

# Judging Angels

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I've recently been pondering about what we will be doing as spirit beings. We know, for example, our elder Brother and High Priest will be under the authority of our Father, Almighty God. He will have authority over everything except God the Father. King David will rule over Israel. The apostles will have positions of authority. So, what about us? I've been wondering about us—the regular common folk—who will be born again as eternal, spirit children of God.

The Apostle Paul revealed that one thing we will be doing is judging angels. He admonished in his letter to the Corinthians that, as we prepare in this life, we must be practicing discernment and the ability to make decisions for the responsibilities we will have to shoulder as spirit beings. We'll have the responsibility and authority as actual children of God and as individuals with responsibility and authority to exercise wisdom through the perspective of knowledge and understanding. So, then we will not make foolish decisions. Our decisions will have to be worthy of respect when we have authority to judge angels, who are currently more powerful than we are. They have proven their loyalty and faithfulness to Almighty God through adversity and challenge. We will have to have the maturity and faithfulness that they will respect.

As born-again children of God, we will also have to have shown our loyalty and faithfulness to Almighty God and His Son Jesus Christ. We will need to understand the wonderful joy and peace of God's plan and what it takes to accomplish that plan. We will also have to understand the harsh realities and consequences of rejecting the goals of that plan and rejecting God Himself. My title for today is:

## Judging Angels

In order to develop the point of my message I want to briefly review God's successes represented by the first two festival seasons and our responsibility and consequences for our failures. There are three annual commanded festival seasons, each season has its own sequence of commanded assemblies and special Holy Days. Last Sunday we completed the second Holy Day season with the observance of Pentecost. God presented specific milestone events to Moses and Aaron as types to represent spiritual fulfillment and His planned accomplishments. In Exodus 12, each household was to take a lamb without blemish and set it aside for special attention.

**Exodus 12:1** *Now the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,*

2) *"This month shall be your beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you.*

3) *Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household.*

4) *And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take it according to the number of the persons; according to each man's need you shall make your count for the lamb.*

5) *Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats. (NKJV)*

For most people, when they have an animal selected for a special attention, we tend to develop an emotional bond with the animal. I imagine the lamb selected out of the herd became the object for some emotional tugs and at the very least was recognized as special. In like manner, Jesus Christ was selected to be the Passover sacrifice from before creation. He lived a normal life as a human being, building relationships and enjoying friendships. He experienced normal, emotional influences. The first success for our benefit was that Jesus Christ was a suitable sacrifice and was selected as the anti-type of the lamb at the first Passover in Egypt. Going down to verse 6.

6) *Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. (NKJV)*

The purpose of that sacrifice on the fourteenth day of the month was to show a sign that firstborn of Israel were redeemed and saved from death. Verse 13.

13) *Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.*

14) *'So this day shall be to you a memorial; and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD throughout your generations. You shall keep it as a feast by an everlasting ordinance. (NKJV)*

Passover represents God providing a sacrifice that removes the penalty for sin. Symbolically, our sins are removed. We represent the removal of our sins each year by removing leaven from our homes on the fourteenth day of the month. As a practice, most of us begin removing leavening agents from our homes prior to the fourteenth day of the first month. We are required to remove the leaven on the fourteenth day of the first month so that none will be found in our homes on the next day, the fifteenth. The fourteenth is the day the process of removing leaven is finished. All leaven should be gone by the time the fifteenth arrives. No leaven should be found on the fifteenth. It should have all been removed. Of course, we all know that we are not without sin. Our part in the spiritual meaning of what we did on the fourteenth is to put sin and lawlessness out of our lives and put on or put into our lives the strength of character and the practices of righteousness. God's part is that we have been redeemed from the penalty of death for our sins. At God's option, which is why His grace, our penalty of death has been removed. Our sins are considered not to have happened because of the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ.

On the fourteenth day of the first month, Jesus was sacrificed as payment for our redemption for the penalty of sin. He was sacrificed during the day that came before the fifteenth; He was sacrificed on the fourteenth day of the first month. In the meaning of the days of Unleavened Bread, we learned we are to live a life without sin. Actually, the seven days of Unleavened Bread, which symbolically means “without sin”—the fifteenth day of the first month—is the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. The fifteenth and the twenty-first day of the first month are annual Sabbath Days. Annual Sabbath Days are all commanded assemblies.

