

**SPIRITUAL WORLD,
SPIRITUAL BEINGS:
WHY SHOULD
I CARE?**

My experience:

My experience:

“Burnt Offerings” – 1976

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“Burnt Offerings” – 1976

Dave Jaeger - 1989

Why should we care?

1) The essence of life is spiritual.

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- 5 unhealthy views

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 - **Preoccupied with the enemy**

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 - **Spiritual/material**

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 - This world/other worldly
 - **Natural/supernatural**

“American church goers are secular humanists with a spiritual vocabulary.”

- Somebody

Biblical view: God is the Creator of all, He is separate from everything He has created, and yet He has created us as ultimately spiritual beings, whose emotions, physicality, intellect, and spirituality are seamlessly interconnected.

- 1) The essence of life is spiritual.
- 2) **Spiritual beings are real.**

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- God

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- God
 - **He is spirit**

2) Spiritual beings are real.

- God
 - He is spirit
 - **He created everything**

2) Spiritual beings are real.

- God
- Angels

“Angels are created, spiritual beings with moral judgment and high intelligence, but without physical bodies.”

- Dr. Wayne Grudem

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- God
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- God
- Angels
 - **Good**

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- Angels
 - Good
 - **Not omniscient, omnipotent, or omnipresent**

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- Angels
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 - Not omniscient, omnipotent, or omnipresent
 - **To promote God's glory**

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- God
- Angels
 - Good
 - Not omniscient, omnipotent, or omnipresent
 - To promote God's glory
 - **To protect us**

2) Spiritual beings are real.

- God
- Angels
 - Good
 - **Bad**

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- Angels
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 - Bad
 - **Satan is their ring leader**

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 - **Satan is the originator of sin**

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 - Do not have unlimited power
 - **Primary tactic is promoting lies**

2) Spiritual beings are real.

- God
- Angels
- **Humans**

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- God
- Angels
- Humans
 - **Created**

2) Spiritual beings are real.

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 - Created
 - **Created to enjoy a relationship with God**

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 - **Purpose**

2) Spiritual beings are real.

- God
- Angels
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 - Purpose
 - **Peace**

2) Spiritual beings are real.

- God
- Angels
- Humans
 - Created
 - Created to enjoy a relationship with God
 - Purpose
 - Peace
 - **Contentment**

2) Spiritual beings are real.

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- Angels
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 - Created
 - Created to enjoy a relationship with God
 - Purpose
 - Peace
 - Contentment
 - **Happiness**

2) Spiritual beings are real.

- God
- Angels
- Humans
 - Created
 - Created to enjoy a relationship with God
 - **Created to promote the benefits of relationship with God to others**

- 1) The essence of life is spiritual.
- 2) Spiritual beings are real.
- 3) **We are in a spiritual war.**

1 Peter 5:8-9

⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.

3) We are in a spiritual war.

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- **Satan and his associates are working to get people to hell**

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- Satan and his associates are working to get people to hell
- **Satan and his associates are working to render believers ineffective**

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 - **Minimal joy**

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 - **Minimal influence on others**

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- **Satan wields his influence to varying degrees**

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- Satan wields his influence to varying degrees
 - His greatest threats receive more attention
 - **Some are more controlled than others**

3) We are in a spiritual war.

- Satan and his associates are working to get people to hell
- Satan and his associates are working to render believers ineffective
- Satan wields his influence to varying degrees
- **Satan and his associates' primary weapon is lying to us. He lies in extremes.**

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 - **You are not worthy of God's love**

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 - You are not worthy of God's love ...**God is lucky to have you.**

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 - **Your sin is too big to warrant God's forgiveness**

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 - You are not worthy of God's love ...God is lucky to have you.
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 - **You can never be deeply happy**

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 - **You will never be loved deeply by anyone**

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- **You can save yourself**

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- **You are not important enough for God to care**

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 - You can save yourself ...You don't need to do anything to be saved.
- **You are not important enough for God to care ...You are too important for God to not respond in the way you prefer.**

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○ **You have not done enough to warrant God's help**

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- You have not done enough to warrant God's help ...**You are owed by God.**

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- **You can solve your own problems**

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- **You can solve your own problems ...You are helpless.**

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- **Your continuing to sin is not that big of a deal**

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- Your continuing to sin is not that big of a deal ...**You are a disappointment to God.**

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- **You can never be used to help someone else**

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- You can never be used to help someone else ...**You don't need God to help others.**

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- **You cannot really count on God to work for your good**

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- You cannot really count on God to work for your good ...**You can count on God to make your life easy.**

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- You can never be used to help someone else ...You don't need God to help others.
- You cannot really count on God to work for your good ...You can count on God to make your life easy.

○ **You can never really find deep, satisfying joy in your relationship with God**

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- You cannot really count on God to work for your good ...You can count on God to make your life easy.

- You can never really find deep, satisfying joy in your relationship with God ...**You will never grieve if you love God.**

PEOPLE'S
choice

- 1) The essence of life is spiritual.
- 2) Spiritual beings are real.
- 3) We are in a spiritual war.
- 4) **We want to fight well.**

4) We want to fight well.

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- Recognize we are in a war

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- Recognize we are in a war
- **Know the enemy – not too well**

4) We want to fight well.

- Recognize we are in a war
- Know the enemy – not too well
- **View life as the integration of physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual dimensions. Primarily spiritual.**

4) We want to fight well.

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- **Focus on Jesus.**

Ephesians 6:10-20

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹ Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹² For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to

Ephesians 6:10-20

withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵ and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷ and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the

Ephesians 6:10-20

word of God, ¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak.