

Michael

Questions frequently arise in Christian circles about the true identity of the mysterious biblical character known as Michael, sometimes called "Michael the archangel" and "Michael the Great Prince." Some claim that Michael is the highest of the heavenly angels, one of the covering cherubs, or a special messenger like Gabriel. And therefore, he is a created being.

Others, such as Bible commentator Matthew Henry, assert that Michael is simply another of the many names for Jesus Himself. Can we know the real identity of this mysterious being? Obviously, the key to deciphering this puzzling question is found in the Scriptures. ["For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little" Isaiah 28:10.](#)

A quick look in a Bible concordance reveals that there are 15 references to the name Michael in Scripture. Ten of these are simply people named Michael. In fact, the entry for "Michael" in the lexicon a Greek and/or Hebrew dictionary states, "The name of an archangel and nine Israelites." It is the identity of Michael, the archangel and prince, mentioned in the last five references that we seek in this important study.

The first three of these references to Michael are in the Old Testament book of the prophet Daniel. The last two are mentioned in the New Testament books of Jude and Revelation. With an honest study and comparison of these and other verses, clues quickly emerge that lead us to an inescapable conclusion of Michael's true identity He is none other than Jesus— He is **not** a created angel or cherub, but this name is another of the many grand titles for God's Son!

At first glance, the Old Testament appears to portray Michael as a prince, and the New Testament describes Him as an Archangel. But by looking at other related Scriptures where similar language and wording are used, we will see an interesting pattern emerge.

Before you proceed any further, please carefully read and [digest this next thought](#). The word **"Angel" means messenger**, it is used very freely and broadly in Scripture, sometimes, men are called angels in the Bible [1 Samuel 29:9 Galatians 4:14](#).

[1 Samuel 29:9](#)⁹ And Achish answered and said to David, I know that thou art good in my sight, as an angel of God: notwithstanding the princes of the Philistines have said, He shall not go up with us to the battle.

[Galatians 4:14](#)¹⁴ And my temptation which was in my flesh ye despised not, nor rejected; but received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus

And sometimes angels are called men [Genesis 32:24](#).

[Genesis 32:24](#)²⁴ And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.

And in other places, as will be soon shown, God Son is identified as an Angel! And of course, even angels are called angels.

Typically, when a person thinks of an angel, they picture one of the many levels of winged, ministering spirits known as angels, seraphim, or cherubim. Unlike Jesus, these celestial beings are created.

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There are some that teach that Jesus, before His earthly incarnation, was really just a powerful angel that had a feud with His wayward fellow angel Lucifer. In turn, this means that Jesus is a created being who has been promoted by the Father and therefore not the only-begotten Son of God. This study categorically rejects that view. **Jesus is, and always has been, God's Son,** since He was begotten from the Father back in the days of eternity, as described in Proverbs 8:22-30. Any comparison made to Jesus as an Angel in this study is simply in the classical sense as the greatest messenger of salvation and is in no way intended to diminish from His divinity.

The Key Is in the Name

First, let's consider the meaning of some words and names. In the Greek New Testament, the word "angel" means "messenger," and "arch" means "chief, principle, greatest, or highest." So "archangel" simply means "highest or greatest messenger." The Hebrew name "Michael," found in the Old Testament, means "Who is like God": So the title Michael the Archangel can be translated as "The greatest messenger who is like God."

Now one of the angels did profess to be like God, the covering cherub fallen from the heavenly courts is Lucifer, who became the devil or Satan, by claiming to "be like the most High"

Isaiah 14:14 ¹⁴ I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

And in Revelation 12:7 ⁷ And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

Satan is opposed by "Michael and his angels" and is cast out of heaven.

The Angel of The Lord

The phrase "Angel of the Lord" is found 68 times in Scripture. Sometimes it applies to Gabriel who appeared to Daniel, Zacharias, and Mary. But Gabriel is called "an" angel of the Lord...

Luke 1:11 ¹¹ And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.

He is not referred to as "The" Angel of the Lord. Neither is he ever called the Archangel. (And speaking of angels, the popular angel Raphael does not appear anywhere in Scripture.)

Gabriel is probably one of the two covering cherubs who flank the throne of God. Remember that he said to Zacharias, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God,"

Luke 1:19 ¹⁹ And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings.