Each day of the days of Unleavened Bread, starting with the fifteenth day and ending with the twenty-first day of the first month, we are commanded to eat unleavened bread. The unleavened bread is symbolic of our bodies, whose lives must be cleansed and made sin free. The days of Unleavened Bread represent our lives as being sin free. God has imputed through His grace, righteousness to our lives. Our imperfections have been covered yet we must do our part to live a life free of sin. We all have and most will continue to make sinful mistakes. According to the law the only way that we can be cleansed of our sins is by our permanent and Pharisaical spiritual death.

According to the law the only way for us to qualify for salvation is for someone to redeem us by paying our penalty for us. The penalty for sin is death. In order for us to be redeemed, someone who was not under the penalty of death had to die. Jesus as the only begotten Son of God was qualified to be that sacrifice. Jesus Christ redeemed us all and all of creation from that penalty. Being willing and able to pay the penalty as redemption for all of creation was not enough. There needed to be more. That sacrifice also needed to be accepted as the price of redemption for the penalty of sin. The reality is, that sacrifice was accepted by Almighty God during the days of Unleavened Bread representing holy, righteous lives without sin.

The wave sheaf offering always occurs during the days of Unleavened Bread and represents Jesus being resurrected, brought before Almighty God—Yehovah—to be accepted as the redeeming sacrifice for our lives. Jesus was resurrected to eternal life. Because He was resurrected, we also have hope of resurrection to eternal life.

**Titus 1:2** *in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began ... (NKJV)*

God also provides us with a “spiritual tether” from the resurrection of Christ to our own future resurrection through the count of fifty days to the Feast of Firstfruits or Pentecost. Jesus Christ through His resurrection received freedom from death. The count of fifty represents freedom. The count is to the day of Pentecost which represents the first group of humans who will be resurrected to eternal life or freedom from death. Pentecost or as it is called Feast of First Fruits is the second festival season. The Passover, the days of Unleavened Bread and the Feast of First Fruits all represent successes in God’s plan.

Given God's successes, we have the responsibility to do our part in fulfilling His plans. We dare not neglect our responsibilities in serving God. We need to bear in mind that now we have responsibility for being prepared to serve as spirit children of God. For one thing we will be loyal and obedient examples of service to God our Father and our elder Brother, Jesus Christ. For another we will be humble, productive and profitable members of God's family and we will have very powerful and righteous servants—angels—to assist us. The Apostle Paul begins 1 Corinthians 6 by encouraging the Corinthians to prepare themselves for their future responsibilities as born-again spirit children of God.

**1 Corinthians 6:1** *Dare any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unrighteous, and not before the saints?*

*2) Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?*

*3) Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?*

*4) If then you have judgments concerning things pertaining to this life, do you appoint those who are least esteemed by the church to judge?*

*5) I say this to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you, not even one, who will be able to judge between his brethren? (NKJV)*

God expects us to prepare for the future by practicing the skills we will be expected to perform in the future. Part of that responsibility will be to judge angels and make decisions on other matters. Angels are more powerful than we are. In the flesh we are lower than the angels in power and authority. Like guardians or school masters, they assist God as He intervenes in our lives and nurtures us. In Revelation 12:7 there are two types of angels. There are angels of Satan—wicked angels—and there are righteous angels.

**Revelation 12:7** *And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,*

*8) And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought,*

*9) So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. (NKJV)*

So, Satan has angels that are aligned with him, who are wicked and evil and rebellious against God. Look in Matthew 13, because I want you to see that Jesus also has angels that serve Him.

**Matthew 13:41** *The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness ... (NKJV)*

There are principles concerning judgment for judging or making judgments. The word translated to the English words *judge, judging, judgment*, have a broad range of meanings with the different nuances that can usually be determined by the context. Briefly, some of the meanings cover:

- Making decisions involving legal issues.
- Making decisions intended to correct a person's behavior or to punish.
- Responsibility to rule or govern and to consider or make evaluations and then decide.

In 1 Corinthians 5 we see, as children of God, we must learn to make decisions throughout our life. We must determine to be righteous and to avoid wickedness. As brethren we must determine to be helpers of each other as we all strive to be pleasing to God. When a person strays from righteous conduct and will not repent, we have a responsibility to disassociate from that person. We have a responsibility to help each other to aspire to higher standards. That standard is for our relationships within the church. We do not have responsibility for those outside the church.

