

THE DIVINE COUNCIL — PART 4

WHAT THE NEW TESTAMENT REVEALS!

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The Bible reveals that there are many gods. **Only one JEHOVAH — CREATOR.**

The gods are often termed Watchers ... Princes ... Archons ... Sons of God.

God governs by means of a Divine Council — His method of administering His universe.

Here is a key passage:

Psalms 82:1-7

**1 God stands in the congregation of the mighty;
He judges among the gods.** (*“congregation” — Divine Council*)

**2 How long will you judge unjustly,
And show partiality to the wicked?**

Selah

**3 Defend the poor and fatherless;
Do justice to the afflicted and needy.**

**4 Deliver the poor and needy;
Free them from the hand of the wicked.**

**5 They do not know, nor do they understand;
They walk about in darkness;
All the foundations of the earth are unstable.**

**6 I said, “You are gods,
And all of you are children of the Most High.**

**7 But you shall die like men,
And fall like one of the princes.”** (*God is going to terminate them*)

The gods have failed. They are being judged.

For some of them ... their responsibility was to govern individual nations that God allocated to them.

(The nations were separated at the Tower of Babel event).

Deuteronomy 32:7-9

7 “Remember the days of old,
Consider the years of many generations.

Ask your father, and he will show you;

Your elders, and they will tell you:

8 **When the Most High divided their inheritance to the nations,**

When He separated the sons of Adam,

He set the boundaries of the peoples

According to the number of the *children of Israel. (“Children of Israel” — “Sons of God”)

9 **For the LORD’s portion is His people;
Jacob is the place of His inheritance.**

The nations were separated according to the number of the *Sons of God (Dead Sea Scrolls Version). **But Jehovah reserved Israel for Himself — in the Land of Canaan.**

We can see that in several places:

Psalms 135:1-4

1 **Praise the LORD! (JEHOVAH)**

Praise the name of the LORD;

Praise Him, O you servants of the LORD!

2 You who stand in the house of the LORD,

In the courts of the house of our God,

3 **Praise the LORD,** for the LORD is good;

Sing praises to His name, for it is pleasant.

4 **For the LORD has chosen Jacob for Himself,**

Israel for His special treasure.

Israel has The Most High as its God!

Deuteronomy 26:16-19

16 “This day **the LORD your God (JEHOVAH)** commands you to observe these statutes and judgments; therefore you shall be careful to observe them with all your heart and with all your soul.

17 Today you have proclaimed **the LORD to be your God**, and that you will walk in His ways and keep His statutes, His commandments, and His judgments, and that you will obey His voice.

18 Also today **the LORD has proclaimed you to be His special people, just as He promised you**, that you should keep all His commandments,

19 and that **He will set you high above all nations which He has made, in praise, in name, and in honor, and that you may be a holy people to the LORD your God**, just as He has spoken.”

All nations are not the same. **Many nations have a god over them — a prince — for instance ... Persia ... Greece ... Egypt. BUT ISRAEL HAS JEHOVAH!**

We saw last week how Naaman wanted to take soil back from Israel to help him worship Jehovah. He understood the gods are territorial. Also David lamented being driven out of the land which he believed affected his ability to worship Jehovah properly.

Ephesians 1:20-21

20 **which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,**

21 **far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.**

There are 4 ranks of spirit beings in the Heavens. The terms seem to be related to geographical territories. A principality is a territory governed by a prince (as we saw in Daniel Chapter 10).

Ephesians 6:10-13

10 **Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.**

11 **YOU Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.**

12 **For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.**

13 **Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.**

Ephesians 6:12 ESV

12 **For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.**

These four ranks again.

And **we're in spiritual conflict with them** ... it's not just "academic knowledge"!

John 12:28-32

28 Father, glorify Your name."

Then a voice came from heaven, saying, "I have both glorified it and will glorify it again."

29 Therefore the people who stood by and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to Him."

30 Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake.

31 **Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out.**

32 And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself."

Jesus identifies Satan as the ruler (archon) of this world!