Lucifer once held this position before his fall...

Ezekiel 28:14 ¹⁴ Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth; and I have set thee so: thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire

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If the highest rank held by an angel is that of the covering cherubs by the throne of God then who and what is an Archangel? And who is this mighty individual identified as "The Angel of The Lord" who performs such prominent roles in the redemption of man?

God the Father created all things through Jesus...

Hebrews 1:2 ² Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

Ephesians 3:9 ⁹ And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

It is not implausible to assume that if Christ came to earth and became a man in His battle against Satan to save human beings, He might also have in some way identified with the angels to protect them from Satan's evil influence in heaven. In fact, there are several references in Scripture to a mysterious being identified as "The Angel of The Lord" before Christ's earthly incarnation. Yet each time He is mentioned, there are clues to His identity. Let's review them briefly in the order in which they appear.

Hagar

After Hagar the handmaid of Abraham bore Ishmael, she and the barren Sarah could no longer coexist peacefully. Sarah dealt severely with her now haughty hand-maid until Hagar fled into the desert...

Genesis 16:7 ⁷ And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur."

The angel told Hagar to go back and submit to Sarah and promised that her son, Ishmael, would be the father of a great nation. When the "angel" disappeared, Hagar said...

Genesis 16:7 ¹³ And she called the name of the LORD that spake unto her, Thou God seest me: for she said, Have I also here looked after him that seeth me?

It appears Hagar recognized that the "angel of the Lord" who had spoken to her was really God. But keep reading; it gets clearer!

Abraham

God told Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac on mount Moriah. Just as he was about to plunge the dagger into his son of promise, The Angel of the Lord stopped him...

Genesis 22:11-12 ¹¹ And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. ¹² And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.

It is clear that Abraham was offering his son to God and not to a mere angel.

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Genesis 22:15-18 ¹⁵ And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time, ¹⁶ And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: ¹⁷ That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies; ¹⁸ And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

Jacob

While fleeing from his angry brother Esau, Jacob had a dream in which God confirmed the covenant of Abraham to him. After receiving assurance that God would be with him and bring him back safely to his home in Canaan, Jacob vowed to return to God a tithe of all his increase. He set up the stone he had been using for a pillow and anointed it with oil to solemnize his vow. Then he named the place Beth-el, or house of God, since God had appeared to him there.

Twenty years later, Jacob was on his way back home, not a penniless fugitive, but a wealthy man. God decided to remind Jacob who had really brought him success. Here's how Jacob recounted the story:

Genesis 31:11 ¹¹ And the angel of God spake unto me in a dream, saying, Jacob: And I said, Here am I.

In verse 13, this "Angel of God" identifies Himself:

Genesis 31:13 ¹³ I am the God of Bethel, where thou anointedst the pillar, and where thou vowedst a vow unto me: now arise, get thee out from this land, and return unto the land of thy kindred.

Jacob wrestled with a heavenly being...

Genesis 32:24-30 ²⁴ And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵ And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me. ²⁷ And he said unto him, What is thy name? And he said, Jacob. ²⁸ And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed. ²⁹ And Jacob asked him, and said, Tell me, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore is it that thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there. ³⁰ And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved.

Jacob was given a new name and blessed by the man that he had wrestled with. Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved" Was this man that Jacob wrestled with the Angel of the Lord? Hosea gives more light on this.

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Hosea 12:4³⁻⁵ ³ He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and by his strength he had power with God: ⁴ Yea, he had power over the angel, and prevailed: he wept, and made supplication unto him: he found him in Bethel, and there he spake with us; ⁵ Even the Lord God of hosts; the Lord is his memorial.

We also find in the New Testament that Jesus is the one who blesses His people and gives them a new name

Matthew 5:3-12 ³ Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. ⁵ Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶ Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. ⁷ Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. ⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. ⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God. ¹⁰ Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. ¹² Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

Jesus speaking to the churches in Revelation says...

Revelation 2:17 ¹⁷ He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it.

As you can see, it is becoming increasingly clear that the Angel of The Lord is Jesus Himself.