**1 Corinthians 5:9** *I wrote to you in my epistle not to keep company with sexually immoral people.*

*10) Yet I certainly did not mean with the sexually immoral people of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or idolaters, since then you would need to go out of the world.*

*11) But now I have written to you not to keep company with anyone named a brother, who is sexually immoral, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or an extortioner—not even to eat with such a person. (NKJV)*

As brethren we have a responsibility and a very important responsibility to God for each other. Our responsibility is to help, as it says in verse 5, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. In order to help our brethren, we must make decisions. Word of caution: Notice the word *reviler*. A reviler is a person who criticizes others. Mocking and criticizing others is clearly frowned upon by God. Freedom to be unique or creative in our thoughts and actions is a blessing from God. I believe that God has demonstrated through the blessings that He has given to this nation, an example of a taste of what can be accomplished when we are free to make mistakes and be wrong in our quest to be creative in our pursuits to provide a better life for ourselves and for our families and others we learn.

We need to take care not to criticize others outside the narrow bowels of wickedness. If you do, you put yourself at risk. At the risk of the wrath of God, the wrath of those you criticize and also those who will likely choose to avoid you because they don't want to go through the stress of being reviled. Barriers that a person creates by criticizing others may never come down. The hurt caused may never heal. Please take heed on this one. Continuing in verse 12.

*12) For what have I to do with judging those also who are outside? (NKJV)*

We are not responsible in the same way for helping those outside the church. But then the Apostle Paul asks the question:

*12 continued) ... Do you not judge those who are inside? (NKJV)*

We should be making judgments; we do have a responsibility for those inside the church. Notice who is responsible for making decisions concerning those that are outside the church.

*13) But those who are outside God judges. Therefore "put away from yourselves the evil person." (NKJV)*

Hebrews 10, this is the point. We in the church, are not responsible for judging or condemning the wicked. We are our brother's keeper, not the keepers of the wicked. God retains for Himself the judgment and punishment of the wicked. Notice that in Hebrews 10:24 and 25 we are responsible for making decisions or judgments for the benefit of our brethren.

**Hebrews 10:24** *And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works,*

*25) not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. (NKJV)*

Then the message turns a little bit more sinister in verse 26.

*26) For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,*

*27) but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.*

*28) Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.*

*29) Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? (NKJV)*

Grace and mercy come from the Father; this is confirmed in the following verse, the person who says, "vengeance is mine", is God the Father.

*30) For we know Him who said, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. And again, "The LORD will judge His people."*

*31) It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. (NKJV)*

From Psalm 94, I want to clear up any potential question as to whom vengeance belongs. In Psalms we can see Who the Lord Who will judge His people is and to Whom vengeance belongs.

**Psalms 94:1** *O LORD [Yehovah] God, to whom vengeance belongs—O God, to whom vengeance belongs, shine forth  
2) Rise up, O Judge of the earth; Render punishment to the proud. (NKJV)*

The reference here is a reference back to Deuteronomy 32:35 and 36 where clearly, Yehovah is the One Who will judge the people. If you look at Matthew 10, Jesus is encouraging His disciples as He sent them out to do the work.

**Matthew 10:6** *But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.  
7) And as you go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. '  
8) Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give. (NKJV)*

He warns the disciples to be wise in their conduct and consoles them in verse 26 with an assurance that they need not fear those who can hurt them physically.

*26) Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known.  
27) 'Whatever I tell you in the dark, speak in the light; and what you hear in the ear, preach on the housetops. (NKJV)*

So, the disciples were sent out and they were not to fear. Only God has the authority to destroy us because of the sacrifice of His Son for the penalty of sin. He can extend mercy based on His grace.

*28) And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. (NKJV)*

God the Father is able to destroy both the human body and the human spirit. He promises to destroy the wicked. In Revelation 21, the final destruction of the wicked is called the “second death”. The first death of our physical bodies is only the cessation of this physical life.

**Revelation 21:8** *But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death.” (NKJV)*

The “second death” is the destruction of the spirit that is given to each human prior to birth. My personal belief is that that spirit is given at conception. We are all born flesh and blood human beings. Life of this flesh was given to Adam and has been passed on to each succeeding descendant. Adam was created from the dust of the ground. Adam

was not created from material of any other living creature. Adam was created from scratch, from the dust of the ground. ‘

**Genesis 2:7** *And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.*  
(NKJV)

Our bodies of flesh and blood and the breath of life are inherited by each of us from Adam through our ancestral line. In 2 Peter 1, the Apostle Peter and apostles both refer to our physical bodies as temporary dwellings. A tent is a temporary dwelling in the same way that our bodies are temporary or mortal.

