

A lie is an activity or the result of an activity but truth is always present as an abstraction denoting something independent of any activity.¹

16. James has provided us an introduction to this study that reads this way in:

James 5:7 Subordinate yourselves under the authority of God. Stand fast and resist the devil and he will run away from you. (EXT)

17. This verse addresses the situation that only spiritual growth can reveal. We are well-familiar with the fact that planet earth is the playing field for the resolution of Lucifer's trial and subsequent appeal.

18. The following study will examine the doctrines that emerge from these two court cases. I have entitled this study:

The Ongoing Combat between the Truth and the Lie

Introduction.

1. Our original parents fell from grace in Eden in Genesis 3. Their bodies, formally perfect, acquired a sin nature. It is important to note the principle that the soul never dies. However, it is necessary to observe certain categories of life individuals occupy based on their volitional decisions.
 - a. **Perfect Life.** This type of life defines the trichotomy of Adam and Ishah in Eden. Jesus Christ created perfect bodies and souls for them to which a human spirit was imputed providing Perfect Life. This life was potentially never ending, but with the possibility of termination (Genesis 2:16–17).
 - b. **Human Life.** This is the status of all Homo sapiens from physical birth to physical death with regard to their human bodies. It was also the status of Adam and Eve between the Fall and physical death (Genesis 3:6–20).
 - c. **Eternal Life:** (a) All angels were created simultaneously by God in eternity past at which point He imputed to them Eternal Life (Colossians 1:16). (b) Certain people, regardless of dispensation, were imputed Eternal Life at the moment each of them expressed faith in Jesus Christ for salvation.
 - d. **Immortality:** Refers to the human soul and applies to those that possess Eternal Life whose eternal destiny is in heaven and to those who possess Forever Life whose eternal destiny is in the lake of fire.

¹ Hans Conzelmann, “ψεῦδος,” in *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*, ed. Gerhard Friedrich, trans. and ed. Geoffrey W. Bromiley Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1974), 9:595.



- e. **Forever Life.** Refers to every person that has not believed in Jesus for salvation. Their souls possess Forever Life in time. At physical death, all unbelievers' souls go directly to Torments in interim bodies. At the close of human history, they are summoned to appear before the Great White Throne. After judgment is affirmed, they are then transferred to the lake of fire in resurrection bodies forever and ever.
2. This synopsis is for the human race. The angelic creation is made up to two categories: elect and fallen. All angels were created by God in eternity past and all possess eternal life.
3. Their census is so vast that the Bible doesn't even cite a number for their population other than such phrases as, "thousands upon thousands, myriads upon myriads." The King James Version refers to these angels as charioteers who drive "chariots."

Psalm 68:17a The chariots of God are myriads, thousands upon thousands.

Daniel 7:10 "[**Second Advent**] A river of fire was flowing and coming out from before Him; thousands upon thousands were attending Him, and myriads upon myriads were standing before Him.

Revelation 5:11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands.

4. From these three verses we are able to conclude that the census of the original angelic multitude can be described as innumerable. Whatever this number was, John informs us that Lucifer's rebellion recruited one-third of them to go over to the Dark Side:

Revelation 12:3 Then another sign was seen in heaven; and behold a great red dragon [**Satan**] having seven heads and ten horns [**Luciferian campaign to control the world**]. Furthermore, seven royal diadems [**political power**] were on his head.

v. 4a And his tail [**source of Lucifer's power e.g., a dragon**] dragged away a third of the stars of heaven [**when Satan rebelled (Isaiah 14:12-14), 1/3 of the fallen angels did also**] and threw them to the earth [**the beginning of the angelic conflict**].

5. These passages reveal the existence of a war that raged between two adversaries, God and His elect angels opposing Lucifer and his fallen angels.
6. Divine jurisprudence immediately decreed those involved in this rebellion would be arrested, tried, found guilty and incarcerated in the lake of fire:



Matthew 25:41 “Then He will also say to those on His left, ‘Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels.’”

7. It is evident that this sentence has been delayed. The only reason a divine decree for incarceration could be nol-prossed by God is that Lucifer appealed the verdict by claiming it to be unjust.
8. Every 10-year-old has historically used this same appeal: “Whaaaa! That’s not fair!” To which he could also add the claim, “You brought me into this world without my consent so it’s not really my fault.”
9. Yet, Lucifer was among the angels whom God created and whose souls contain free will. Although created beings do have free will, there is also the obligation that this free will should be held responsible to obey divinely decreed laws designed to maintain order.
10. Whether a creature is angelic or human, maintenance of order within the commonwealth must have a system that regulates violations of established policies, rules, regulations, and laws.
11. The mental attitude common to those who are self-centered is the notion that all restraints imposed by authority are not really absolute but arbitrary. If one’s volition is truly free, then external restraints become secondary in one’s decision-making process.
12. Scripture contains the divine inventory of absolute principles that are designed to maintain order in society. Submission produces an order we refer to as the Law of Liberty, whereas rebellion creates disorder.
13. God had two options to consider. First, He could incarcerate Lucifer and his demons in the Lake of Fire. That would have ended that. But what if another reactionary were to arise and promote a subsequent rebellion among the angels?
14. What then? So why run that play again. Yet, God’s immutable policies would continue to remain in force. Would Lucifer, or some other cherub, decide to give it another try?
15. How could order be maintained for eternity with that specter always available for a reboot? Why not get it all settled now?
16. Whether this was God’s rationale to allow the appeal is not revealed in Scripture, yet something on that order is exactly what occurred. He allowed Lucifer’s appeal to go forward.
17. Satan’s witnesses include one-third of the fallen angels. God’s witnesses consist of two-thirds of the elect angels.



18. Yet all these angels have their free wills and could swap sides thus confounding the chaos even further.
19. The divine solution was ultimately the only solution. God granted the appeal; He allowed the demons to remain as Lucifer's witnesses and He would deploy His elect angels as His witnesses.
20. However, to amplify the volitional contest that would follow, God decreed to introduce a new set of witnesses by the introduction of Homo sapiens: mankind.
21. The appeal was granted and God introduced the human race as His potential witnesses. All that God does is perfect, therefore, these new, but inferior, witnesses were created.
22. He named the man, אָדָם (*'Atham*): "Adam," and the woman, אִשָּׁה (*'Ishshah*): "Ishah." She is later referred to by the proper noun, חַוְוָה (*Chawwah*): "Eve."
23. Together they established the human race and initially had two sons, Cain and Able. Able became a rancher and Cain became a farmer. From them, God requested sacrifices.
24. On the first occasion of presenting sacrifices, Cain offered produce from his crops while Abel offered an animal from his flocks. God accepted Abel's sacrifice but rejected Cain's.
25. Cain's sin nature got the best of him by his disappointment that God accepted Abel's offering from his flocks for an animal sacrifice, while Cain offered produce from his crops.
26. Both were teaching moments. Able understood that the approved sacrifice was the life of an animal, emblematic of the ultimate sacrifice of the coming Messiah.
27. Cain missed the typology of the animal sacrifice and assumed his crops were as acceptable as was Abel's sheep. But the issue was not about the animal or the produce. The issue was the symbolism attached to each. Flocks outrank crops.
28. It is from these events that the contest between good and evil was fomented. The participants on the human side of the engagement were primarily divided between those who were believers and those who were not.
29. The participants on the angelic side of the engagement were completely divided between those who were elect and those who were fallen.
30. Scripture contains numerous passages that illustrate the contest that has continuously raged between the two forces at odds.