When Jacob was on his deathbed blessing Joseph's two sons, Ephraim and Manasseh, he used the terms "Angel" and "God" interchangeably. "God, before whom my Fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God which fed me all my life long unto this day, The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads"

Genesis 48:15, 16 ¹⁵ And he blessed Joseph, and said, God, before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac did walk, the God which fed me all my life long unto this day, ¹⁶ The Angel which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads; and let my name be named on them, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac; and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.

The Scriptures are very clear there is neither a redeemer nor saviour but God. "I, even I, am the LORD, And besides Me there is no saviour; Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer"

Isaiah 43:11-14 ¹¹ I, even I, am the LORD; and beside me there is no saviour. ¹² I have declared, and have saved, and I have shewed, when there was no strange god among you: therefore ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, that I am God. ¹³ Yea, before the day was I am he; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand: I will work, and who shall let it? ¹⁴ Thus saith the LORD, your redeemer, the Holy One of Israel;

Once again we see that The Angel who redeemed Jacob is another name for our Redeemer, Jesus!

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Moses

Moses saw a burning bush that was not consumed. "And The Angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush"

Exodus 3:2 ² And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

Verse 4 identifies this angel:

⁴ And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. ⁵ And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. ⁶ Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

Here The Angel of the Lord identifies Himself as God! When you study The False Doctrine of the Trinity and Strange gods, we clearly see that Jesus has inherited all things from His Father, Hebrews chapter one makes this absolutely clear.

In his last sermon before he was stoned to death, Stephen agrees with the Exodus account.

Acts 7:30-32 ³⁰ And when forty years were expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sina an angel of the Lord in a flame of fire in a bush. ³¹ When Moses saw it, he wondered at the sight: and as he drew near to behold it, the voice of the LORD came unto him, ³² Saying, I am the God of thy fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Then Moses trembled, and durst not behold.

Israel

In another instance, the children of Israel were led through the wilderness by God. "And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night"

Exodus 13:21 ²¹ And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:

Exodus 14:19 ¹⁹ And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:

Again, "The Angel of God" is identified as God.

Balaam

The Angel of the Lord again figures prominently in the story of Balaam and his talking donkey. It is this Angel who saves the donkey from her merciless master and nearly kills the covetous prophet, who is on his way to curse God's people.

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Numbers 22:21-35 ²¹ And Balaam rose up in the morning, and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab. ²² And God's anger was kindled because he went: and the angel of the LORD stood in the way for an adversary against him. Now he was riding upon his ass, and his two servants were with him. ²³ And the ass saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and the ass turned aside out of the way, and went into the field: and Balaam smote the ass, to turn her into the way. ²⁴ But the angel of the LORD stood in a path of the vineyards, a wall being on this side, and a wall on that side. ²⁵ And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she thrust herself unto the wall, and crushed Balaam's foot against the wall: and he smote her again. ²⁶ And the angel of the LORD went further, and stood in a narrow place, where was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left. ²⁷ And when the ass saw the angel of the LORD, she fell down under Balaam: and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he smote the ass with a staff. ²⁸ And the LORD opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times? ²⁹ And Balaam said unto the ass, Because thou hast mocked me: I would there were a sword in mine hand, for now would I kill thee. ³⁰ And the ass said unto Balaam, Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee? and he said, Nay. ³¹ Then the LORD opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the LORD standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand: and he bowed down his head, and fell flat on his face. ³² And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Wherefore hast thou smitten thine ass these three times? behold, I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is perverse before me: ³³ And the ass saw me, and turned from me these three times: unless she had turned from me, surely now also I had slain thee, and saved her alive. ³⁴ And Balaam said unto the angel of the LORD, I have sinned; for I knew not that thou stoodest in the way against me: now therefore, if it displease thee, I will get me back again. After Balaam's close brush with death - ³⁵ And the angel of the LORD said unto Balaam, Go with the men: but only the word that I shall speak unto thee, that thou shalt speak. So Balaam went with the princes of Balak.

The next chapter reveals who put the words in the prophet's mouth: "And God met Balaam: ... And the Lord put a word in Balaam's mouth, and said, Return unto Balak, and thus shalt thou speak"

Numbers 23:4-5 ⁴ And God met Balaam: and he said unto him, I have prepared seven altars, and I have offered upon every altar a bullock and a ram. ⁵ And the LORD put a word in Balaam's mouth, and said, Return unto Balak, and thus thou shalt speak.