**2 Peter 1:13** *Yes, I think it is right, as long as I am in this tent, to stir you up by reminding you,*  
14) *knowing that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me.*  
15) *Moreover I will be careful to ensure that you always have a reminder of these things after my decease.* (NKJV)

I want to start in 2 Corinthians 4 and then continue into chapter 5. When we are born again as spirit or as referred to as “resurrected to newness of life”, we will no longer be mortal. We will have put off this mortal flesh for the body of spirit that will have life that lasts forever. Our true goal is not what we can achieve here in the flesh, but rather, what we can achieve in the flesh to prepare for our lives as spirit beings.

**2 Corinthians 4:18** *while we do not look at the things which are seen [the future; our future as spirit beings, we will no longer be physical], but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.* (NKJV)

**2 Corinthians 5:1** *For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.*  
2) *For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven,*  
3) *if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked.* (NKJV)

Instead of a physical body we will have a spiritual body that will house the spirit of man.

4) *For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life.*  
5) *Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.*  
6) *So we are always confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord.*  
7) *For we walk by faith, not by sight.* (NKJV)



We do not see the spirit because we are in a flesh. But we have faith in God that we will have an immortal body to replace this tent, which is our mortal body. Ecclesiastes 12 tells us that the “spirit of man” is an essence that comes from God and returns to God.

**Ecclesiastes 12:7** *Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it. (NKJV)*

This flesh has to die. Our physical bodies, or this tent—our temporary dwelling—is only temporary. We are mortal. Our physical bodies have to die. After this body dies, we go to the grave until the time of judgment.

**Hebrews 9:27** *And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment ... (NKJV)*

All humans must die and sometime after death there will be a judgment. In Matthew 25, the time of judgment is described. Jesus, with the help of His angels, will separate people who are blessed with eternal life and those who are sentenced to death.

**Matthew 25:31** *“When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.  
32) All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats.  
33) And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left.  
34) Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: (NKJV)*

In verse 41.

*41) Then He will also say to those on the left hand, Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: (NKJV)*

Then in verse 46.

*46) And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.” (NKJV)*

The everlasting punishment is described in verse 41. The meaning of *everlasting punishment* is to be thrown into the *everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels*. When a human is thrown into the fire of everlasting punishment, that person is destroyed. This is the *second death* that we saw in Revelation 21. The second death is the total and permanent destruction of the life of the person being destroyed. As we saw, Jesus said not to fear losing our physical lives, rather we are to fear God who can destroy our spirit in the fire of everlasting punishment. Death of the physical person is just a part of the process of life to which God has appointed to all mankind, to have a

beginning and an end of our physical existence. All humans have a spirit component. The second death is the destruction of the spirit component. When the spirit component is destroyed, the destruction is total and permanent. God's expectations for each of us is that we will learn to always choose righteous behavior, reject evil and that we will faithfully serve God. We just take care not to despise authorities, not to be rebellious and not to be contentious. We must not revile and knock others. Unless we overcome these characteristics, we will be completely destroyed and perish in the lake of fire, which is the second death.

**2 Peter 2:9** *then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,*  
10) *and especially those who walk according to the flesh in the lust of uncleanness and despise authority. They are presumptuous, self-willed. They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries,*  
11) *whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord.*  
12) *But these, like natural brute beasts made to be caught and destroyed, speak evil of the things they do not understand, and will utterly perish in their own corruption,*  
13) *and will receive the wages of unrighteousness, as those who count it pleasure to carouse in the daytime. They are spots and blemishes, carousing in their own deceptions while they feast with you ... (NKJV)*

The blessings that God reveals to us in these two Holy Day seasons which we have just completed, are wonderful and to be cherished and diligently sought after. We must always remember there are two sides to God's judgment. For those following the ways of righteousness leading to eternal life, and for those following the ways of wickedness, evil and rebellion against God, leading to total destruction. In verse 4 of 2 Peter 2:

**2 Peter 2:4** *For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; (NKJV)*

In Jude 1:6, notice the angels who sinned have been delivered into the chains of darkness. They are held by the chains of darkness until it is time for them to be destroyed in the everlasting fire that was prepared for their destruction.

