

Dear Brother or Sister in Faith,

This study guide is meant to accompany the below mentioned pod cast session. You will not only be able to see the Scripture that was read or cited during the session, but also Scripture to cross reference or pertinent documentation. We hope you enjoy your session and that it brings you to a deeper walk in faith.

Blessings,

Catholic Laity Speaks  
Colleen Eicher Ministries

## Spirit and Thought, Part I

Instructions: All Scripture referred to during the pod cast will appear below in the order it is read or mentioned. All other supporting documentation will appear after the quote it supports. For instance if you hear “God knows your needs...,” it will list beside it the corresponding Biblical passage: Mt.6:31-33 “*So do not worry; do not say, ‘What are we to eat? What are we to drink? How are we to be clothed? It is the pagans who set their hearts on all these things. Your heavenly Father knows you need them all. Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, all these other things will be given you as well.’*”

Gen.1:3-5 *God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. God saw that light was good, and God divided light from darkness. God called light “day,” and darkness he called “night.” Evening came and morning came: the first day.*

Gen.1:14-15 *God said “Let there be lights in the vault of heaven to divide day from night, and let them indicate festivals, days and years. Let them be lights in the vault of heaven to shine on the earth.”*

‘This is where remember I told you that St. Augustine said...’ St. Augustine, City of God (*De civitate Dei*) XI, 9 “*There is no question, then, that of the angels are included in the works of God during these six days, they are the light which was called ‘Day’.*”

“There are clues from one end of scripture all the way to the end of Revelations in which we talk about the angels as light. Actually, they use the words stars.” The imagery of stars is found in several places of Scripture. Job 38:7 “*when all the stars of the morning were singing with joy,*”; Rev.1:20 “*The secret of the seven stars you have seen in my right hand...the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches...*”; Often the passages refer to Satan and his fall from heaven. Is.14: 12-15 “*How did you come to fall from the heavens, Daystar, son of Dawn? How did you come to be thrown to the ground, you who enslaved the nations? Yow who used to think to yourself, ‘I will climb up to the heavens; and higher than the stars of God I will set my throne. I will sit on the Mount of Assembly in the recesses of the north. I will climb to the top of the thunderclouds, I will rival the Most High.’ What! Now you have fallen to Sheol to the very bottom of the abyss!*”; Rev.12:3-4 “*Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tale dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to earth...*”; (Cf. II Cor.11:14)

Heb.1: 13-14 “*God has never said to any angel: Sit at my right hand and I will make your enemies a footstool for you. The truth is they are all spirits whose work is service, sent to help those who will be the heirs of salvation.*”

Wisdom 1:6 “*Wisdom is a spirit, a friend to man.*”

I John 4: 1-4 *“It is not every spirit, my dear people, that you can trust, test them, to see if they come from God; there are many false prophets, now, in the world. You can tell the spirits that come from God by this: every spirit which acknowledges that Jesus the Christ has come in the flesh is from God; but any spirit which will not say this of Jesus is not from God, but is the spirit of Antichrist,”*

“We must come to the realization that these [angels] are beings that deliver messages” Lk.1:19 *The angel replied, “I am Gabriel who stand in God’s presence, and I have been sent to bring you this good news.”*

II Cor.10:4-5 *We demolish sophistries and the arrogance that tries to resist the knowledge of God; every thought is our prisoner, captured to be brought into obedience to Christ.*

“Who told you? Where did you get that thought?” This refers to a passage of Scripture found in Genesis, chapter 3. God is asking Adam and Eve why they hid from Him. In verse 9 it begins: *But Yahweh God called to the man, “Where are you?” he asked. “I heard the sound of you in the garden,” he replied. “I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.”* “Who told you that you were naked?” he asked. In other words, the knowledge that Adam had of his own nakedness was not a conclusion he deduced or arrived at by his own intelligence. God is telling us that Adam listened to someone else that told he was naked. And now God asks you, “Who told you that?”