Here again, "The Angel of the Lord" turns out to be God.

Judges

Now let's move on to the book of Judges, where we read...

Judges 2:1 ¹ And an angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said, I made you to go up out of Egypt, and have brought you unto the land which I swore unto your fathers; and I said, I will never break my covenant with you

By now we should recognise a pattern. Just who brought the Israelites out of Egypt and made the covenant with Israel that He would never break—The Angel of the Lord the Son of God Himself.

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Gideon

We also read in Judges that Gideon had an encounter with The Angel of the Lord.

[Judges 6:14](#) ¹² And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him, and said unto him, The LORD is with thee, thou mighty man of valour.

The Angel tells Gideon that the Lord is with him. Gideon points to the oppression of Israel by the Midianites as evidence to the contrary. "And the Lord looked upon him, and said,

Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?

[Judges 6:14](#) ¹⁴ And the LORD looked upon him, and said, Go in this thy might, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee?

Throughout the rest of the narrative, the person speaking to Gideon is identified interchangeably as The Lord, The Angel of the Lord, and The Angel of God.

Manoah

Samson's mother, the wife of Manoah, was barren.

[Judges 13:3](#) ³ And the angel of the LORD appeared unto the woman, and said unto her, Behold now, thou art barren, and bearest not: but thou shalt conceive, and bear a son.

This Angel told her she would bear a son who would deliver the apostate Israelites from their heathen oppressors. She quickly called Manoah, who prayed for another visit from the "man of God." When The Angel came the second time, Manoah asked him his name. The King James says that The Angel told Manoah that his name was "Secret," with a margin notation that translates it as "Wonderful." This immediately makes us think of Isaiah's familiar prophecy that Jesus would be called, "Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace"

[Isaiah 9:6](#) ⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

The name "Wonderful" for The Angel of the Lord who appeared to Manoah connects this "Angel" with the coming Messiah who was to be called "Wonderful."

Once again, after seeing this "Wonderful Messenger," Manoah declared they had seen God. And Manoah said to his wife, "We shall surely die, because we have seen God!"

[Judges 13:22](#) ²² And Manoah said unto his wife, We shall surely die, because we have seen God.

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No One Has Seen The Father

Suddenly we have more leads than we can follow! We can clearly see that "Angel of The Lord" is frequently identified to be God. But the Bible states, "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him"

John 1:18 ¹⁸ No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.

John 6:46 ⁴⁶ Not that any man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God, he hath seen the Father.

Obviously, since no man has seen God the Father, all of these Old Testament sightings of God as "The Angel of The Lord" must have been Jesus, God the Son, veiling His glory so they could endure His presence without being consumed.

The Angel of the Covenant

One of the most famous messianic prophecies is found in [Malachi 3:1](#): Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the LORD, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

The messenger of the covenant spoken of here in Malachi is clearly a reference to the advent of Jesus Christ. The word translated as messenger (mal'ak) is the same exact word used in the previous Old Testament passages translated as Angel of The Lord. So this would also be a proper translation:

"Behold, I will send my angel, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the angel of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

What could be clearer?

Rebuking the Accuser

There is one more important reference in which The Angel of The Lord appears in the Old Testament. The prophet Zechariah was given a vision of Joshua the high priest standing before The Angel of The Lord. Satan is standing at his right hand to resist him. Here we see two adversaries contending over a sinful human being. Joshua's filthy garment symbolizes his sin.

[Zechariah 3:3](#) ¹ And he shewed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. ² And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire? ³ Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel.

In this narrative, the name changes quickly from "The Angel of The Lord" (verse 1) to "The Lord" (verse 2), indicating again that they are the same. Then The Lord makes an interesting statement in verse 2..

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² And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan;

There is only one other place in Scripture, Jude 9, where this sentence is found—and Michael The Archangel speaks it!

Jude 9 ⁹ Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

In the short epistle of Jude, we witness a description similar to Joshua and The Angel in Zechariah. "Yet Michael The Archangel, when contending with the devil He disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, [The Lord rebuke thee](#)" [Jude 9](#). The situations are amazingly parallel: Christ and Satan are contending over the fate of two of God's great human leaders (a living one in the case of Joshua, and a dead one in the case of Moses). The debate is ended abruptly when Jesus says, "The Lord rebuke thee."

