

## Angels and Demons

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In the thirty years since writing *On The Edge*, I've continued to read and to pray about the qualities of angels and demons as described in the Bible.

Following is a list of foundational characteristics of Satan, angels and demons as I believe they should be correctly portrayed, whether in a novel, movie, or TV series.

To prepare, I've read all the Biblical passages on the subject, as well as several excellent books. The best and most relevant books are [Conquer](#) by Dr. Michael Youssef and [Sense & Nonsense About Angels & Demons](#) by Ken Boa and Robert Bowman, Jr. I strongly recommend both books.

Starting with written depictions in novels, my hope is one day to create the **first visual medium to portray these beings Biblically**, not as imagined in Medieval art, cartoons, or popular fiction. By honoring the truth in God's Word, we hope that His Word will then resonate with viewers in the same transformational way that it does when His Word is read or spoken. We want to portray His Word accurately so that He can then use it to touch many more hearts and minds than we ever could on our own.

Of course some aspects of these beings in our modern world will of necessity be speculation or extrapolation. But I want to be able to point any reader or viewer—believer or sceptic—to one or more Bible verses which support the way we have chosen to show them.

1. Since demons are fallen angels, I assume that the general attributes of angels will apply equally to demons.
2. The Bible gives few physical details about these spiritual beings. There are allegorical descriptions of Satan himself as beautiful, shiny and attractive (Isaiah 14 and Ezekiel 28), but none at all of demons.
3. **Satan and his demons inhabit the earth.** When Christ was being tempted, he did not refute Satan when he said the world was given to him (Luke 4:6).
4. Since Satan is for now the spiritual Ruler of this world, believers and angels are the "extraterrestrials" here. **His ways are the norm, not ours.** We should therefore expect a fierce battle whenever we speak up or reach out to those whom he has deceived. We are invading his space, and he angers quickly.

5. **Angels are primarily messengers.** They are sent by God from Heaven, where they reside, to earth, to deliver a specific message or to take some particular God-directed action, but then they return. God can send an angel any time He wants, on His own or in answer to prayer, to protect someone. But there is **no basis for the concept of a good guardian angel being assigned indefinitely to a person or a place.**
6. They are spirits, with no intrinsic bodies. Demons can possess human bodies. **Angels and demons can appear as humans on a temporary basis** (Hebrews 13:2).
7. They are not male or female and do not reproduce. They are referred to as “he” or “it” and generally appear to have male characteristics, but again, not actual gender.
8. There is no description of a detailed order, or hierarchy of angels in the Bible, though one probably exists based on the four general categories of thrones, dominions, principalities and powers in Colossians 1. “All we really know is that Jesus Christ is the Creator and Lord of the angels, that Michael is the captain of some or all of the good angels, and that angels perform different functions as God wills.” (Boa, p. 72)
9. **Satan is real. He wants to destroy us eternally.** While he is powerful and intelligent, he is not God. He cannot know our hearts (though he can observe us and reach conclusions). **He is not omniscient or omnipresent.** He must rely on his horde to see for him and to do things, as well as to learn from us (Ephesians 3:10).
10. “The forces of evil are single-minded in their opposition to God. They are determined to pervert everything that is good, to corrupt everything that is noble, and to debase everything that is holy. Satan and his demons are out to cause as much damage to God’s people and to God’s reputation as they can inflict, regardless of the consequences. They are the ultimate terrorist network.” (Boa, p.124)
11. **Since all angels were designed by their Creator to be messengers, they presumably are very good communicators.** They also must be able to adapt to the language and the culture to which they are communicating. Given their defined purpose, we should not necessarily impute any exceptional knowledge or wisdom to them. **The fallen angels wound up on Earth as defeated messengers, and they had to adapt to their new world. They have been doing so for millennia.** In that sense they were the first to use Artificial

