

Were the Gods of Idols Demons?

Exodus 12:12

For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night, and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.

- Deuteronomy 32:16-17 – Sacrificed to demons that were no gods
- 1 Chronicles 16:25-26 – gods are nothing
- Psalm 82 1-2; 5-6 – in the midst of the gods God holds judgment
- Psalm 96:5 – gods are idols (nothing)
- Psalm 106:34-38 - to demons they poured out blood
- 1 Corinthians 10:30-22 – pagans offer sacrifices to demons, idols are nothing
- 1 Corinthians 8:5-6 – so-called gods, many gods and lords
- Book of Baruch 4:7-8 – sacrificed to demons, not to gods

Deuteronomy 32:16-17

*They stirred him to jealousy with strange gods; with abominations they provoked him to anger. They sacrificed **to demons that were no gods**, to gods they had never known.*

1 Chronicles 16:25-26

*For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised: he also is to be feared above all gods. For **all the gods of the people are idols (demons)**: but the LORD made the heavens.*

Psalm 82 1-2; 5-6

*God has taken his place in the divine council; **in the midst of the gods he holds judgment**: “How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? ... I said, “**You are gods, sons of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless, like men you shall die, and fall like any prince.**”*

Psalm 96:5

*For **all the gods of the nations are idols**: but the LORD made the heavens.*

Psalm 106:34-38

*They did not destroy the peoples, as the Lord commanded them, but they mixed with the nations and learned to do as they did. **They served their idols, which became a snare to them.** They sacrificed their sons and their daughters **to the demons**; they poured out innocent blood.*

Consider the following texts by St. Paul:

1 Corinthians 10:20-22

*What do I imply then? That food offered to idols is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, I imply that what **pagans sacrifice they offer to demons** and not to God. I do not want you to be **participants with demons**. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the **cup of demons**. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the **table of demons**. Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?*

1 Corinthians 8:5-6

*For although there may be **so-called gods** in heaven or on earth—as **indeed there are many “gods”** and many “lords”—yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.*

The Book of Baruch is an apocryphal book allegedly by Jeremiah's servant scribe.

Baruch 4:7-8

*For you provoked your Maker with **sacrifices to demons** and not to God; You forgot the eternal God who nourished you, and you grieved Jerusalem who nurtured you.*

Early Church Fathers such as Justin Martyr and Tertullian held similar views that the gods were actually demons.

<http://blog.adw.org/2016/07/pagan-gods-actually-demons-scriptural-view-matters/>

The Book of Enoch

The Book of Enoch, one of the apocryphal books (quoted by the Apostles and implied by Jesus) gives a unique view to the origin of the pantheon of gods in the world. The Book of Enoch is even included among the ancient test of the Dead Sea Scrolls. (Quoted by Jude)

The battle of Enoch was against the "*principalities and powers, the spirit now that works in the children of disobedience.*" (Ephesians 2) who were the Nephalim, "*sons of god came into the daughters of men*" - giants in the earth, "*men of renown,*" were in fact the fallen angels "*who lost their first estate.*"

They were destroyed in the Flood, but their influence remained as stories of gods, which in turn became the gods of the pagans, Egyptians and Greeks, all bearing different names but representing the demon fallen angels who tried to rule the earth.