Gen.11:5-7 *Now Yahweh came down to see the town and the tower that the sons of man had built. “So they are all a single people with a single language!” said Yahweh. “This is but the start of their undertakings! There will be nothing too hard for them to do. Come, let us go down and confuse their language on the spot so that they can no longer understand one another.”*

“Man can go to great heights in knowledge and that is what your natural being has.” CCC #50 By natural reason man can know God with certainty, on the basis of his works. But there is another order of knowledge, which man cannot possibly arrive at by his own powers: the order of divine Revelation; Vatican Council I, Profession of Faith (Dei Filius), Ch.2, 4. It is not because of this that one must hold revelation to be absolutely necessary; the reason is that God directed human beings to a supernatural end, that is a sharing in the good things of God that utterly surpasses the understanding of the human mind; indeed eye has not seen, neither has ear heard, nor has it come into our hearts to conceive what things God has prepared for those who love him [Cf. I Cor.2:9].

“When you have turned yourself to God completely then you hear through the Holy Spirit directly (as Wisdom. It is an absolute.” Jn.14:16, 17 *I shall ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you for ever, that Spirit of Truth whom the world can never receive since it neither sees nor knows him; but you know him, because he is with you, he is in you.;* CCC #729 *The Holy Spirit will come and we shall know him; he will be with us forever. He will remain in us. The spirit will teach us everything, remind us of all that Christ said to us and bear witness to him. The Holy Spirit will lead us to all truth and will glorify Christ...*

“It (reasoning) is a choice. You are deciding between two things. So, this has to be in a will and as long as you have your will then your perfection of walking in God’s will is not there.” St. Louis de Montfort True Devotion to Mary, Part First, Chapter II, 81 *If we do not die to our selves, and if our holiest of devotions do not incline us to bring this necessary and useful death, we shall bring forth no fruit worth anything, and our devotions will become useless. All our good works will be stained by self-love and our own will; and this will cause God to hold in abomination the greatest sacrifices we can make, and the best actions we can do; so that at our death we shall find our hands empty of virtues and of merits and we shall not have one spark of pure love, which is only communicated to souls dead to themselves, souls whose life hidden with Jesus Christ in God.;* St. Therese of Lisieux The Story of a Soul Chapter I, *Perfection consists in doing His will, in being that which He wants us to be. Much later, when I understood what perfection was, I realized that to become a saint one must suffer a great deal, always seek what is best, and forget oneself....Then just as when I was a child, I cried: “My God, I choose all. I do not want to be a saint by halves. I am not afraid to suffer for you. I fear only one thing-that I should keep my own will. So*

take it, for I chose all that You will.”; Vatican II- Dei Verbum Ch.1, # 5 “The obedience of faith” (Rom.16:26; cf. Rom.1:5; II Cor.10:5-6) must be given to God as he reveals himself. By faith man freely commits his entire self to God, making “the full submission of his intellect and will to God who reveals” (First Vatican Council, Dogm.Const.On Cath.Faith, c.3 (On Faith) and willingly assenting to the Revelation given by him.

“If you walk in the Spirit by faith, that is God’s will” II Cor.5:7 “...going as we do by faith and not by sight...”; Rom.1:5 “Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith...” (Cf. Rom.16:26); CCC #143 By faith, man completely submits his intellect and his will to God.(Cf. Dei Verbum, 5) With his whole being man gives his assent to God the revealer. Sacred Scripture call this human response to God, the author of revelation, “the obedience of faith.” (Cf. Rom.1:5; 16:26)

There are many examples in the writings of both St. Alphonse Ligouri and St. Francis de Sales where they implore the reader to abandon their own will, die to self and live by obedience of faith, which is the will of God. On example of each: St.Alphonsus De Liguori The Passion and the Death of Jesus Christ, Chapter IX *The Apostle says, “If we are dead with Him, we shall also live with Him.”* (2 Tim 2:11) *To die with Christ means denial of ourselves, that is, of our own inclinations, which is we do not deny, we shall come to deny Jesus Christ, who will justly deny us on the day of account. And here we must remark, that when we deny the faith, but also when we refuse to obey him in anything he desires of us; There is no fear that a perception of what He has given you will puff you up, so long as you keep steadily in mind that whatever is good in you is not of yourself. Do mules cease to be clumsy, stinking beasts because they are used to carry the dainty treasures and perfumes of a prince? “What hast thou that thou didst not receive? Now, if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory as if thou hadst not received it?”*; St. Francis de Sales Introduction to the Devout Life, Part III, Ch.5, 148 *On the contrary, a lively appreciation of the grace given to you should make you humble, for appreciation begets gratitude. But if, when realizing the gifts God has given you, any vanity should beset you, the infallible remedy is to turn to the thought of all our ingratitude, imperfection, and weakness. Any one who will calmly consider what he has done without God, cannot fail to realize that what he does with God is no merit of his own; and so we may rejoice in that which is good in us, and take pleasure in the fact, but we shall give all the glory to God Alone, Who Alone is its Author.*

