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*God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.*

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## Michael the Angel.

(2013)

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The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises

But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

***Teach it, don't demand it.***

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*Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man. As to such I neither claim special knowledge or perfect understanding.*

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## Michael the Angel.

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### Topics.

- The Angel Michael contends with the devil.
- The Angel Michael contends with one having the appearance of a man.
- Michael the great prince will arise; there will be a time of great trouble.

**From Strong's Concordance:** the English word angel in the Old Testament is from the Hebrew word mal'ak. In the New Testament the English word angel is from the Greek word aggelos. The word mal'ak in the Old Testament and the word aggelos in the New Testament have sometimes been translated to the English word messenger or messengers while at other times mal'ak and aggelos are translated angel or angels.

**Malak:** means to dispatch as a deputy, a messenger, an ambassador or a representative it can apply to and angel of God, a king, a prophet, a priest or teacher. The same word is used for the supernatural angels of God and for human messengers thus it can apply to God's supernatural angels or human men who are sent as messengers.

**Aggelos:** means a messenger or envoy sent from God to bring tidings. Aggelos is used all of the time in the New Testament for the supernatural angels of God (except for Luke chapter twenty) but it is also used for human men (i.e., pastors, ministers and such like) thus aggelos can apply to God's supernatural angels or human messengers.

### From Genesis to Revelation there is: -

- An angel of the Lord and of God.
  - Angels that do the work of God.
  - Angels that appear as humans.
  - In the book of Revelation, Jesus has an angel.
  - Human men who are called angels.
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### The Angel Michael contends with the Devil.

Jude 9 -----<sup>9</sup>Yet *Michael the archangel*, when contending with the *devil* (diabolos) he *disputed about the body of Moses*, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

The following words of Paul: -

- Brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea and were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea (1 Cor. 10:1-4)

Show that the body of Moses does not refer to the physical dead body of Moses, but to the children of Israel that were plucked up out of Egypt and all baptized into Moses. The body of Moses Michael the archangel contended for was the people of Israel and not the dead body of Moses.

**Contending with the devil:** the word devil in the Bible refers to everything that is opposed to God and his will, it not only embraces everything in the human heart that resists God's will, such as self, ego, pride, greed, jealousies, hatred, anger and such like things, but also embrace every outward action that opposes God and his

will. Thus the devil in the context of, "Michael the archangel, contending with the devil" (v9) refers to Michael the archangel hindering every king and every nation that pursued after Israel to destroy them by trickery, deception, war and battle. This is why the tiny nation of Israel whose population has been spread throughout all nations of the world, defeated by many enemies still exist as a most powerful nation in the world in fact so much so that when they are in a Crisis not only are all the cameras of the world's media upon them, but all the world is watching.

They are a miracle nation that has survived enemies that by natural reasoning should have wiped them off the face of the earth long ago, but they keep surviving and rising up out of the ashes as a strong nation. The reason they have not been entirely destroyed is because God has his angels keeping them.

#### **NOTE.**

Though to be saved to eternal life Jews like everyone else must believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, the nation of Israel is God's thermometer regarding Bible prophecy, this is because God's eyes are always upon Israel and he will never allow the nation or Jerusalem the Holy City of God to be totally destroyed and annihilated from the face of the earth.

**My personal belief:** is that the surrounding nations of Israel's (and many others associated with them) will rise up with the intention of destroying Israel. When this happens an enormous amount of Bible prophecy will be fulfilled, the Lord Jesus Christ will return as King of kings and Lord of lords and save Israel from their enemies and the following prophecy of Zechariah will be fulfilled: -

- God will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on him, whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn. On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great. The land shall mourn, each family by itself (Zech. 12:10-14).

#### **For further information see titles: -**

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- The Second or Great White Throne Judgment.

In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

#### **The Lord Rebuke Thee.**

The words "The Lord rebuke thee" (v9) referring to Michael the Archangel rebuking the devil are alluding to the following vision of Zechariah concerning Joshua.

- The LORD showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him and the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: *is* not this a brand plucked out of the fire?" (Referring to Jerusalem and its inhabitants) (Zech. 3:1-2).

When it is understood that the word *satan* means one who withstands and opposes God and the word *devil* means slander and accuser it becomes clear that they both mean the same thing (i.e., an enemy of God). If we were to put a microscope on the differences between the two it would generally be seen that the word *satan* mostly embraces a collective group that has great power and influence (i.e., governments, armies, institutions etc.), that oppose God and his will whereas the word *devil* generally refers to an individual or those that have lessor power and influence.