The KJV translates this as “PRINCE OF THIS WORLD” — THE ARCHON OF THIS WORLD.

John 14:29-30

29 “And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe.

30 I will no longer talk much with you, for **the ruler of this world is coming, and he has nothing in Me.**

Satan the devil is ruler (archon). KJV — “Prince”. His principality is the whole world? BUT — JESUS IS WAY ABOVE HIM AND ALL PRINCIPALITIES!!

Matthew 12:22-24

22 Then one was brought to Him who was demon-possessed, blind and mute; and He healed him, so that the blind and mute man both spoke and saw.

23 And all the multitudes were amazed and said, “Could this be the Son of David?” (*Because He has done something that only The Messiah could do!!*)

24 Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, “This fellow does not cast out demons except by **Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons.**”

Beelzebub — the ruler (Archon. KJV: “Prince”) of the demons — Satan!

Matthew 12:25-26

25 But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: “**Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation**, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand.

26 **If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand?**

Jesus confirms that Satan has a kingdom. I assume that there is some organisation within it? The 4 ranks are part of it — and there may be more?

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

4 whose minds **the god of this age has blinded**, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them.

Satan is the god of this age. He blinds people to the Truth!
(Same word for god ... as applies to the god at the end of the sentence).

Ephesians 2:1-2

1 And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,
2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world,
according to **the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience**,

Prince = Greek: Archon (Satan in this case).

NET: ... according to the ruler of the domain of the air, the spirit that is now energising the sons of disobedience.

The domain of the air = the Heavenly realm.

Human beings are not immune. Influenced by a dark spirit being.
Probably explains why so many celebrated and rejoiced at the brutal murder of Charlie Kirk? **Their minds have been blinded ... twisted ... perverted from what is good.**

It illustrates why God condemns the gods in Psalm 82. They've failed their subjects.

Although we see reference to nations being under gods or Divine Guardians ... it seems that Satan — somewhere along the line — came to dominate the others?

Luke 4:1-4

1 **Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,**
2 **being tempted for forty days by the devil.** And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.
3 And the devil said to Him, **"If You are the Son of God,** command this stone to become bread."

4 But **Jesus answered him**, saying, **“It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.”** ”

Satan tempts Jesus.

Luke 4:5-8

5 **Then the devil**, taking Him up on a high mountain, **showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.**

6 **And the devil said to Him**, **“All this authority I will give You,** and their glory; **for this has been delivered to me,** and **I give it to whomever I wish.**

7 **Therefore**, **if You will worship before me,** **all will be Yours.**”

8 **And Jesus answered and said to him, “Get behind Me, Satan!** For it is written, You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.’ ”

Satan in authority over all of the nations? This was a REAL TEMPTATION — Jesus didn’t dismiss it as a fraud! Satan was offering the world’s kingdoms to Jesus without his having to go through the crucifixion and death!

Satan was trying to thwart God’s plan. To corrupt the promised Messiah. Render Him unfit to be King of Kings.

Jesus will eventually inherit all nations ... and depose their current spiritual leaders. It has already started . The Apostle Paul went into most of the nations of his day to oppose their spiritual leaders and invite the people to repent and come back to Jehovah. As individuals today ... but in the Millennium ... as entire nations.

Satan’s attempts to suppress the Truth ... by destroying the Messiah ... have backfired.

Jesus was just one individual — present (bodily) in just one location (Capernaum or Cana or Jerusalem) ... but over time ... He trains up 12 disciples ... then 70 ... then thousands ... across the entire world. **Satan and the Archons didn’t see this coming!**

1 Corinthians 2:6-8

6 However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers (**Archon**) of this age, who are coming to nothing.

7 But **we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory,**

8 **which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.**

Rulers = ARCHONS (Greek).

Paul says they wouldn't have crucified Jesus if they'd known the consequences.

Eventually ... all of the current spiritual leaders of the nations will be deposed and replaced by born-again ... glorified Christians — as FAITHFUL SONS OF GOD!