

There are other places, too. It's as though the events of human history are being played out in an enormous football stadium, the stands filled with observers from the eternal dimension. The bottom line is this: there is what amounts to a war going on in the infinite/eternal dimension. The whole book of Genesis has as its back-story the uprising of a rebel army of elohim aiming to achieve dominance over the creation made by a being that we in this dimension know to be infinitely powerful. To us that seems idiotic, suicidal, stupid; like a football team lining up on the tracks expecting to stop a speeding train. But remember, there are a fair number of we humans that don't think the Creator has infinite power, either. We may have more in common with the rebel elohim than we care to admit.

Chaper 3: Plan B

When the elohim launched their first assault into time and space, the target was the human spirit. That was Plan A. Having not been wholly successful, they went to the war room and instituted Plan B.

The first prong of Plan B attempts to use human will and free choice to the advantage of the insurgency. The ongoing battle in the war between the dimensions will not be fought by one isolated commando set to destroy two people, it will be fought by an army of rebellious angels. The human race will experience a relentless battering of the soul as, one by one, every human creature will have to decide whether to submit to the Creator's intended design or to operate completely in the time/space dimension as a pawn of the rebellion.

The second prong of Plan B is a preemptive strike. Let's visit the war room again as the insurgents consider the implications of the Creator's remarks about a secret weapon that He intends to use to destroy the rebel commander and wipe out his army, a weapon drawn from within the time dimension, "The Seed." Based on what the insurgency has witnessed so far, a threat from the time-creatures doesn't seem like much of a threat. Still, the Snake (for so he has come to be known) isn't about to take chances, hence he considers his options. Leaning toward his officers he speaks...

There is one worrisome thing, though. It appears the Creator intends to use genetics to reactivate the spirit-life of the humans and reconnect the dimensions. So far the human creatures don't seem to pose much of a threat, yet I don't want to underestimate the Creator. This "Seed" business should be stopped. We must do whatever we can to interrupt that whole plan. I propose that we launch another attack, not just in the time/space dimension, BUT ON the time/space dimension. We will scramble the human genetic code. That should put an end to any counterstrike from within the tangible world. We'll breed out the threat so there can be no "seed" from the human race.

I can imagine a murmur rising from among the ranks. *How do we do that?* The question begs for an answer. The Snake smiles.

You're going to like this. We'll assemble an army and make an amphibious landing in the time dimension. I've seen the time creatures. The ones who bear the seed of their race are quite attractive. The one I spoke with was naïve, too. It's a useful combination that I'm certain our elohim can exploit. We will create a new race, which will be useless to the Creator for whatever purpose he had intended.

The intention of the rebel elohim is more insidious than you can imagine—something akin to mass rape. The results will become the stuff of legend—some will say myth.

Invasion

Genesis 6 is something of an enigma among scholars. Some say that it is about the righteous line of Seth, the child that Eve bore as a replacement for her murdered son, Abel; about Seth's kin and their ill-advised relationship with the unrighteous offspring of Cain. Others say that it is the story of an amphibious landing of rebel angels who use their ability to operate in the material world for purposes of corruption and destruction.

You already know where we come down on the issue. The first four verses of the chapter explain why.

When the human population began to grow rapidly on the earth, *the sons of God* saw the beautiful women of the human race and took any they wanted as their wives. Then the LORD said, "My Spirit will not put up with humans for such a long time, for they are only mortal flesh. In the future, they will live no more than 120 years."

In those days, and even afterward, giants lived on the earth, for whenever the *sons of God* had intercourse with human women, they gave birth to children who became the heroes mentioned in legends of old. (Genesis 6:1-4 NLT)

I've italicized a phrase that appears twice in this description, "the sons of God." Who were these people? As I said before, some believe them to be men from Seth's lineage. If that's so, we're left to conclude that Seth invariably fathered lots of nice boys but managed to father some pretty homely girls that were apparently of little interest to his male descendents. That is why the guys started chasing after the girls from the line of Cain who had the genetic good fortune to be beautiful.

But what if what's going on here is precisely what it appears to be? What if Genesis is using a term that we are to understand to mean *elohim*, in this case rebel angels? Let's visit the book of Job again. As you recall, in Job there was an encounter at the border of the dimensions between the Snake and the Creator. Remember who was there? Angels. In Job they are called "the sons of God," the same term that shows up in Genesis 6. It is used in Job 1:6; 2:1; and 38:7. Many versions of the Bible simply translate the term "angels."