#### **Zechariah vision shows two things: -**

1. Joshua (a righteous man and deliverer of Israel) is seen from heaven's view and God's eyes as a man standing before the Lord as high priest on behalf of the nation of Israel.

2. When God looks upon the populations of the world he clearly sees the sin nature of all its individual inhabitants and the heart and actions of those who are opposed to Israel and who act in some manner as an adversary against His people and his eternal plans and purposes. When these adversaries to God are referred to collectively as one spirit or one power they are given the title Satan.

**Thus:** when the individual sin nature of all mankind (the flesh) (self, ego, pride, lust, greed etc., that is opposed to God and His will is seen from heaven as one collective Spirit since it is an enormously powerful force acting as an opponent and an adversary against God, against His eternal plans and purposes, against Christ and against the people of God it is therefore given the title satan or the devil (the enemy of God the enemy of Christ and the enemy of all that is good).

This is because satan means an opponent and adversary and refers to anyone who withstands and opposes what is good. In its original Hebrew language the word satan does not have a capital 'S' and does not refer to a supernatural evil and powerful god that is at war with the one true God, but to anything (i.e., an individual person, a king, a nation or government etc., and to the spirit of man that that is opposed to God, His people and his eternal plans and purposes).

This vision of satan standing before Joshua, does not only apply to Joshua, but by extension applies to whoever faithfully stands for God and lives with heartfelt passion to bring about God's eternal plans and purposes. This is clearly seen in the life of Jesus he stood for his heavenly Father while at the same time all the sinful fury of the Jewish chief priests, the Pharisees and scribes was unleashed toward him. If Zechariah was having the same vision today concerning Jesus it would read something like the following: -

- The LORD showed me Jesus the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him and the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jesus rebuke thee: *is not he a brand plucked out of the fire?"* (Zech. 3:1-2).

In Jesus life the Jewish chief priests, Pharisees and scribes were the satan it was their indwelling sinful selfish ambition, pride, greed and lust for power that led to Christ's murder.

John in the book of Revelation tells us: -

- The dragon, that old serpent, is the devil, and satan (Rev. 20:2).

These are not titles of powerful evil gods, but titles that embrace different aspects of sin dwelling in the human heart which are opposed to God and His will and manifest themselves as such in outward actions and behaviour. The dragon, that old serpent, which is the devil, and satan; is not only the complete title that embraces the entire sin nature of all mankind, but also embraces all the various evils of sin.

**The great dragon:** is a symbol of political power.

**That old serpent:** is a symbol of, deception and temptation.

**The devil:** is a symbol of, the sinful mind or proneness to sin in human nature.

**Satan:** is a title which embraces the dragon, serpent and the devil (all of these deceive the world).

**Satan's angels:** are, a symbol of religious men in places of high influence who were called of God, but have become evil servants.

**For further information see the titles: -**

- Devil.
- Dragon.

- Satan.
- Serpent.

All titles are in, Satan and his Family (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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### **The Angel Michael Contends with One Having the Appearance of a Man.**

Daniel 10:20-21 ----- <sup>20</sup>Then he (the one having the appearance of a man) (v16) said to Daniel, "Do you know why I have come to you? But now I will return to fight against the prince of Persia; and when I go out, behold, the prince of Greece will come. <sup>21</sup>But I will tell you what is inscribed in the book of truth: there is none who contends by my side against these except *Michael, your prince*.

**Michael:** means who is like God.

The following verse shows that Michael is the special guardian angel of the affairs of Israel: -

- Michael will arise, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book (Dan 12:1).

In this chapter the angel Michael contends alongside the one having the appearance of a man on behalf of the nation of Israel against Persia and Greece. These are not only difficult verses to understand, but require a certain understanding of the history of Israel, Greece and Persia at the time of Daniels prayer which is far too much to go into in this study.

**For further information see: -**

- Daniel 10 in, Commentary OT (ON WESITE MENU).

**NOTE:** some religious ministers have used this chapter to support their teaching regarding spiritual warfare. They teach their followers that they need to enter into earnest prayer and cast down evil powerful angels that are over a nation, an organisation or a government and controlling the minds of these groups through demonic influences, but Daniel is not in aggressive prayer against the angels of Persia or Greece or any other angel in fact all Daniel is doing is praying and seeking God to understand a vision that the LORD has given him and he is doing this in absolute humility before the Lord.