- Intelligence algorithms, watching our traits, habits and weaknesses, learning over time what works well to destroy each of us, and what doesn't. For example, since they don't reproduce, they don't experience a sexual drive. Yet they quickly learned that this human trait has incredible power to destroy relationships outside of marriage, and so they use it constantly and well with each new human generation. Their learning algorithms always have one single purpose—to take us with them; but their specific methods change with the times. Demons are experienced early adapters of change, which can give them an added advantage as they pile on to whatever the World is telling us.
12. **Since angels like to “look into these things” (1 Peter 1:12), I assume that demons study us and use improvements in technology to their advantage whenever they can.** Given that their number has been fixed from the beginning but our numbers have exponentially increased, they may have some sense of being stretched thin, and therefore of welcoming the tools of movies, the internet, false religions, etc. to accomplish more deceit with fewer demons. “The Enemy now dominates the secular media. He wants to make his followers believe the lie that they can be perfect without having a relationship with Jesus Christ. In doing so he readily makes use of Christian values—compassion, care, understanding—because they provide him with an ideal cover. After all, who would join his side if he was known to be planning the total ruin of those who serve him?” (Youssef, p. 47)
  13. At night when we sleep, I assume that they gather in friendly spaces to compare notes, plot strategies, jockey with each other for notice, and practice their lies.
  14. **Since demons live on earth and angels are sent here from Heaven on specific missions, it would seem that they rarely run into each other.** When they do, the light has already overcome the dark, and the demon will, perhaps after putting up a momentary verbal defense, flee.
  15. **There is therefore not any angel vs. demon combat in Spiritual Warfare today. That war has already been won by God, Michael and the angels. The demons are here because they lost (Luke 10:18). The combat now is over the souls of the lost, between the lies of the demons and the Truth of God's Word, as we, human believers, are called to share His Word with non-believers.** It is *our* actions, speaking, writing and prayers that carry the battle to the enemy. And therefore his hate and his attacks are directed against us, and against those whom we hope to save.

16. Besides jockeying for favored roles and positions, there is room for constant conflict between the demons. For example:

- a. Is it preferable to “harvest” an unbelieving soul now, or allow her or him to remain alive and to influence others against God? What if this person is allowed to live, but later becomes a believer? Who is to blame for the loss?
- b. Could there be dissension and grumbling over God and Jesus outwitting Satan at the cross? The average demon may have thought for millennia that all humans would join them in their eternal fate, for both creatures rebelled. But then God suddenly opened a path for humans alone to join Him in Heaven. How could Satan let that happen? Is there a chance for a second rebellion, this time against Satan? Who would lead it? And then what?

17. **The World (exterior stimuli), the Flesh (our internal fallen state) and the Devil constantly war against God.** The non-believer has no strong defense, other than what he or she believes to be “moral and good” from the World’s teachings. When someone becomes a believer, the Holy Spirit resides in her or him, and the voice of the Holy Spirit can refute stimuli from the World and the Flesh. And when believers “lock the doors to their hearts” on a daily basis (Youssef, Chapter 5), the voices and lies of the demons, which enhance and weaponize those stimuli, cannot get through to harm us. But until someone is drawn by the Father through the teaching of believers and also becomes a believer, he does not have that voice in him, and so he is much more open to the demons’ lies. Without the Holy Spirit’s internal presence, his or her only defenses are the prayers, teachings, and examples of believers.

18. If a believer persists in sin, he can quench the Holy Spirit’s voice and also succumb to even greater temptation.

19. **So we are not passive observers of a spiritual battle between demons and angels. Nor are we the passive victims of all-powerful demonic forces. We are the actual combatants—the war is waged by believers against the lies of the demons for the souls of our families and friends.** For their eternities. God gave all of us free will. We are to choose. As believers, it is our incredibly important role to do all that we can to ensure that those whom we know and love choose God’s Truth.

To See Spiritual Forces in action, here is the Prologue to my latest novel, *Nation On The Edge*:

**Nuremberg, Germany**  
**Wednesday, October 16th**  
**1946**

The three gallows stood ready in the dark and dusty gymnasium at the Nuremberg jail compound. Shortly after 1 a.m. former Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop entered the building as if in a trance and slowly mounted the thirteen steps to the platform. He was met by U.S. Master Sergeant John Woods, his executioner.

