

23. Here is the expanded translation of James 4:7–10:

James 4:7–10 is the passage that introduced the study of the Doctrine of Reversionism.

**James 4:7** **1** Subordinate [ aorist middle **imperative** of ὑποτάσσω (*hypotásō*) ] yourself to God’s divine authority. **2** Stand fast [ aorist active **imperative** of ἀνθίστημι (*anthístēmi*): resist ] in opposition to the devil—*diábolos*—and he will flee, avoid, shun, escape from all y’all.

**James 4:8** **3** Come near to God [ aorist active **imperative** of ἐγγίζω (*engízō*): “to come near” and is a command for reversion recovery beginning with Rebound ] and then He will come near [ **predictive future** active indicative of ἐγγίζω (*engízō*) ] to you [ masculine plural of the pronoun, σὺ (*sú*): refers to all believers in reversionism ]. **4** Wash your hands [ aorist active **imperative** of the verb, καθαρίζω (*katharízō*): “to cleanse, in this case, the hands” and refers to Rebound ], you sinners, and **5** cleanse your kardías [ aorist active **imperative** of the verb, ἀγνίζω (*hagnízō*): “to make clean, to purify, to reform.” ] from pollution, you double-souled [ δίψυχος (*dípsuchos*): double-minded regarding God and *cosmos diabolicus* ].

**James 4:9** Begin the processes of **6** becoming miserable [ aorist active **imperative** of ταλαιπωρέω (*talaipōréō*) ] and **7** personally lachrymose [ aorist active **imperative** of πενθέω (*penthéō*) ] accompanied by **8** weeping [ aorist active **imperative** of κλαίω (*klaiō*) ]; **9** keep converting [ aorist passive **imperative** of μεταστρέφω (*metastréphō*) ] your pseudo happiness into gloom and dejection.

**James 4:10** Consistently maintain your **10** humility [ aorist passive **imperative** of ταπεινῶω (*tapeinóō*) ] in the presence [ ἐνώπιον (*enōpion*): “face-to-face” ] of the Lord, and He will promote [ future active indicative of ὑψῶω (*hupsóō*): to exalt ] you with honors. (EXT)

### Synopsis of James 4:7–10 in the context of 2021:

To gain a perspective of what the year A.D. 2021 and beyond have to do with these four verses in James 4, written in c. A.D. 45, we must do so from a biblical perspective.

We have observed that eternity is a realm in which God exists. It has no beginning and no ending.



It was within this perfect environment that God chose to create a race of individuals which Scripture refers to as angels: מַלְאָךְ (*mal'ach*) in Hebrew and ἄγγελος (*ángelos*) in Greek, all of whom possess eternal life.

The original census of these angels is so vast that Scripture does not provide their number but simply refers to the group as being so vast, English Bibles refer to them as “myriad,” which means “innumerable.”

The angels were organized with an authority structure. The Old Testament reveals that the highest rank among them is seraph whose designation of rank is “six wings.” Collectively they are referred to in Scripture as שְׂרָפִים (*s<sup>e</sup>raphim*).

Some of these seraphim are cited in Scripture and are also referred to as “archangels” and include Michael, whose major duty is to defend Israel, and Gabriel, also an archangel, who announced the First Advent of Christ at Bethlehem. There are unnamed seraphim mentioned in The Revelation to John.

Cherubim [ כְּרוּבִים (*cherubim*) ] and [ χερουβίμ (*cheroubím*) ] have the designation of rank of four wings and are mentioned throughout the Old Testament. The only one mentioned by name is Lucifer but who later became known by the descriptive proper noun, Satan.

There is an extraordinary number of wingless angels who function in several categories. Among them of interest are:

Weather angels:

**Revelation 7:1** After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, so that no wind would blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree.

Guardian angels: Security

**Psalms 91:11** For He will give His angels charge concerning you, to guard you in all your ways.

**v. 12** They will bear you up in their hands, that you do not strike your foot against a stone.

There are three categories of guardian angels:

1. Children have a guardian angel to protect them during childhood:

**Matthew 18:10** “See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven continually see the face of My Father who is in heaven.”



2. Guardians of all Church Age believers:

**Hebrews 1:14** Are they [ **guardian angels** ] not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

3. Guardian angels of priest and client nations:

**Daniel 10:13** “The prince of the kingdom of Persia was withstanding me [ **Daniel** ] for twenty-one days; then behold, Michael, one of the chief princes [ **seraph-rank** ], came to help me, for I had been left there with the kings of Persia.”

**Daniel 10:20** Then he [ **Gabriel** ] said, “Do you know why I came to you? And thus now I must return to fight against the prince of Persia. And when I am gone forth, the prince of Greece [ **another demon warrior** ] is about to come.