Scholars differ somewhat on when Job was written. Some say it pre-dated the book of Genesis, which was traditionally penned by Moses. Others say it came after Genesis, or was contemporary to it, perhaps also written by Moses. Either way, the term "sons of God" would have been familiar enough that it could be consistently applied in the two works. Furthermore, what we would call a "spirit-being" interpretation in Genesis is consistent with what follows in the narrative. What comes next is an account of a supernatural race that emerged from the coming together of the "sons of God" and the "daughters of men."

The New Living Translation's treatment of that supernatural race is to simply call them "giants." Many other translations use a rendering of the Hebrew word, *Nephilim*, a word that eventually

came into common usage and was understood to mean any mighty warriors of enormous size.¹ Interestingly, the term comes from a root that means, “to fall.” Various understandings of the word are that these big people were strong and that when they *fell* upon an adversary, you could pretty well figure that the adversary was going to fall. Another thought is that people would just fall down before these giants because they were bullies and tyrants. Personally, I like another understanding of the word, namely that these were *fallen creatures*, a product of the amphibious assault of fallen angels.

I have suggested in the prologue that much fantasy and legend that has been attributed to human creativity, is actually cultural memory at work, and that the human race maintains a shared recollection of these events. Polytheistic cultures nearly all imagine warfare among “the gods” and the gods having interaction with humans, sometimes even having human consorts.² This concept of the relationship between the dimensions fits very well with the propaganda machine of the rebellion—it isn’t hard to imagine the rebel elohim styling themselves as gods among the time-creatures. Furthermore, many cultures record in their mythology the existence of a particular kind of spirit-being called an *incubus* which was a “lascivious male demon said to possess mortal women as they sleep [for the purpose of intercourse] and to be responsible for the birth of demons, witches, and deformed children. According to one legend the incubus and his female counterpart, the succubus, were fallen angels.”³

The bottom line is that there is good reason to take what it says in Genesis 6 at face value. Renegade Angels used their free will and innate ability to breach the border between the dimensions and take on a physical form. Angels do that throughout the Bible. These angels

¹ The New English Translation (NET Bible) includes this note on Genesis 6: The Hebrew word נְפִילִים (*n^cfilim*) is simply transliterated here, because the meaning of the term is uncertain. According to the text, the Nephilim became mighty warriors and gained great fame in the antediluvian world. The text may imply they were the offspring of the sexual union of the "sons of God" and the "daughters of humankind" (Genesis 6:2), but it stops short of saying this in a direct manner. The Nephilim are mentioned in the OT only here and in Numbers 13:33, where it is stated that they were giants (thus KJV, TEV, NLT "giants" here). The narrator observes that the Anakites of Canaan were descendants of the Nephilim. Certainly these later Anakite Nephilim could not be descendants of the antediluvian Nephilim.

² In Greek mythology, for example, Zeus has a tragic relationship with a beautiful mortal woman named Semele.

³ "Incubus." The Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia, Sixth Edition. Columbia University Press., 2003. *Answers.com* 21 Feb. 2006. <http://www.answers.com/topic/incubus>.

invaded time and space and somehow, in ways that we don't fully understand, created a hybrid race by altering human DNA.

Small wonder that the Creator is not happy with this development.

Giant Problem

The outcome of the rebel attack was grievous to the Creator. Not only that, He was growing impatient. That's what is meant in the verses above when God says, "My Spirit will not put up with humans..." Let me paraphrase his comments in a way that may make it a little clearer. I'll borrow from the script of nearly every parent of pre-schoolers. Have you ever said anything like this?

"I have just about had it with you kids! You are being naughty. I'm going to count to FIVE so you better straighten up or...pow! ...ONE! TWO! THREE..."

That's pretty much what the Creator was saying although on a much grander scale: "I'm not going to put up with the human race much longer. They're running amok in their flesh. I'm going to give them 120 years and then I'm through with them!" Note he's not talking about human lifespan here, he's talking about how long before he deals decisively with this race of violent, morally corrupt people.