The official witnesses in the gym stood and took off their hats, a priest prayed, the noose was tightened, and Ribbentrop began to utter his last words about world peace. No human could see the hundreds of spiritual participants above him, filling the room to the rafters.

Proklor, one of Satan's key princes, hovered there effortlessly, suspended by spiritual forces just above the solemn gathering, surrounded by the leaders of his personal army. His large size and the gruesome scars from the Great Heavenly War on his face and hands proclaimed that Proklor was a fallen angel of great standing. Only Temno, his adjutant for two millennia, and a few trusted generals, dared to get close. The other demons circled discreetly around their leader, attracted by the great spectacle about to begin beneath them. And they could see that they were safe. Their spiritual eyes revealed almost no vectors of spiritual light, since the few answered prayers that did arrive from heaven that night were sucked down into the dark vortex which the demons created.

Like all demons, Proklor's army succeeded best when they adopted the dress, habits and speech of the targets they studied and whispered to. So they were dressed mostly in the clothes and uniforms found in Europe at the end of World War II. "It's been a great run," Temno said to the Prince, as Sergeant Woods placed the black hood over Ribbentrop's head.

"Yes, yes, it has. Who would have thought?—What, less than ten years ago—that we would accomplish so much? He—Ribbentrop—was living well in London as Hitler's Ambassador. Now this. How far he has fallen. Bespor, go and speak to him. Then be ready."

Bespor, one of the generals in the front row, broke off and stood invisibly next to the former Nazi government official, whispering in his ear. "You've been terribly betrayed! You are the victim of weaklings who don't know the truth. This is so unfair."

Another demonic general, Legat, leaned closer to Proklor. "I hear it's 50 million killed in Europe alone. And 6 million Jews! See what that does for starting a new Israel. All under your leadership, my lord."

Proklor nodded. "It's amazing what these people will do when we lie to them. Just the Corporal and a few of his friends to start with. Amazing. So many people believed what we told them. And acted! So here we are, full circle. These ten were some of the best. It's a shame it has to end."

The trapdoor sprang open and Ribbentrop dropped. The rope snapped tight.

Bespor floated down to the curtained area below the platform and emerged a few moments later holding the dead leader's startled and struggling soul, the terror on his face clearly visible to the spiritual assembly. The demons cheered and laughed. Ribbentrop, looking up into their faces, gasped, as the reality of eternity hit him full force. Bespor handed him to a lesser demon, who led the unbelieving Foreign Minister off to hear his fate at the Judgment Seat.

As Ribbentrop's body still swung on the rope, Field Marshal General Wilhelm Keitel, in a well pressed uniform with gleaming boots, briskly walked up the second scaffold. In under two hours that morning the ten men found guilty at the Nuremberg Major War Crimes Trial were executed by Sergeant Woods; Proklor and his horde watched and remembered each one.

When the last of the ten, Arthur Seyss-Inquart, the former Commissioner for the Netherlands, was pronounced dead, the witnesses began to leave the hall. The demons overhead, used to taking orders, turned toward Proklor.

Just then they felt a spiritual cleaving beneath them and heard the sound of an approaching tempest. The spiritual darkness under them began to swirl, and several terrible princes—Proklor's equal or worse—emerged from the pit and moved the lesser spirits back.

With a loud thunderclap the Prince of Lies himself rose and took his place in the middle of the gathering; Proklor was directly in front of him, trying not to tremble.

Satan addressed his assembled army with a sound like the killing wind of a hundred hurricanes. "Well done, Proklor. Well done, all of you. Now we need your skills in a new place—America. Our forces have not done well there—the Light shines even brighter, and they follow Him. The Soviet Union and China will be important, but they are already dark, and ready. America is our last challenge, and I have chosen you

to subdue it. When we control America, we will control the world, and the Light will be extinguished."

The demons' eyes reflected a thousand bolts of spiritual lightning, diverting their gaze from their master, so close. Their crowding reflected, echoed and amplified the piercing sound like a thousand claps of thunder.

"Take your veteran army there and lie to them, as you did here. You, Prince Proklor, will be in charge. You will replace Pitka, who has not had a new idea since slavery, and is finished. You will have free rein.

