

# Angels, Demons & You Can You See?

## **There is a struggle underway, are you watching?**

Matthew 16:6–7 (NIV®)

<sup>6</sup>“Be careful,” Jesus said to them. “Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” <sup>7</sup>They discussed this among themselves and said, “It is because we didn’t bring any bread.”

## **Do you even care?**

Luke 17:26–30 (NIV®)

<sup>26</sup>“Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. <sup>27</sup> People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all. <sup>28</sup> It was the same in the days of Lot. People were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building. <sup>29</sup> But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all. <sup>30</sup> It will be just like this on the day the Son of Man is revealed.”

## **What’s the Point?**

Matthew 19:27–29 (NIV®)

<sup>27</sup> Peter answered him, “**We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?**” <sup>28</sup> Jesus said to them, “I tell you the truth, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>29</sup> And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.”

## **Many Choices!**

Romans 13:13–14 (NIV®)

<sup>13</sup> Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and **do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.**

## **I. In John’s Gospel**

### **A. Fear of the Political Leaders**

John 7:12–13 (NIV®)

<sup>12</sup> Among the crowds there was widespread whispering about him. Some said, “He is a good man.” Others replied, “No, he deceives the people.” <sup>13</sup> But **no one would say anything publicly about him for fear of the Jews.**

John 9:20–23 (NIV®)

<sup>20</sup> “We know he is our son,” the parents answered, “and we know he was born blind. <sup>21</sup> But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don’t know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself.” <sup>22</sup> His parents said this because **they were afraid of the Jews**, for already the Jews had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Christ would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> That was why his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

John 12:42–43 (NIV®)

<sup>42</sup> Yet at the same time many even among the leaders believed in him. But **because of the Pharisees they would not confess their faith** for fear they would be put out of the synagogue; <sup>43</sup> for they loved praise from men more than praise from God.

John 19:38–39 (NIV®)

<sup>38</sup> Later, Joseph of Arimathea asked Pilate for the body of Jesus. Now Joseph was **a disciple of Jesus, but secretly because he feared the Jews**. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away. <sup>39</sup> He was accompanied by Nicodemus, the man who earlier had visited Jesus at night.

John 20:19 (NIV®)

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, **with the doors locked for fear of the Jews**, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

## B. Confusion, Conflict & Truth

John 7:25–32 (NIV®)

<sup>25</sup> At that point some of the people of Jerusalem began to ask, "Isn't this the man they are trying to kill? <sup>26</sup> Here he is, speaking publicly, and they are not saying a word to him. Have the authorities really concluded that he is the Christ? <sup>27</sup> But we know where this man is from; when the Christ comes, no one will know where he is from." <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus, still teaching in the temple courts, cried out, "Yes, you know me, and you know where I am from. I am not here on my own, but he who sent me is true. You do not know him, <sup>29</sup> but I know him because I am from him and he sent me." <sup>30</sup> **At this they tried to seize him, but no one laid a hand on him, because his time had not yet come.** <sup>31</sup> Still, many in the crowd put their faith in him. They said, "When the Christ comes, will he do more miraculous signs than this man?" <sup>32</sup> The Pharisees heard the crowd whispering such things about him. Then the chief priests and the Pharisees sent temple guards to arrest him.

## C. Demons or Truth?

John 7:20 (NIV)

"You are demon-possessed," the crowd answered. "Who is trying to kill you?"

John 8:47–53 (NIV®)

<sup>47</sup> "He who belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God." <sup>48</sup> The Jews answered him, **"Aren't we right in saying that you are a Samaritan and demon-possessed?"** <sup>49</sup> "I am not possessed by a demon," said Jesus, "but I honor my Father and you dishonor me. <sup>50</sup> I am not seeking glory for myself; but there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup> I tell you the truth, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." <sup>52</sup> **At this the Jews exclaimed, "Now we know that you are demon-possessed! Abraham died and so did the prophets, yet you say that if anyone keeps your word, he will never taste death. <sup>53</sup> Are you greater than our father Abraham? He died, and so did the prophets. Who do you think you are?"**

John 10:18–21 (NIV®)

<sup>18</sup> "No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father." <sup>19</sup> At these words the Jews were again divided. <sup>20</sup> **Many of them said, "He is demon-possessed and raving mad. Why listen to him?"** <sup>21</sup> But others said, "These are not the sayings of a man possessed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"