This passage raises another valid question. Some people are confused by part of this verse in [Jude 1:9](#) where Michael rebukes the devil. They wonder: If Michael is really another name for Jesus, then why does he invoke the name of the Lord when rebuking Satan? Why not do it Himself as He did when tempted in the wilderness. "Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan"

[Matthew 4:10](#) ¹⁰ Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

In studying the Scriptures and language of Jesus, we quickly see it was a very common practice for Jesus to speak of Himself in the second person, as in [Luke 18:8](#)...

[Luke 18:8](#) ⁸ I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?

And if there is still any lingering question, we have this other clear Scripture in [Zechariah 3:2](#), where the Lord does the same thing Michael does in Jude. He invokes His own name when rebuking the devil.

[Zechariah 3:2](#) ² And the LORD said unto Satan, The LORD rebuke thee, O Satan; even the LORD that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire?

Perhaps these Scriptures are examples of God the Son, appealing to the name of His Father in rebuking Satan.

Michael the Prince

Michael is mentioned more in Daniel than in any other book in Scripture.

[Daniel 10:13](#) ¹³ But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

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Daniel 10:21 ²¹ But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

Daniel 12:1 ¹ And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

In all three references, He is called A Prince—Your Prince and The Great Prince. Isaiah's prophecy about the Messiah [Isaiah 9:6](#) reveal's one of the key names he says that would apply to The Messiah is "Prince of Peace."

[Isaiah 9:6](#) ⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

There is also another verse in [Daniel 8:25](#) where the "Prince of princes" is mentioned.

[Daniel 8:25](#) ²⁵ And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

Again, the cosmic conflict is being played out with Christ on one side and the devil on the other, with humanity serving as the battlefield. "Prince of princes" is actually the same term that is translated "Prince of The Host" in verse 11. This is similar to "Lord of lords"

[Psalm 136:3](#) ³ O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy endureth for ever.

"God of gods" [Deuteronomy 10:17](#) ¹⁷ For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward: and "King of kings" [Revelation 19:16](#) ¹⁶ And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

All these are titles of deity. He is even referred to as "Messiah the Prince":

[Daniel 9:25](#) ²⁵ Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

Who is this being that the angels call the Great Prince? We must let's let the Bible interpret that for us. "And his name shall be called ...The Prince of Peace."

[Isaiah 9:6](#) ⁶ For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

"But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and ... killed the Prince of life."

[Acts 3:14-15](#) ¹⁴ But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you; ¹⁵ And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

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Acts 5:30-31: ³⁰ The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.
³¹ Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.

Revelation 1:5 ⁵ And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.

These verses clearly echo with three verses in Daniel in which Michael is called a "Prince."

Is Michael Only One of Many?

Daniel 10:13 is probably the most difficult verse regarding Michael: ¹³ But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

This is an unfortunate translation in the King James. The word "one" comes from the Hebrew word "echad," which is also frequently translated as "first," as in the president's wife being called "first lady." See [Genesis 1:5](#) and [8:13](#).

Genesis 1:5 ⁵ And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.

Genesis 8:13 ¹³ And it came to pass in the six hundredth and first year, in the first month, the first day of the month, the waters were dried up from off the earth: and Noah removed the covering of the ark, and looked, and, behold, the face of the ground was dry.

This changes the whole meaning of the verse to Michael being first of, greatest or highest of, to the Chief of Princes—again a reference to Jesus.

The prince of the kingdom of Persia who withstood the angel was no doubt the devil who frequently appears working in the shadow of earthly monarchs such as the king of Babylon, the king of Tyre, and the Roman power

Isaiah 14:4 ³ And it shall come to pass in the day that the LORD shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve,
⁴ That thou shalt take up this proverb against the king of Babylon, and say, How hath the oppressor ceased! the golden city ceased!

Ezekiel 28:2 ² Son of man, say unto the prince of Tyrus, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Because thine heart is lifted up, and thou hast said, I am a God, I sit in the seat of God, in the midst of the seas; yet thou art a man, and not God, though thou set thine heart as the heart of God:

Revelation 12:4 ⁴ And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.

And remember that Jesus calls Satan "the prince of this world"

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John 12:31 ³¹ Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out.

Daniel 10:21 says.