**Jude 1:5** *But I want to remind you, though you once knew this, that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.*  
6) *And the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day; (NKJV)*

I have heard over the years some speculate that Satan and his angels cannot be destroyed and will be held for eternity in the chains of darkness and kept in the

everlasting fire, forever—as their punishment for rebelling against God. Please notice that this is the same fire that will destroy the human spirit, in the second death. My speculation is that if God will destroy in that fire, the spirit essence of His children, who choose to rebel, then that fire will also be able to consume and destroy any other created spirit being whom God chooses to destroy. We have already noted that the spirit essence of His children who choose the way of wickedness can and will be destroyed.

There is a time coming when God will, without mercy, destroy those angels who have rebelled against God. They will perish in the same fire that humans who are slated to be destroyed in, which is the second death. One of the scriptures that is used to prove the angels cannot be destroyed is found in Luke 20. The Sadducees were questioning Jesus concerning the resurrection. They did not believe there would be a resurrection of the dead. They questioned Him with a scenario where a woman in succession had seven husbands. Each one died with none of them begetting a child through her. Jesus' answer is often misconstrued to say that angels cannot die.

**Luke 20:33** *Therefore, in the resurrection, whose wife does she become? For all seven had her as wife."*

34) *Jesus answered and said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage.*

35) *But those who are counted worthy to attain that age, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage;*

36) *nor can they die anymore, for they are equal to the angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.*

37) *But even Moses showed in the burning bush passage that the dead are raised, when he called the Lord the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.'*

38) *For He is not the God of the dead but of the living, for all live to Him."* (NKJV)

The argument is that angels cannot die, based on the argument that born again sons of God will be resurrected to eternal life. The problem is that Jesus is not saying spirit cannot be destroyed. He is saying that spirit can live forever. Flesh and blood humans are finite in existence. Humans have a definite beginning and an ending of physical life. Spirit beings, unless they are destroyed can live forever. As born-again children of God we can live forever in the same way that angels can live forever. Those who are habitually wicked and rebellious against God will be destroyed. God does not change; He never has and never will tolerate wickedness and rebellion. Any being whether physical or spirit who blasphemes against God will be destroyed. You can see that in Matthew 12:31 and 32 which was covered last week. If God will destroy His children for wickedness and rebellion then it stands to reason that He will not tolerate any other spirit being that He has created to assist His children to continue to exist forever and sin in rebellion. There is not partiality with God.

Satan, one of the greatest of God's angels will be destroyed and burned up. Ezekiel 28, I want to begin in verse 13.

**Ezekiel 28:13** *You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes Was prepared for you on the day you were created.*

14) *You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.*

15) *You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you.*

16) *By the abundance of your trading You became filled with violence within, And you sinned; Therefore I cast you as a profane thing Out of the mountain of God; And I destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the fiery stones.* (NKJV)

In other words, he could not be there anymore.

17) *“Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, That they might gaze at you.*

18) *“You defiled your sanctuaries By the multitude of your iniquities, By the iniquity of your trading; Therefore I brought fire from your midst; It devoured you, And I turned you to ashes upon the earth In the sight of all who saw you.*

19) *All who knew you among the peoples are astonished at you; You have become a horror, And shall be no more forever.’ ”* (NKJV)

Turn to Hebrews 2:14.

**Hebrews 2:14** *Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil ...* (NKJV)

So, the plan is to destroy the devil. Satan will eventually be destroyed. Some have speculated that when Paul said that we will be judging angels he meant that we will be pronouncing judgment or punishment on fallen angels. God has already pronounced judgment on the evil angels. They are now set aside, waiting for their punishment. Their punishment will be their total destruction. Rebellious spirits will perish. They will cease to exist. Concerning rebellious and condemned angels, there will be nothing for us to do. Their destruction for us and all other living beings will be as an example to motivate us to never fall into the trap of wickedness and rebellion. Look back to verse 5 in Hebrews 2. As children of God, our focus will be to the future, working toward the objective of God’s plans for our family—the family of God, the family of Yehovah.

**Hebrews 2:5** *For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels.* (NKJV)

What is to come will not be under subjection of the angels. As children of God and brethren with Christ, who has been given authority over everything, we will exercise authority as delegated by God through Christ. As the Apostle Paul revealed, that will include authority over the angels.

We do not have the role of pronouncing or executing final sentencing or punishment or destruction on our fellow humans. In the same manner we do not have authority or pronounce or execute final punishment or destruction on Satan or the wicked angels. Under the authority of Jesus Christ, we will have authority to execute some commands to the demons and they must obey. The authority is not our own, but based on authority given by God through Jesus Christ. If you turn to 1 Corinthians 6, notice that the Apostle Paul is encouraging the Corinthians to step up and develop the skills of leadership and decision making. Notice verse 2.

