What Did the Early Church Know and Teach About the Heavenly Host?

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The early church had only the OT scriptures available to them, therefore, they would have known the loyal angels live by every word of God (Ps. 103:20). They understood angels are servants of the one true God (2Ki. 19:35; Jos. 5:13-15; Dan. 7:10; Heb. 1:14) and they assist those individuals whom God is working with at any given time in human history (Gen. 19:1, 9-13; 22:1-12; Ex. 23:20-23; Isa. 63:9; Mt. 4:11; Ac. 7:35). Angels are not to be worshiped (De. 4:19; 17:3; Rev. 19:10; 22:8-9). The terms stars, morning stars, sons of God, and host of heaven, are frequently used to describe the angelic host; both loyal and disloyal (Isa. 14:12; Jb. 38:7-8; Rev. 22:16). The early church knew that a third of the angels had rebelled against their Creator (2Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:2; Rev.12:4). The church also knew that Satan and the other disloyal angels (demons) would eventually be changed to flesh and blood beings (Rom.16:20; Ez. 28:17-19; Isa. 14:15-20; Rev. 12:9) for the purpose of judgment following death and the second resurrection (Rom. 6:23; 16:20; Jude 6).