We'll get to those consequences in a bit, but first let's pause for a status report from battlefield earth. From the look of things, the elohim invasion has had its planned result, the corruption of the human seed. The race of time-creatures yielded without a fight. With the exception of one man and his family, the corruption was so thorough that the race of time natives became polluted body and soul. They used their will—freedom to choose—to yield their mind and emotions to their body, what the Bible calls "the flesh," to the extent that their sexual appetites were unrestrained. The outcome included a monstrous hybrid race that became legendary in many cultures throughout history. The temporal dimension was in ruins. Here's how the Bible puts it:

Now the LORD observed the extent of the people's wickedness, and he saw that all their thoughts were consistently and totally evil. So the LORD was sorry he had ever made them. It broke his heart. And the LORD said, "I will completely wipe out this human race that I have created. Yes, and I will destroy all the animals and birds, too. I am sorry I ever made them." But Noah found favor with the LORD. (Verses 5-8).

One could assume that the rebels have won the war if it weren't for that last sentence, "But Noah found favor with LORD." Apparently, the war isn't over at all.

Something has happened in the scenario here in chapter 6 that should cause us to take notice. It is God's presence in the scene. Do you remember the last time the Creator stepped forward on the stage of human history and made a speech? It was just before he put under armed guard the gateway to the timeless section of the universe, effectively excluding the fallen race of time-creatures—disobedient and unsubmitted—from the eternal dimension. He placed a new limitation on them.

Now, another catastrophe has occurred in the time/space world. A substantial part of two races, one from the non-spatial dimension and the other from the temporal dimension demonstrate that they are totally out of harmony with the intentions of creation. In short, among both created races there are significant numbers that have abandoned voluntary cooperation with God. There are, among the elohim a substantial portion who have remained loyal, but among the time-creatures all have abandoned submission, with one exception.

What follows in the story is God's singling out of Noah and a conversation that the Creator has with him; something about building a large boat, which is what the Creator had in mind when he announced his impatience with the human race. How long do you think it might take to build a boat 450 feet long and 45 feet high? My guess is about 120 years. If it had been left to me, considerably longer.

Undoubtedly, you know the story from your days in Sunday school. Noah packs up his family along with a literal boatload of animals that wandered into town from who knows where. When the last ones arrive, there is a clap of thunder and it starts to rain and doesn't stop until the world is awash and all of Noah's neighbors, including the Nephilim, are left to tread water.

This is the consequence of not being in harmony with creation. God destroys the bulk of the human race and starts fresh with one family he salvages from among the scum of the earth. And what was the quality that made the Noah family fit for a 40-day cruise? Submission. They were in harmony with the purposes of creation.

They Didn't See It Coming

A worldwide deluge amounts to a colossal spanking of the human race, and the monstrous hybrid race that lived among them.

Now what? The insurgency's plan failed. They apparently didn't expect the annihilation of the most of the beings living in the time/space world. Rebel army routed, right? And the time-creatures start over again. But here's a question that we should be asking. What's to keep the elohim from doing it again?

Do you get the feeling that there is another shoe that is about to drop?

The last time the Creator made a speech he meted out consequences in three directions, really only two. He cursed the elohim commander, limiting his activity in the time/space dimension. Then he pronounced to the time-creatures the penalties to be paid by them...they and the race that was to descend from them. Finally, he barred any human access into the eternal dimension until the time-creatures could be restored to harmony with their original design.

Here, in the days of Noah, a similar thing happens. God makes a speech. Consequences for the human race: the flood and the destruction of all but one submitted family. But what about the rebels? No consequences for the invaders?

I think there were. Although the penalty isn't clearly spelled out here, the cost of the attack on human DNA was staggering for the elohim. It forced a change in rebel strategy that persists to this day. Just as there were limitations placed on the time-creatures both in the garden and in the

days of Noah, there were limitations—a penalty—to be paid by the elohim in both situations. And my guess is that the rebels didn't see this one coming, either.

What that penalty was for the elohim is less clear than for the time-creatures, but not less significant. Notice something interesting about the activity of eternal beings after the days of Noah. After the flood, when there are specific appearances of the elohim in time/space they are always on a mission from the Creator. They are always doing his bidding and carrying out his instructions. In other words, we only see *submitted* eternal-ones making the trip into the world of the time-creatures. It appears only they still have a “backstage pass” into time and space. Rebel angels don't *materialize* in time/space any more. There are only two apparent exceptions, but I don't think they are really exceptions.

