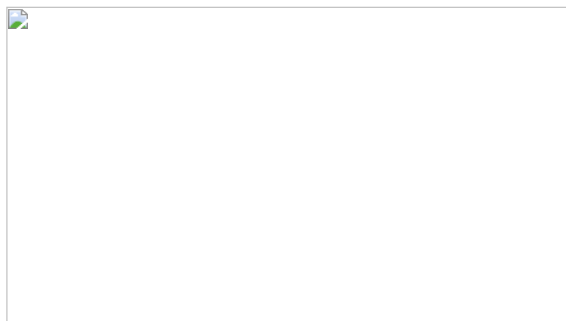




GLOBAL IMPACT MINISTRIES

*A Defense of the Apostolic
Christian Faith*

Is Rev. 1:4-5 A GREETING FROM THE TRINITY?



Revelation 1:1 opens the book of Revelation to show that the "revelation" called the book of Revelation came from three distinct sources.

"The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John ..."

1. Jesus Christ
2. God (the Father)
3. His Angel

Again, in Revelation 1:4, we again find the source of John's prophetic revelations, "Grace to you and peace, **from Him (the Father) who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits** who are BEFORE HIS THRONE, and **from Jesus Christ** (the Son), the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth."

1. From Him (God the Father)
2. From the seven spirits before His Throne (the Father's Throne)
3. From Jesus Christ

Angels are called "ministering spirits" (*Heb. 1:14*) who serve God before His throne and are now under the authority of Jesus Christ.

"...the LORD JESUS will be revealed from heaven with HIS MIGHTY ANGELS in flaming fire ..." 2 Thessalonians 1:7

Notice that the angels now belong to Jesus Christ.

Jesus stated in Revelation 1:20, "As for the mystery of **THE STARS WHICH YOU SAW IN MY RIGHT HAND** (It is unlikely that the Holy Spirit of God would be divided up into seven spirits in Jesus' hand), and the seven golden lampstands: **THE SEVEN STARS ARE THE ANGELS** of the seven churches, and the lampstands are the seven churches."

The holy angels are spoken of as "stars" in the Hebrew Scriptures.

Job 1:6; 2:1 mentions the sons of God as ancient.

Job 1:6: "Now there was a day when the sons of God (angels) came to present themselves before the LORD (YHWH), and Satan also came among them."

The "sons of God" are the holy angles that present themselves before the LORD in heaven.

The LORD asked Job (in Job 38:4-6), "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it. To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone, When **THE MORNING STARS SANG TOGETHER, AND ALL THE SONS OF GOD SHOUTED FOR JOY?**"

Inspired scripture clearly calls the angels "stars" who shouted for joy during creation.

Ancient Judaism referenced "seven principal angels" (*cited by Gills Bible Commentary under Revelation 1:4*) which go in and out before the glory of the Holy One (*His Throne*)." This is reflected in the book of Tobit 12:15.

"I am Raphael, **ONE OF THE SEVEN HOLY ANGELS**, which present the prayers of the saints, and which go in and out before the glory of the Holy One." (*Tobit 12:15*)

Wikipedia says, "The earliest reference to a system of seven archangels as a group appears to be in Enoch I (*the Book of Enoch*), which is not part of the Jewish Canon but is prevalent in the Judaic tradition, where they are named as 1) Gabriel, 2) Michael, 3) Raphael, 4) Uriel, 5) Raguel, 6) Remiel and 7) Saraqael. While this book today is non-canonical in most Christian Churches, it was explicitly quoted in the New Testament (Letter of Jude 1:14-15) and by many of the early Church Fathers. The Ethiopian Orthodox Church to this day regards it to be canonical."

Wherefore, the seven spirits of God are seven principal Archangels that stood before the throne of God in Revelation 8:2: "**And I saw THE SEVEN ANGELS who stand before God**, and seven trumpets were given to them." These seven angels are "the seven peals of thunder" (in Rev. 4:5) that "uttered their voices" in Revelation 10:3. Revelation 10:7 proves that the seventh thunder is the voice of the seventh angel: "But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel ..." And Revelation 16:1 proves that "the seven angels" are the "seven spirits" who are commanded to "**GO and pour out on**

the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God.” These are the same “seven angels” and “seven spirits” which are “the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth” in Revelation 5:6: “The Lamb had seven horns and seven eyes, which are **the seven spirits of God SENT OUT INTO ALL THE EARTH.**”

Revelation 16:1 states that the seven angels were commanded to “GO AND POUR OUT ON THE EARTH THE SEVEN BOWLS OF THE WRATH OF GOD”, just as Revelation 5:6 states that “the seven spirits of God are “SENT OUT INTO ALL THE EARTH.” God sends His holy angels into all the earth but the Holy Spirit already fills “heaven and earth” (Jer. 23:24). Therefore “the seven spirits of God” are the seven principal archangels who are sent out into all the earth rather than the Holy Spirit of God Himself.

Revelation 5:6 says that Jesus is the Lamb who possesses the seven horns and seven eyes “which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.” Since it is nonsensical for Jesus to hold the Holy Spirit as “seven stars” in his “right hand” (*Revelation 1:20*), it make sense for Jesus to symbolically hold the leading seven archangels in his right hand because Jesus as “God with us” as a man owns the holy angels. Therefore “the seven spirits which are before” God’s “throne” are the seven principal archangels. That is why the apostle John identified the three sources of his prophetic revelations found in the book of Revelation.

1. “...**from Him** (the Father) **who is and who was and who is to come** (*Rev. 1:4*),
2. and **from the seven spirits** who are BEFORE HIS THRONE (*Rev. 1:4*),
3. and **from Jesus Christ** (the Son), the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.” (*Rev. 1:4*)

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