**v. 21** However, I will tell you what is inscribed in the writing of truth [ אֱמֶת (‘*emeth*) ]. Yet there is no one who stands firmly with me against these forces except Michael [ **archangel of the Jews** ] your prince. (EXT)

4. Books of the Apocrypha contain the names of several angels who are not recorded in the Bible: Ráphael (*Tóbit*), Uriel (2 *Ésdras*), and Jerēmiel (2 *Ésdras*).
5. We know that the creation of the angelic population preceded the creation of the universe. Job 38 presents a conversation between the Lord and Job in which we find this quote from Jesus:

**Job 38:4a** “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?”

**v. 6** “On what were its bases set, or who laid its cornerstone –

**v. 7** when the morning stars [ **the entire angelic population** ] sang [ רָנָן (*ranan*): a ringing cry, an exultation; enthusiastic acclamation ] in chorus, and all the sons of God, shouted for joy?” (NET)

5. God does not create anything that is not perfect. The angels He created were perfect. The universe He created was perfect. The only way imperfection could enter into God’s two perfect creations would of necessity have to originate from within the angelic population.

The above examples from Scripture emphasize that regardless of the dispensation, God's elect angels are on duty. In fact, Lucifer and one-third of the angelic myriad are integral participants in the Invisible War that presently rages in this place called the devil's world.

In light of the above passage from Daniel, a question arises: How and why did it come about that elect and fallen angels are engaged in an invisible struggle?

After the guilty verdict was read and the sentence was announced, Lucifer petitioned the Supreme Court of Heaven to reverse its decision. In American jurisprudence, this is referred to as an appeal made to a higher court seeking the reversal of the verdict rendered by a lower tribunal.

In the example we have in this case, there is no higher court to which one may appeal. If an appeal were granted, only the Supreme Court of Heaven could make that decision.

We recently studied the prehistoric trial that followed Lucifer's rebellion against God which also included one-third of the angelic population. At the conclusion of that trial, both Lucifer and his complicit angels were found guilty.

Following the guilty verdict, God created the lake of fire into which the guilty were sentenced for eternity. The trial, verdict, and sentence occurred in what we define as "eternity past."

The universe was up and running in absolute perfection (Genesis 1:1). In heaven, between verses 1 and 2, we have the angelic rebellion, the trial, the guilty verdict, the creation of the lake of fire, and sentencing to the lake of fire.

However, something caused the fallen angels' incarceration into the lake of fire to be halted. To discern why this postponement occurred we must build a case from evidence disclosed in Scripture.

### **Evidence that Resulted in the Guilty Verdict for Lucifer and the Fallen Angels:**

First of all, we know that before Lucifer proclaimed his Five Assertions in Isaiah 14:12–14, the entire angelic community was harmonious in its devotion to the Trinity:

**Job 38:6** "On what were its, the earth's, bases set, or who laid its cornerstone –

**v. 7** when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

We also know that the trial was held in the Third Heaven. Evidence was presented that the accused were guilty of rebellion. Both Lucifer and the fallen angels were found guilty as charged.

Noted above in Job 38:7, we discovered that the entire angelic population was present at the creation of the universe. It was such a phenomenal experience that the angelic choir sang in unison and all joyously cheered the sight of this unique event.

What they saw was the perfectly created and perfectly structured universe its entirety held together by Jesus Christ through His imputation of gravity:

**Colossians 1:16** For by means of Him [ Jesus Christ, v. 15 ] all things were created [ κτίζω (*ktízō*): to produce from nothing, Gen. 1:1 ], both in the heavens and on earth, the visible things [ the universe ] and invisible things [ mathematics ], whether human governments or constituted authorities, or angelic rulers and authorities: all things through Him and for His purpose have been created.

**v. 17** He eternally existed before all things, and by means of Him all things hold together [ intensive perfect active indicative of συνίστημι (*sunístēmi*): emphasizes the results of a past action, i.e., gravity ]. (EXT)

This status-quo perfection continued for an unknown period of time. At a later time is when Lucifer decided he would incite his rebellion against God by proclaiming Five Assertions recorded in Isaiah 14:12–14. One-third of the angelic population joined him which instigated the angelic conflict.

Adamant that this verdict was unjust, Lucifer petitioned the court for an appeal, which God granted by calling the Divine Court of Appeals into session.

By allowing this appeal to be heard meant that the sentence to the Lake of Fire was arrested by a stay of execution which stopped the proceedings which put the incarceration on hold.

At this point, a question arises: Why, after reaching a guilty verdict for Lucifer and his angelic acolytes, did the Trinity allow Lucifer's appeal?

The events that subsequently transpired reveal the Prosecution's rationale to hear the appeal.

The following summary chronicles the sequence of events that occurred beginning with the creation of the angels all the way to the creation of Adam.