The first is the situation when Jesus (the Seed) is tempted by the Devil. The account appears in the fourth chapter of both Matthew and Luke's gospel and in the first chapter of Mark's. Here is what is written in the New Living Translation:

- Then the Devil came to Him... (Matthew 4:1)
- He was...being tempted by the Devil. (Luke 4:2)
- ...the Devil tempted Him for forty days. (Mark 1:13)

Interestingly, the word for the rebel commander is different in each account. Matthew calls him “the tempter,” Mark, “the adversary” and finally, Luke calls him “the accuser,” all very appropriate descriptions of this fallen angel.

Now, the question is in what form did the tempter/accuser/adversary try to outwit the Seed? Based on the biblical accounts, it is said he “came” or he “tempted.” It does not say, “he appeared.” The notion that this rebel elohim was present in a material form is only suggested in that he “takes” Jesus variously to the temple and to a high mountain. The mechanics of those excursions—how Jesus came to be in those places—aren't clearly stated. If His visit to the highest tower of the Jerusalem temple or to a high mountain were literal, then he either had to

walk to these places over the period of his forty-day fast, or he was supernaturally transported there.

There is another possibility.

In the Biblical book of Hebrews, the writer discusses the appearance of the Seed and how he interacts with the time-space world. There is much that could be said about this, but I want to focus only on this statement about Jesus: he was tempted *just as we are*, yet without sin.⁴ And how are we tempted? It's a battle of the mind. I'll talk more about that battle later, but in this context I want to make the point that Jesus' encounter with the rebel elohim needn't have been with a physical manifestation of him. If the Seed experienced temptation as we do, then it is likely that, in his weakened state of hunger, his mind and will were targeted by the most cunning rebel in history. Imagine how vulnerable a starving man would be to delusion, or in this case, imagine how easy it might be for a shrewd enemy to manipulate, tempt and deceive someone in a state of near starvation.

That the Seed would be alert enough to recognize the ruse is an indication of His essentially spiritual nature. That alertness is displayed again later in his time-space visit when a friend tries to convince him to abandon His purpose. The friend was His follower, Peter, but Jesus instantly perceived that the deceiver was, once again, manipulating not in tangible form but behind the scenes. Imagine Peter's surprise when Jesus reacts to him by saying, "Get away from me, Satan!" Jesus didn't need to be able to see a fallen angel to know—to sense—that his influence was present.⁵

In short, Jesus encounter with the devil didn't need to be physical to make it biblical. It is easy for us to imagine the encounter with a real "person" but, based on our personal experience, we can just as easily imagine the inner conflict that we know as temptation. I think that's exactly how the temptation of the Seed played out.

⁴ Hebrews 4:15

⁵ Matthew 16:23; Mark 8:33.

The second apparent reference to the physical presence of a fallen angel in time dimension is when Paul the Apostle warns “Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.” But the apostle uses that terminology as a caution against humans who are behaving outside of submission as Satan was. In fact, earlier in the same chapter, Paul mentions how the serpent deceived Eve in the garden...and we know how that turned out for “Snake,” the rebel commander. Paul’s reference to that angelic ability isn’t proof of that ability operating presently.

The idea that rebel elohim no longer manifest physically isn’t any more conjectural than the idea that they do. The accounts of submitted angels taking on physical form are all over the biblical narrative, we are even told that we might encounter them without knowing it,⁶ but the evidence that fallen angels behave similarly is scarce and not beyond doubt. Personally, I am relieved that I don’t have to worry that the stranger sitting next to me on the bus is a demon in tangible form. I have enough problems dealing with the fear and deception that are the main weapons at the disposal of the disembodied rebels

The presence of rebel elohim in physical form is conspicuous by its absence after the days of Noah. We have to wonder if the Creator didn’t put a guard on the passageway between the dimensions as he had earlier, only this time on the eternal side of the boundary. Furthermore, there is an enigmatic comment made by Peter, one of Jesus’ inner circle, that may shed some light on the subject. Let’s jump ahead a few thousand years and read what Peter wrote.

For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; in which also He went and made *proclamation to the spirits now in prison*, who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water. (1 Peter 3:18-20 NAS)

Peter was encouraging the followers of Jesus Christ to live their lives in obedience and submission to the Creator. As he does, he makes reference to the incident back in Noah’s day. There is a phrase to which I’ve added emphasis. Jesus—aka, “The Seed”—made a proclamation to some spirits, some *disobedient* spirits. Some say that those disobedient spirits were really humans who had died and needed to hear the message of the gospel that Jesus was preaching.

⁶ Hebrews 13:2.