Daniel 10:21 ²¹ But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

"But I will show thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince." Notice here that the angel refers to Michael as your Prince. Who was Daniel's prince? In the previous chapter, we see the answer. In [Daniel 9:25](#), Daniel's Messiah is called the prince, which is another clear indication of Michael's identity!

Daniel 9:25 ²⁵ Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

So Gabriel is saying that Michael The Archangel is Jesus, who knows all the truth of Scripture.

Michael Stands Up

The final reference to Michael in Daniel is in chapter 12:

Daniel 12:1 ¹ And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

"And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people." Notice here that Michael is not called A Great Prince but "The Great Prince." Is there any prince greater than Jesus? He is also identified as the one who "[standeth for the children of thy people](#)." This means that He intercedes, defends and even stands as a substitute. Who could this be other than Jesus?

Commenting on this verse, Matthew Henry states: "Michael signifies, 'Who is like God,' and his name, with the title of 'the great Prince,' points out the Divine Savior. Christ stood for the children of our people in their stead as a sacrifice, bore the curse for them, to bear it from them. He stands for them in pleading for them at the throne of grace." Jesus is clearly the one who always stands in our place and for our defence.

Michael standing up is also a reference to the Lord preparing to come. Notice that Michael is so exalted and powerful, his standing launches the great time of trouble. This in turn is followed by the second coming of Jesus and the resurrection [Daniel 12:2](#)...

Daniel 12:2 ² And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt.

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The Voice of Michael

If we isolate and examine the word "Archangel," we see another interesting match. The only other passage in the Bible that uses the word "Archangel" is [1 Thessalonians 4:16](#). And note its context:

[1 Thessalonians 4:16](#) ¹⁶ For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

It is the voice of The Archangel that raises the dead in Christ, and the Lord Himself who shouts it. This indicates that they are one and the same. Jesus is the one who shouts with the voice of The Archangel, or "greatest messenger," to raise the dead!

[John 5:26-29](#) ²⁶ For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; ²⁷ And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. ²⁸ Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, ²⁹ And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation

In Jude, we see The Archangel contending with the devil for the body of Moses, who, incidentally, was resurrected and taken to heaven from whence he appeared on the mount of transfiguration to encourage Christ ([Mark 9](#)). In [1 Thessalonians](#), the apostle Paul describes the resurrection as happening in response to the voice of The Archangel. Again we see the parallel between these two verses; both describe The Archangel in the act of resurrecting.

Worshiping the Commander

In Revelation, Michael is portrayed as leading the heavenly hosts, or armies, in the war against the rebellious Lucifer that took place.

[Revelation 12:7](#) ⁷ And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels,

Here the term "dragon" is a symbolic name for Satan, the leader of evil...

[Revelation 12:9](#) ⁹ And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

So it is very safe to assume that Michael is another emblematic name for Jesus, the embodiment and leader of good. But there is more evidence.

Just as Israel was preparing for its first battle after crossing into the Promised Land, Joshua had an encounter with an unusual warrior. "And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand:...

[Joshua 5:13-15](#) ¹³ And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? ¹⁴ And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell

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on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my Lord unto his servant? ¹⁵ And the captain of the LORD's host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so

Not only did Joshua worship this being, but the heavenly captain received his worship. If he had been a mere angel, he would have rebuked Joshua just like the angel rebuked John for trying to worship him.

Revelation 19:10 ¹⁰ And I fell at his feet to worship him. And he said unto me, See thou do it not: I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren that have the testimony of Jesus: worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Revelation 22:8-9 ⁸ And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. ⁹ Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God.

In each case in which The Angel of The Lord accepts worship, it is clearly the Son of God. But where regular, created angels are worshiped, they refuse it! Even Jesus reminded Satan in the wilderness...

Luke 4:6-8 ⁶ And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. ⁷ If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. ⁸ And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

In fact, all the created angels are commanded to worship Jesus as they did during His first advent...

Hebrews 1:6 ⁶ And again, when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him.

The devil is infuriated because he knows that someday even he will be compelled to acknowledge Jesus as King and worship Him...

Philippians 2:10-11 ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; ¹¹ And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Notice the striking connection that even Paul makes between an angel of God and Jesus.

