aug</u> <u>2009</u>
Yes	17	18	29
No	82	81	69
Don't know	1	1	2
	100	100	100
<i>% seen or been in the presence of a ghost</i>			
Yes	9	9	18
No	90	90	80
Don't know	1	2	2
	100	100	100
<i>% consulted a fortuneteller or psychic</i>			
Yes	14	17	15
No	85	83	85
Don't know	1	0	1
	100	100	100
Sep. 1996 and June 1990 surveys conducted by Gallup.			
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding.			
Q292a-c.			

Roughly three-in-ten Americans (29%) say they have felt in touch with someone who has died. Nearly one-in-five say they have been in the presence of a ghost (18%), while 15% say they have consulted a fortuneteller or a psychic. The proportion of Americans who say they have interacted with a ghost has doubled over the past 13 years (9% in 1996 compared with 18% today). The number saying they have felt in touch with someone who has died has also grown considerably, from 18% in 1996 to 29% today. There has been no change, however, over the past 20 years in the proportion of Americans who have consulted a fortuneteller or psychic, with a steady minority of roughly one-in-seven continuing to say they have done so.

Eastern or New Age Beliefs			
<i>% who believe in...</i>	<u>Yes</u> %	<u>No</u> %	<u>DK</u> %
Reincarnation, that people will be reborn in this world again and again	24	69	6=100
Yoga not just as exercise but as a spiritual practice	23	70	7=100
Spiritual energy located in physical things like mountains, trees, crystals	26	69	5=100
Astrology, that the position of stars/planets can affect people's lives	25	71	4=100
Evil eye, or that certain people can cast curses or spells that cause harm	16	81	2=100
Figures may not add to 100% because of rounding. Q291a-f.			

More US Christians Mix In 'Eastern New Age Beliefs- *USA Today Article. Dec. 10th, 2009*

"Going to church this Sunday? Look around. The chances are that one in five of the people there find "spiritual energy" in mountains or trees, and one in six believe in the "evil eye," that certain people can cast curses with a look — beliefs your Christian pastor doesn't preach.

In a Catholic church? Chances are that one in five members believe in reincarnation in a way never taught in catechism class — that you'll be reborn in this world again and again.

Elements of Eastern faiths and New Age thinking have been widely adopted by 65% of U.S. adults, including many who call themselves Protestants and Catholics, according to a survey by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life released Wednesday"

UFO\UFO ABDUCTIONS

"A 1969 Study by the National Academy of Sciences, while recognizing there are reports "not easily explained," concluded that "the least likely explanation of UFOs is the hypothesis of extraterrestrial visitations by intelligent beings... - *Dr. Carl Sagan, author of the book CONTACT, later made into a movie.*

He did not find it rational to believe that aliens were visiting us with what he called "casual impunity.

"One theory which can no longer be taken very seriously is that UFOs are interstellar spaceships." -*Arthur C. Clark British SF author, wrote 2001: A Space Odyssey*

"...it's quite possible that some of the stories that you get from people are essentially induced hallucinations in sincere witnesses — the witnesses are not lying. They really have been exposed to something genuine..." *Dr. JacquesVallee- pioneer of secular UFO Research, author of 10 books, and inspiration of for the scientist character in Stephen Spielberg's movie Close Encounters of the Third Kind.*

The research showed that some people professing to be Christians were indeed reporting that they had encountered this experience in their lives. The same experience that people of all faiths or no faith had been reporting over the many years of UFO research. Research polls through the years have shown that upwards of 5 million people may have experienced some form of this phenomenon.

1."We were the ones who designed all life on earth"

2."You mistook us for gods"

3."We were at the origin of your main religions"

4."that mankind must unite, through alien supervision, into a one-world government and a one-world religion order to survive"

5."Aliens profess that they are gods profess that they are gods and they are our creators. Aliens teach that Jesus was half human, was an avatar sent from the "Spiritual Hierarchy of Masters" We are told this earth has been visited many times in the past and presently by different types of extra-terrestrials. These ET's have been involved with our creation, evolution, religions, myths, beliefs, etc. :

Through the research into the case testimonies it was found that some of the experiencers were able to stop or terminate the experience. There was a recognized commonality in the method that was used among the Christian experiencers. The experience was shown to be able to be stopped or terminated by calling on the name and authority of JESUS CHRIST. Not as a magic word but by their allegiance to and personal relationship with Him.

But we also deduce an argument from the word *angel*. This [464] word is of Bible origin, and confined to those countries in which that volume is found. It is not found in all the Greek poets, orators, or historians, so far as known to me. Of that rank of beings to whom Jews and Christians have applied this official title, the Pagan nations seem never to have had the first conception. It is therefore certain that they could not use the term *demon* as a substitute interchangeable with the word *angel*--as indicative of an intermediate order of intelligent beings above men, and between them and the Divinity. But to return to the word *angel*. It is a Bible term, and not being found in all classic, in all mythologic antiquity, could not enter into the Pagan ideas of a demon. Now that it is not so used in the Christian scriptures --*Alexander Campbell, Demonology (pg.4)*