There are some reasons that doesn't work, including that the word *proclamation* has the sense of an official announcement or decree ⁷ as opposed to some sort of evangelistic message. So what else could Peter be hinting at? Could the spirits he is referring to be *elohim* and the decree a statement of their imprisonment, something like house arrest? I think it's likely. Not only does it fit the timing of the conspicuous disappearance of disobedient *elohim* in the time/space dimension, but the word translated "prison" has a strong connotation of a person being placed under guard. The suggestion is that the rebels were to be limited until some future time when their case was to be decided once and for all.

And there are other reasons to draw that conclusion. Early in Jesus ministry, when he encounters some of the rebel *elohim* inhabiting a man, the spirits (the Bible calls them demons) yell out, "Why are you bothering us, Son of God? You have no right to torture us before God's appointed time!" Interesting. They not only knew who he was, as though they had encountered him before, but they knew their time was running out. Later, Jesus, referring to the perils of living selfishly, mentions that there is a place prepared for such miscreants (the Bible describes the place as being always on fire).⁸

Elsewhere, Peter, the disciple, remarks that, "God did not spare even the angels when they sinned; he threw them into hell, in gloomy caves and darkness until the judgment day."⁹ The word translated 'hell' needs some attention. It might better be translated, "he placed them under restraint." The original Greek word is *Tartarus* and it is a word that is only used in this instance in all the New Testament. According to Greek and Roman mythology *Tartarus* is the dark, gloomy place where the Titans, a race of powerful "deities," were chained up—picture a prison. Finally, in the little New Testament book of Jude it says,

"And I remind you of the angels who did not stay within the limits of authority God gave them but left the place where they belonged. God has kept them chained in prisons of darkness, waiting for the Day of Judgment.

⁷ Elsewhere in the Bible we learn that for those born into time, they don't get another chance in the eternal realm to make it right. One shot is all anybody gets. That doesn't fit with this interpretation of what Peter is saying.

⁸ Matthew 25:41.

⁹ 2 Peter 2:4.

So the question is, what kind of prison are the rebels in? There are two things that appear to have happened to the rebel army. One, as I described above, they were banned from directly entering the physical world. They are active in the physical world, but not in any material sense. Second, they were expelled from the presence of the Creator and from among the obedient eternal beings.

They became a race without a world to live in, trapped between eternity and space.

In essence, the imprisonment amounted to becoming disembodied vagrant ghosts. Here is how Jesus (the Seed) describes the plight of what he calls “an unclean spirit.” He pictures such a creature when unattached to a human as being like a person (maybe a defeated soldier) wandering in the desert, looking for a well from which to drink. In the analogy, we humans are the wells. Perhaps a more graphic comparison might be a parasite detached from its host. Later, in a place called Gadera, Jesus commands rebel elohim for leave a human host.¹⁰ Interestingly, the demons beg the Seed to let them enter the bodies of some local pigs rather than, as Jesus described, wander in the desert. So, on the time/space side things the elohim are stripped of their amphibious qualities. They can no longer visit the time/space dimension in physical form.

On the eternal side of things, the rebel elohim have suffered an even more humiliating defeat. The record of it appears in the very last book of the Bible, the book of Revelation. In the twelfth chapter an account of a fierce battle in the eternal dimension is recorded.

Then there was war in heaven. Michael and the angels under his command fought the dragon and his angels. And the dragon lost the battle and was forced out of heaven. This great dragon—the ancient serpent called the Devil, or Satan, the one deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with all his angels. Then I heard a loud voice shouting across the heavens, "It has happened at last—the salvation and power and kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ! For the Accuser has been thrown down to earth—the one who accused our brothers and sisters before our God day and night. And they have defeated him because of the blood of the Lamb and because of their testimony. And they were not afraid to die. Rejoice, O heavens! And you who live in the heavens, rejoice! But terror will come on the earth and the sea. For the Devil has come down to you in great anger, and he knows that he has little time." (Revelation 12:7-12)

¹⁰ Matthew chapter 8.

It should be said that there have been many suggestions about the exact timing of this event. Some scholars suggest that the expulsion of the rebels from heaven is a future event, part of the timetable of the last days of history. My objection to that interpretation is that I am not convinced that we can make a one-to-one correlation between time in our dimension, and “time,” if there is such a thing, in the eternal dimension where the events in Revelation 12 occurred. Personally, I am convinced that this war took place in the days of Noah and that it is a response to the declaration brought to the heavenly places when the Seed appeared, quite unexpectedly, before the rebel armies.

