16. Should we worship angels?

* *NO!!* (Col. 1:15ff 2:18; Rev. 19:10; Rev. 22:8ff.)

17. Who is the ‘Angel of the Lord'?

* These theophanies (appearances of God) may denote times when God appeared in human form. (Gen.16:7-14; Gen 22:11-15; Exodus 3:2; Judges 2:1ff; Judges 5:23; Judges 6:11-24; Judges 13:3ff.)

**How Could Sin Arise In a Perfect Angel World?**

A. Sin was a result of free will.

B. Angels had an insufficient understanding of “good” and “evil.”

1. If angels had known the negative consequences of free will, they would have chosen only good.
2. Somehow they needed to prove that they truly had free will. Eventually, some angels made evil choices.

C. The angels trusted someone other than their Creator.

1. Compare to immature children who distrust and disobey their parents.
2. They learn from their experience, but they must suffer the consequences of bad choices.

D. Both angels and humans must prove to themselves that they really have free will.

1. They could trust God and accept his teaching that evil action brings disastrous consequences.
2. Unfortunately, they chose to understand evil by doing evil.
3. Too late, they learned that the wages of sin is death.
4. This was the process that led to “war in heaven.”

**God’s Apparent Solution for Sin in Heaven**

A. Heaven was no longer perfect.

1. Angelic beings with free will would ultimately self-destruct.
2. Eventually, God would be alone again.

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final rule over God’s people will take place in heaven after Christ delivers the church up to God (1 Cor. 15:24). Thereafter, God will rule His people throughout eternity.

**Sanctuaries of God’s people**

The Bible describes several sanctuaries in which God contacted His people, either directly or through appointed leaders. The altar was the first sanctuary. Incense and burnt offerings were part of altar worship. Following the exodus from Egypt, worship and sacrifice took place in the tabernacle. After God’s people had settled in the Promised Land, a permanent Temple was built in Jerusalem. Since the establishment of the Lord’s church, God’s people have been under the spiritual law of Jesus Christ, which will continue in force until the end of time. Christians do not engage in temple worship (Acts 17:24) because the body of the Christian believer becomes the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19). In heaven, no temple will be necessary because God and Christ are the temple (Rev. 21:22).

**Types of Christ**

The eternal purpose of God and His providence can be seen in several Old Testament persons who represent Christ in various aspects of their work and character. Though all of these people were fully mortal and often sinful, they shared the common virtues of faithful service and devotion to God. They may be called types of Christ because they embodied one or more traits that were also typical of Christ.

1) The first Adam is the representative of humanity (Rom. 5:12-21). Christ has been called the “last Adam” (1 Cor. 15:45). 2) Moses saved his people and was faithful to his house (Hebrews 3:1-3). 3) Joshua chose to serve God (Joshua 24:15). He became the savior of God’s

people and led them to the Promised Land. 4) Noah remained

righteous while surrounded by sinful people and through his

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