Galatians 4:14 ¹⁴ And my temptation which was in my flesh ye despised not, nor rejected; but received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus.

The phrase "Lord of hosts" appears 245 times in the Bible, and it refers to the "commander of God's angelic army." So the "Captain of the Lord's host" that Joshua saw was not an angel, but Jesus Himself. That explains why He demanded that Joshua remove his shoes. The place was holy because Jesus was there, just as Jesus' presence at the burning bush made that ground holy for Moses. So Michael, the captain of the Lord's host, or army, is another title for Jesus.

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This is why Jesus said; "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad"

[John 8:56](#) ⁵⁶ Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad.

Jesus appeared personally to Abraham when the Patriarch interceded for Lot...

[Genesis 18:26](#) ²⁶ And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

What a wonderful truth that Jesus, God's only-begotten Son, has ever been actively occupied in watching over, providing for, and protecting His children! He spoke face to face with Abraham and Moses and wrestled with Jacob. He led the Israelites through the wilderness, providing food and water and victory against their enemies.

Remember that the title "Michael the archangel" means "The greatest messenger 'Who is like God.'" It was Jesus, [Colossians 1:15](#) ¹⁵ Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: who brought the greatest message of hope, the gospel, to our perishing world!

Conclusion

In conclusion, we see this majestic and mysterious being, sometimes called Michael, sometimes The Angel of The Lord, sometimes the commander of the Lord's army, veiling His divinity and appearing in the form of a humble angel. Yet this same enigmatic being has the power, authority and attributes that belong only to God. He evicts the devil from heaven; He resurrects the dead; He intercedes for the saints; He judges and then stands, launching the great time of trouble. He redeems the saints and receives their worship. He offers us a new name.

Now you may know who Michael is, but the devil knows too, and it won't save him. The most important question is: Do you know Him as Jesus your personal Lord and Saviour, and do you follow Him?

Michael

Jesus also has many names in the Scriptures that enhance our understanding of His person and mission. Below are listed just a few of these:

Advocate	1 John 2:1
Lamb of God	John 1:29
The Resurrection & the Life	John 11:25
Shepherd & Bishop of Souls	1 Peter 2:25
Judge	Acts 10:42
Lord of lords	1 Timothy 6:15
Man of Sorrows	Isaiah 53:3
Head of the Church	Ephesians 5:23
Master	Matthew 8:19
Faithful & True Witness	Revelation 3:14
Rock	1 Corinthians 10:4
High Priest	Hebrews 6:20
The Door	John 10:9
Living Water	John 4:10
Bread of Life	John 6:35
Rose of Sharon	Song of Solomon 2:1
Alpha & Omega	Revelation 22:13
True Vine	John 15:1
Messiah	Daniel 9:25
Teacher	John 3:2
Holy One	Mark 1:24
Mediator	1 Timothy 2:5
The Beloved	Ephesians 1:6
The Branch	Isaiah 11:1
Carpenter	Mark 6:13
Good Shepherd	John 10:11
Light of the World	John 8:12
Image of the Invisible God	Colossians 1:15
The Word	John 1:1
Chief Cornerstone	Ephesians 2:20
Savior	John 4:42
Servant	Matthew 12:18
Author & Finisher of Our Faith	Hebrews 12:2
The Almighty	Revelation 1:8
Everlasting Father	Isaiah 9:6
36. Shiloh	Genesis 49:10
Lion of the Tribe of Judah	Revelation 5:5
I Am	John 8:58
King of kings	1 Timothy 6:15
Michael	Daniel 12:1
Prince of Peace	Isaiah 9:6

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Bridegroom	Matthew 9:15
Only Begotten Son	John 3:16
Wonderful, Counselor	Isaiah 9:6
Immanuel	Matthew 1:23
Son of Man	Matthew 20:28
Son of God	Mark 1:1
Dayspring	Luke 1:78
The Amen	Revelation 3:14
The First & Last	Revelation 1:17
King of Jews	Mark 15:26
Prophet	Matthew 21:11
Redeemer	Job 19:25
Anchor	Hebrews 6:19
The Root of David	Revelation 5:5
Bright & Morning Star	Revelation 22:16
The Way, the Truth, & the Life	John 14:6

In addition, [Isaiah 9:6](#) says of the Messiah, “His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”