It may have happened this way. Roll the tape.

The Clash of the Eternal Ones

The scene opens through an enormous portal looking into the time/space dimension and down on the earth. A blinding flash of lightning splits the angry, dark clouds below followed by a jaw-rattling crack of thunder. Somewhere beneath the clouds there is the sound of a heavy wooden door closing, then the sound of rain. It builds to a deafening roar. The water is rising. There is screaming, desperate human voices. Countless people are dying. The sound reaches a crescendo and then diminishes until only the rain can be heard.

The great cleansing has begun.

The camera pulls back into the eternal and the angle widens to take in the whole portal. Through it can be seen the arc of the time/space earth, cloaked in steel-grey clouds. Suddenly, there is a sound like the flapping of a million frightened bats. The rebel elohim pour through the portal back into their native dimension. As they do, the camera angle widens still more until the whole retreating army is in view, framed against the open window into time/space.

The camera pans 180 degrees to reveal what lies behind. A vast army of the elohim who remain loyal to the Creator is massed and ready to engage the retreating rebels who are hemmed between them and the door.

Suddenly a figure appears at the portal. He glows with brilliant light and carries a sword that pulses with some kind of luminous energy. He has one foot in the heavenly dimension and one foot in time/space and seems equally prepared to be in either.

It is the last person the rebels expect to encounter here. From their limited understanding of time, The Seed wasn't supposed to even exist until some human woman gave birth to him, yet here he is. They had underestimated the power of the Creator again, not knowing that He had made a place for himself in the time/space world at the moment he had created it. He had created the earth from the inside out.

The voice of the Seed roars across the eternal sky. "Hear this, disobedient spirits! You are banished! The door into the world of the time-creatures is closed to you..." Two fearsome elohim—cherubim—come forward to guard the gateway.

The rebel commander, arrogant even in defeat, steps brazenly forward and addresses the Seed. "I have a right to the time-creatures. I won them. You gave the time/space dimension to them and they gave it to me. You can't keep me out of what is mine!"

The Seed responds: "You still have access. I only bar you from space; I am not keeping you out of time. Time is your prison. That will be the battlefield on which you will be defeated by the very ones you thought you could control. Mark my words. The time-creatures will choose to be mine again. Your claim on them shall be nullified when they have submitted to me. They will be restored and you will be destroyed. Furthermore, your presence among the holy angels is forbidden."

One of the elohim known as Michael steps forward from among the loyalists. The Snake steps forward to meet him. The clash of the eternal ones begins.

At battle's end the rebel elohim have been defeated, driven back from the eternal dimension into a murky region not fully heaven and not fully earth. From it they will be able interact with the

beings in the time/space but not enter their dimension. The rebel elohim now roam what amounts to a second heaven outside of space. The playing field has been leveled.

Cage Match

From the earthbound perspective these elohim have been condemned to inhabit an invisible world, a world of spirit. It is foreign to them and to the time-creatures.

The time-creatures are a part of it because they have a spiritual side to their nature, yet this second heaven, if we can call it that, is foreign to them because it exists outside of all that they can touch, feel and smell. They have an instinctive knowledge that something lays beyond their senses; a vestige of the part of them that was designed to be connected to the eternal, the part of human nature that went dormant when the first time-creatures rejected the Creator's design. But without an energized spirit life, they can only connect to that spiritual world at the level of mind, emotions and what might be called instinct or spiritual intuition.

The second heaven is also foreign to the defeated elohim because it is outside of eternity, their native dimension, just as it is outside of space, the realm of the humans. Created for the eternal dimension, the fallen ones suddenly find themselves confined by time—the ticking clock marks their dwindling freedom. It is as though the rebel elohim suddenly find that they are wearing a stopwatch around their neck. Until now it has not been possible to say of an angel that time is running out.

Did it really happen that way? Probably not. This scene is simply to provide a visual sense of the relationship among the principal characters in the drama of the ages. Like all metaphors it breaks down at some point, but it may still be useful.

