

FROM THE BALTIMORE CATECHISM

Study Lesson Number 8

CREATION AND THE ANGELS

"God saw that all He had made was very good" (Genesis 1/31

What do we mean when we say that God is the Creator of heaven and earth? When we say that God is the Creator of Heaven and earth we mean that He made all things from NOTHING by His almighty power.

Which are the chief creatures of God?

The chief creatures of God are angels and men.

THE ANGELS

What are angels?

Angels are created spirits, without bodies, having understanding and free will.

We cannot visualize a spirit. Therefore, in order to picture them in our minds we have to draw bodies on them or heads with wings.

What gifts did God bestow on the angels when He created them?

When God created the angels He bestowed on them great wisdom, power and holiness.

Angels are like men in some things but different in others.

MEN
Have Soul and Body
The human mind known things only by study and experience.
Human power is very limited

ANGELS
Pure Spirit - no body
Angels have brilliant intelligences and do not have to study to know.
Angelic power is far greater than man's

Did all the angels remain faithful to God?

Not all the angels remained faithful to God; some of them sinned.

"And there was a battle in heaven; Michael and his angels battled with the dragon, and the dragon (Lucifer) fought and his angels. And they did not prevail, neither was their place found any more in heaven. And that great dragon was cast down, the ancient serpent, he who is called the devil and Satan, who leads astray the whole world; and he was cast down to the earth and with him his angels were cast down." (Apocalypse 12/7-9)

What happened to the angels who remained faithful to God?

The angels who remained faithful to God entered into the eternal happiness of heaven, and these are called good angels.

What do the good angels do in heaven?

In heaven the good angels see, love and adore God.

How do the good angels help us?

The good angels help us by praying for us, by acting as messengers from God to us, and by serving as our guardian angels.

How do our guardian angels help us?

Our guardian angels help us by praying for us, by protecting us from harm, and by inspiring us to do good.

The Angel Raphael was a good angel sent by God to protect and help Tobias. (Read Tobias, chapters 5-12)

Discussion Questions:

Can anyone but God make something out of nothing? Why not?

What is nothing?

Is man more important than a horse? than a mountain? than the sun? Why?

Before creation only God existed. Explain.

Some of the angels refused to serve God. Why?