**1 Corinthians 6:2** *Do you not know that the saints will judge the world? And if the world will be judged by you, are you unworthy to judge the smallest matters?* (NKJV)

The angels are very powerful—more powerful than humans. But notice that Paul places the greater importance on learning to discern wisely, things in this life and having the authority over the angels.

*3) Do you not know that we shall judge angels? How much more, things that pertain to this life?* (NKJV)

In this life it is much more important, that we develop these skills. The higher priority is on what we do now than on the fact that we will have authority over angels. In Psalm 103 we see that God created powerful beings who have proved, and still continue, to prove their faithfulness to God and His children.

**Psalms 103:19** *The LORD has established His throne in heaven, And His kingdom rules over all.*  
*20) Bless the LORD, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word.* (NKJV)

These powerful created beings listen and take heed, the Word of God. In verse 21.

*21) Bless the LORD, all you His hosts, You ministers of His, who do His pleasure.* (NKJV)

The word “ministers” can also be translated “servants”. As God’s children we serve Him. We should delight in doing this with pleasure. In actually doing God’s pleasure, we should delight. Angels are greater than humans. Psalms 8:4 is a very, very familiar scripture.

**Psalms 8:4** *What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visits him?*

5) *For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor. (KJV)*

**Hebrews 2:5** *For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels.*

6) *But one testified in a certain place, saying: "What is man that You are mindful of him, Or the son of man that You take care of him?"*

7) *You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, And set him over the works of Your hands. (NKJV)*

The next verse, obviously is speaking of Jesus and the authority that Almighty God has given Him. As brethren of Jesus Christ, we will have authority under Jesus.

1 Corinthians tells us that we will have authority for judging angels.

8) *You have put all things in subjection under his feet." For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him.*

9) *But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. (NKJV)*

If you look back to chapter 1, angels minister to those who will inherit eternal life.

**Hebrews 1:14** *Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? (NKJV)*

In Matthew 18, Jesus is explaining that those who humble themselves before God and man will be great in the kingdom of God.

**Matthew 18:4** *Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. (NKJV)*

Even the least of us have angels who are in contact with Almighty God, ministering to us. Verse 10.

10) *Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.*

11) *For the Son of Man has come to save that which was lost. (NKJV)*

These angels see us and know us, yet after witnessing all of our frailties and faults, they faithfully serve God and have faithfully proven themselves. Sometimes I wonder if they pray for us—for our character and maturity and growth. If angels do pray, they must pray that we will eventually become worthy of respect and capable of making wise

decisions and judgments. Actually, I suspect that angels don't pray. I suspect that prayer is reserved for God's children—us. Angels are humble servants even though they see humans do evil things, they do not accuse us before God. Consider the love that God has bestowed upon us that He has assigned such powerful, righteous and faithful beings for our assistance.

**2 Peter 2:11** *whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord. (NKJV)*

The "them" are wicked people, that the angels have witnessed doing their wicked and evil conduct. The angels don't even bring railing accusations against other angels that are also doing evil and you can read that in Jude 1:9. Yet they see our behavior. Eventually we will be given span of authority over at least some angels. We have a duty to God and to them to put on the righteous character in this life that will carry over into our resurrection into eternal life. As God's children we have responsibility to utilize the time we have here on this earth, in this life to learn to lead in choices of righteousness, making decisions and judgments based on the law, of faithfulness, love and responsibility.

As Firstfruits our acceptance by God is tethered by God's acceptance of Jesus Christ and the sacrifice of His life as redemption for the required penalty of death and destruction for sin. Under grace we qualify to be born again as spirit beings—actual children of God. As family members we will enjoy the rights, privileges and responsibilities as inheritors of God's blessings which are planned for His children. God will destroy all those that hate Him and are rebellious and determined to be wicked. That condemnation is not limited to His children but also to Satan and his rebellious angels. For God's children, He has created righteous angels who have proven their loyalty and obedience to Almighty God, our Father in heaven. They are our helpers and we will be responsible and have authority to make decisions and judgments for them as they serve God by serving us. His righteous angels were created to be our helpers as we proceed into eternity doing God's work. Of the increase of God's work on the fruits, there will be no end. Let us take heed to ourselves, correcting ourselves, molding our character after the holy and righteous character of Almighty God and His Son, our elder Brother, Jesus Christ.