Gen.3:9 *But Yahweh God called to the man, “Where are you?” he asked. “I heard the sound of you in the garden,” he replied. “I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.” “Who told you that you were naked?” he asked.*

Wis.10:1 *The father of the world, the first being to be fashioned, created alone, he had her for his protector...*

“They don’t have the same power because the devil, Lucifer who fell, and now Adam, becoming partners with him, there’s no power there. It’s actually the absence of God. It’s not another strength. There is only two powers: will power that God gives you or if you have surrendered that will power then you have the will of God.” The power of the devil lies in his ability to tempt. Certainly we have seen in Heb. 1:14 that the angels are “*all spirits whose work is service, sent to help those who will be the heirs of salvation.*” They are in service to us; assisting us in our walk of faith. It is in their nature, being created in the goodness of God, to care for us. What of those angels that have become absent of God? Then we would use Heb.1:14 again. “The truth is they (bad angels) are all spirits whose work is to do disservice, sent to harm those who will be the heirs of salvation.” The Church has taught that man’s will is not forced to sin by the temptation of the devil (Cf. CCC #395). If that were true, then God could force us to be good. The devil can only tempt men. It is in our free will that we choose to use our will power in service to Him. Scripture is quite clear about the limitations of the devil’s power. I Pet. 5:8 says to “*Be calm, but vigilant, because your enemy the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to eat.*” Then the next line says to “*Stand up to him, strong in faith...*” James 4:7 tells us to “*Give into God, then: resist the devil, and he will run away from you.*” The truth is he is a liar, a thief, and a murderer (Cf. Jn.8:44). He will convince to give away your power, he will steal your faith if you let him, and he will destroy you if you do not stand up to him. ; Origen, *contra Celsum* VIII 34, *But they have no power over those who “have put on the whole armor of God,” who have received strength to “withstand the wiles of the devil,” and who*

*are ever engaged in contests with them, knowing that "we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."*

It says in Holy Scripture that one-third of all the angels God had created and made walked away (and became absent of God's enlightenment.)" Rev.12:3-4 *Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its talk dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to earth...*

Rev.1:20 *The secret of the seven stars you have seen in my right hand and of the seven golden lamp stands is this: the seven stars are the angels...*

Rev.12:7-9 *And now a war broke out in heaven, when Michael with his angels attacked the dragon. The dragon fought back with his angels, but they were defeated and driven out of heaven. The great dragon, the primeval serpent, known as the evil or Satan, who had deceived all the world, was hurled down to the earth and his angels were hurled down with him.*

Luke 10:18 *He said to them, "I watched Satan fall like lightning from heaven..."*

Rev. 12:4. *Its tale dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to earth.*

Gen.2:6 *Yahweh God fashioned man of dust from the soil. Then breathed into his nostrils a breath of life, and thus man became a living being.*

Wis.10 1:3 *The father of the world, the first being to be fashioned, created alone, he had her for his protector and she delivered him from his fault; she gave him the strength to subjugate all things. But when a sinner in his wrath deserted her, he perished in his fratricidal fury.*

Heb.6:4-6 *As for those people who were once brought into the light, and tasted the gift from heaven, and received a share of Holy Spirit, and appreciated the good message of God and the powers of the world to come and yet in spite of this have fallen away—it is impossible for them to be renewed a second time. (Cf. Mt.12:32 And anyone who says a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven; but let anyone speak against the Holy Spirit and he will not be forgiven in this world or in the next.)*

Heb.11:6 *Now it is impossible to please God without faith, since anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and rewards those who try to find him.*

Acts 5:32 *We are witnesses to all this, we and the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him. (Cf. John 3:23 His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in god and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.)*

Wis. 1:15 *But the godless call with deed and word for Death, counting him friend, they wear themselves out for him, with him they make a pact, and are fit to be his partners.*