The nature of the combat between angelic beings has been defined. In Roman times, Gladiators would fight to the death in horrific spectacles where the combatants would face each other in a locked arena. Before thousands of onlookers the fighters would duel to the death. The closest thing we have today is an event in “Pro Wrestling” known as a “cage match.” (Now, before I go

any further with this, for record I am not a fan of smack-down wrestling. I only know about these things from channel surfing. I never watched a cage match, at least not a whole one...really.) As the name of the event suggests, the combatants are locked in a chain-link cage so that neither wrestler can leave the ring, either by choice or by being hurled out by his opponent. The idea is that the contestants beat one another senseless until only one is left standing.

You may have already figured out that the caged elohim are what the Bible calls “demons.” Genesis marks the downward spiral of a fraction of the race of eternal-ones who, because of rebellion become destined to eternal destruction. Consider that thought for a moment. I didn’t say simply “destruction” as though these beings were going to be dismantled molecule by molecule and blasted into nothingness, but *eternal destruction*, that is a never-ending process. The concept is hard to wrap our minds around, but the fact is if a being is created eternal—outside of time—then it is going to live forever. That is true of time-creatures, too. They were created to be native to time/space but they were destined to have access to eternity. So the issue isn’t if the created races are going to exist forever, the issue is *where* they will exist, in what relation to the rest of creation.

So, picture the defeated elohim army locked in a “time-cage” with the humans. Here two races will fight to the death. One race is doomed to face the consequences of its decision, made in eternity, to live as rebels. The other, having been born in time and space has the option of again yielding its will to the Creator, who is the source of unlimited power, and regaining its destiny.

So, what is the destiny to which the time-creatures are to return? The ancient writings aren’t specific about what lay ahead for creation if it had remained fully synchronized with the original specifications of the Creator. Apparently we’re on a “need to know” basis about that and we don’t need to know yet. But this much we know, eventually the Creator intends to bring everything back to the point where that destiny will be open to us. The guards at the door into eternity will be ordered to stand down and humans, those who have learned how to be fully submitted, will be free to walk in the eternal dimension, at last living in the fullness of their capability. Furthermore, we will be introduced to that other race of created beings, the ones who have remained submitted from the beginning to the Creator and his creation. The ancient

writings contain many descriptions of encounters between them and the time-creatures, but those meetings are anything but routine. One day they will be. In the mean time, creation on both sides of the boundary is waiting. The Apostle Paul describes it:

For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the *whole creation groans* and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body. For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he already sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it.¹¹ (Italics mine.)

What will it be like when, someday, we time-creatures meet, “hand to hand” as it were, that part of creation we call angels, both created races coexisting? The New Testament describes it this way: “you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to thousands of angels in joyful assembly.”¹²

All of this has something to do with the Seed. To the dismay of the rebels he wasn’t a creature of time and space; in fact he wasn’t something created at all, rather he was the presence of the Creator himself, as much of him as could be contained in the limitations of whatever dimension he was in. Yet, the Creator’s words in the third chapter of Genesis still stand: the Seed—the seed of woman—is going to be born into time/space as though he were nothing more than a time-creature. During the days of Noah, that part of the story had yet to be told, but the whole narrative of what we call the Bible is the telling of it; the story of the Seed and how he makes it possible for the time-creatures to recover their destiny, and what it means for them to submit to the Creator and attain the potential that he originally designed for them.

Change of Strategy

After the days of Noah, the strategy of the rebels changed again out of necessity. With each new raid on the time-creatures they learned something new about their own limitations and about the weapons that remain available to them. Unfortunately for them, they passed the point of no

¹¹ Romans 8:20-25 NLT

¹² Hebrews 12:22

return the instant they chose disobedience instead of submission. After the clash in Noah’s time, their best hope became to take as many time creatures down with them as they could before the end.

To summarize, the first enemy assault was on the “spirit interface” of the time creatures. The results of that attack were substantial, but not irreversible. The second attack was on the human genetic code, an attempt to bring corruption into the human line. The impact was horrific, it required the destruction of virtually the entire race of time creatures. But again, the Creator countered the enemy thrust. Now, the only vulnerability left in the race of time-creatures is what is called the soul—mind and emotions and will.

The human soul is detached from the Creator. To compensate, the time-creatures have come to rely on their senses—their body—being scarcely aware that while they are busy with the tangible world the spiritual part of their nature vulnerable to attack. Let’s skip ahead a few chapters in Genesis and see what we can learn about the nature of this new warfare. As we do, one thing will become clear. The time-creatures will have to wake up and discover what weapons are available to them for self-defense and for counter attack.

This is the cage-match of Genesis 6. As it plays out, the key to the victory will be submission.

