

BEFORE TIME BEGAN

[Sequel to “*Ex Nihilo*”]

GOD CREATED TIME.

On the fourth 24-hour day of Creation, Genesis 1:14 records, “*And God said, “Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years.”*”

So, what was going on before time began?

Knowing God, there was a LOT going on!

But in His infinite wisdom, He chose not to reveal much of what He was doing.

However, Job 38:7 states in the far distant past, the Pre-existent GODHEAD created angels (sons of God) in order to receive worship for His majesty. Angels are individually created beings – not sexually reproduced, (Matthew 22:30 states there is no sexual replication in Heaven), but there were a LOT of them! Millions upon millions!

GOD did NOT create angels “*in His image*” as He created mankind, but all angels were perfect and sinless beings bearing the **nature** of the GODHEAD. (More about that in a minute.)

Angels were created as spirits, individually identifiable and were given specific ranks, roles and powers to serve and worship the Sovereign GODHEAD as it pleased Him. There were Archangels, cherubim, seraphim, etc.

Satan has corrupted our understanding and perception of angels. He would have us believe and view angels as female powder-puffs who have little if any power. Just ornaments to decorate our home or our Christmas tree.

But Angels always appear as male and awesome in appearance and mighty in power!

GOD has a structure to His Heavenly Kingdom. He created 3 Archangels through whom to rule:

- Lucifer - the most beautiful and talented and was “the sum” of all that God would give a created being; he was most likely in charge of leading all worship of the GODHEAD
- Michael - the most powerful warrior archangel
- Gabriel - GOD’S messenger archangel sent to Daniel, Mary, Elizabeth, Zechariah, etc.

It appears that, from the reference in Revelation 12:4, that 1/3 of the angelic host were cast out of Heaven when Lucifer rebelled. It seems probable that each of these archangels were assigned a third of the angelic hosts and each of those lesser angels bore **the nature** of the archangel who had authority over them (similar to a parent.) The archangels in turn also bore the nature of the GODHEAD. So, in effect, ALL the heavenly host had (bore) the sinless nature of GOD.

DIVINE FAVOR MINISTRIES

To help facilitate understanding the concept of “nature,” consider the nature of a pig. One could raise a baby pig in their home far from any other pigs, feed and bathe it properly and treat it as a family pet. But when the pig is mature, if released, it will instinctively – because of its “nature” – find a mudhole and wallow to its heart’s content!

We often hear someone comment that a child is “the spitting image” of their mother or father. That is because they bear the nature, the mannerisms, the physical features of their parents. They are NOT their parents, but they have the **nature** of their parents.

If a child is legally adopted, they can undergo a **spiritual transfer** and acquire some of the nature of their new parents while retaining much of the nature of their birth parents.

This is significant in that when Lucifer rebelled against God in Isaiah 14:12-17, his nature was changed from the nature of God to a godless nature and God REJECTED Lucifer and changed his name to Satan. This rejection was irredeemable and bears violently on Satan continuously.

When Adam was created “*in His image*,” he too bore the nature of God. And God loved Adam and enjoyed Adam’s love for Him.

Adam was now receiving the love Satan had enjoyed as Lucifer. He hated Adam and wanted to destroy God’s love for his special creation. He most likely hatched a plan similar to the one he foisted on Job telling God that Adam only loved Him for what He did for him. So, God allowed Satan to tempt Adam and his wife, Eve, to give Adam the opportunity to prove his love for God.

We all know the story too well. Satan deceived Eve, she ate, but it wasn’t until Adam ate that “their eyes were opened.” In that moment, Satan’s nature entered Adam’s race, and we have all been cursed with death every generation since.

Satan had put God in a box. Would God now keep His promise to Adam that “in the day you eat thereof, you shall surely die?” Would God now kill Adam?

God did not physically kill Adam immediately, but Adam’s sinless nature was slain and physical death entered humanity. Satan had succeeded in separating God’s crowning creation from his Creator.

BUT GOD!! Who is RICH in mercy already knew all this would happen and He had a plan from before the foundation of the world to remedy man’s rebellion.

God, the Just Judge of the Universe, sent His Son, the second person of the Triune Godhead, to become the spotless, sinless Lamb of God to give Himself as a ransom for man. Since God could not kill the nature of Satan in Ralph without killing Ralph, He put Ralph’s sin nature IN CHRIST JESUS and killed it in JESUS on the Cross!!

OH! HALLALUAH!! PRAISE THE LAMB!! I NO LONGER LIVE! CHRIST LIVES IN ME!!