"But they are different. You must be more subtle. They must not worship or revere us—at least not these next generations. Instead, they must worship and revere *themselves*! They must think that we don't exist—that nothing spiritual is real or important. They will then trust in their own might, not His. When you succeed, they will forget Him.

"They will tear their nation apart, all on their own. We will watch. They will kill their children. Kill their old people. Kill themselves. Lust after each other. Do whatever they want until they destroy themselves. Two generations, at most three. They will be led like lambs to slaughter."

He paused, then turned slowly as he spoke to all of Proklor's forces. "Your mission there is once again to destroy the truth with your lies. Now go. We will await your success!"

As the assembled demonic army watched, there was a huge, terrifying roar, like the combined screams of a million tortured souls, and Satan descended again beneath the scaffolds.

No one living in Washington on the following Sunday morning realized what was happening; the dark and dreadful storm clouds gathering over the Mall between the Capitol and the Washington Monument were invisible to human eyes. The demonic shapes massed into a brooding, living tempest of malice and death, every demon hating the Name and outraged that any human would escape their own fate.

Up and down they swirled and hissed, increasing in numbers and in the intensity of their writhing until the dark mass resembled a monstrous spiritual thunderhead, poised over the U.S. capital on the banks of the Potomac River.

Their leaders, Prince Proklor and his key generals, had chosen Sunday morning and this place for their unprecedented rendezvous because few angels would be in the city, and they could control the spiritual battlefield with their huge numbers.

"You are here to lie to them and their children with voices of 'human reason,' progress and emotion, until they no longer hear or know the truth.

"You have your assignments. Many of you will deploy to other cities as street leaders and sector leaders, to destroy families. Some of you will infuse their new television, and their movies. Their teachers' colleges are the key to upending their education system. Most of you will stay right here, the seat of power, to mislead their leadership, and through them, the nation. Let us begin."

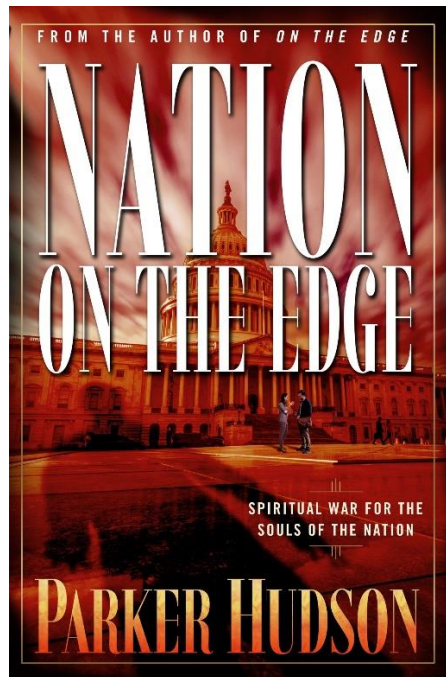
With a shattering clap of thunder the invisible storm cloud spun outward, ever widening its diameter, until it covered the entire city. Then many of the demons began leaving, thousands heading out for their assigned locations across the nation: universities, newspapers, seminaries, courts, Hollywood, school boards. When only those demons assigned to remain in Washington were left in the cloud, the storm spun inward again, converging on their leader. Proklor rose high above the Mall, and his demons scattered to their assignments across the city.

A large contingent filled the Capitol, turning the area under the dome into an invisible broiling, sulfurous mass, awaiting the return of the lawmakers on Monday, eager to plant their voices of deception that God was no longer important. Many took up posts in the White House, warning each other about the angels which might show up when the simpleton president actually prayed. All across the city they went, fanning out into every agency and every office.

Many of the most senior demons descended on the Supreme Court, turning the marble building dark with their presence. They knew that if only a handful of these men, unaccountable to anyone, believed their lies, then the nation would be diverted to a course which their Master assured them meant certain destruction for these detestable people.

It would be Evil's greatest victory, and the Earth's darkest hour.





*Nation On The Edge* is available at [Nation On The Edge | Parker Hudson](#)

And Parker's other books are available at [Christian Fiction Books](#)  
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