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### **Michael the Great Prince will Arise; there will be a Time of Great Trouble.**

Daniel 12:1-3 ----- <sup>1</sup>"At that time (when the final Gentile world leader invades Israel) (Dan 11:41-45) shall arise *Michael, the great prince* who has charge of your (Daniels') people (Israel). And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book.<sup>2</sup>And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup>And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

**Michael:** means who is like God? He is the archangel whose chief responsibility is over the care of the nation of Israel.

Daniel is told when nations come against Israel there will be a time of great trouble. Michael, the great prince who has charge over Israel will rise up and: -

- Deliver everyone whose name is found written in the book.

- Many who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake.
- Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the sky.
- Those who turn many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever.
- Some will rise to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

**The words**, “Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake” (v2) clearly refer to the resurrection when Christ returns in glory as King of kings and Lord of lords (Rev 17:14) to establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice and peace on earth. It is the climax of Daniels' vision in chapter ten which will take place when the stone made without hands of Daniel chapter two crushes the kingdoms of the world.

The vision of Daniel's is simply stunning for further information see: -

- Daniel 2:31-45.
- Daniel Chapter 12.

Both chapters are in Commentary OT (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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### **Jews and Gentiles become One New Nation in Christ.**

Some may think this vision of Daniels only applies to the nation of Israel, but the apostle Paul in the following verses not only brilliantly shows that Jews and Gentiles become one new nation in Christ, but also shows that the promised seed of Abraham and of David is Christ and that all the promises to Israel are now fulfilled in Christ. This means that the promises are no longer limited to Israel only, but extend and embrace all those who belong to Christ because God is now creating one new nation in Christ made up of both Jews and Gentiles (Gentiles are everyone who is not a Hebrew or Jew).

The Apostle Paul said: -

Ephes. 2:11-22 ----- <sup>11</sup>Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision (Jews), which is made in the flesh by hands—<sup>12</sup>remember that you (Gentiles) were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the *COMMONWEALTH OF ISRAEL* and *STRANGERS* to the *COVENANTS* of *PROMISE*, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup>But now in Christ Jesus you (Gentiles) who once were far off (from God) have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup>For he himself is our (Jews and Gentiles) peace, who has made us both *ONE* and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup>by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he (Jesus) might create in himself *ONE NEW MAN* (or Nation) in place of the two (Jews and Gentiles), so making peace, <sup>16</sup>and might reconcile us (Jews and Gentiles) both to God in *ONE BODY* through the cross, thereby killing the hostility (between the Jews and Gentiles). <sup>17</sup>And he (Jesus) came and preached peace to you (Gentiles) who were far off (from God) and peace to those who were near (Jews). <sup>18</sup>For through him (Jesus) we both (Jews and Gentiles) have access in *ONE SPIRIT* to the Father. <sup>19</sup>So then you (Gentiles) are *NO LONGER* strangers and aliens, but you are *FELLOW CITIZENS* with the *SAINTS* (the Jews) and members of the *HOUSEHOLD* of God, <sup>20</sup>built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone <sup>21</sup>in whom the *WHOLE STRUCTURE* being joined together (Jews and Gentiles) grows into a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup>In him you (Jews and Gentiles) also are being built together into a *DWELLING PLACE* for *GOD* by the Spirit.

Gentiles were separated from Christ, alienated from the, Commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus they have been brought to God by the blood of Christ.

Jesus has made Jews and Gentiles both one by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances so that Jesus might create in himself one new man (Nation) in place of the two (Jews and Gentiles). In Jesus both Jews and Gentiles are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. Christ is the head of this new nation and its Jewish and Gentile citizens are now equal in status before God since in Christ we are all brothers and sisters in the same eternal family that God is now establishing in the Lord Jesus Christ throughout all nations of the world.

**The practical application of what this means to you: -**

If you belong to Christ, all the future and eternal promises God made to Israel also apply to you. The book of Revelation states: -

- When Christ returns in glory every eye will see him, even those who pierced him and all the tribes of the earth (Rev. 1:7).

And in Revelation chapter five we are told that: -

- Christ was slain, and by his blood he ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation (i.e., Jews and Gentiles) and he has made them a kingdom and priests to God and they shall reign on the earth (Rev. 5:9-10).

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**For further information see: -**

- Dragon, Serpent, Satan in, Satan and his Family (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- Revelation 12 in, Various Topics (ON WEBSITE MENU).

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End