

What about Angels Today? Do We Need Them? - Part 3

Introduction:

1. Angels are seen all throughout the Word of God. Angels are seen from Genesis to Revelation doing a variety of different activities.
2. Angels are God's heavenly warriors carrying on the business of heaven.
3. But, how much of a role do they play in today's church age? What are they doing? How do they function?
4. Angels are only referred to about 15 times in the apostle Paul's letters to the church. In those references, angels are **never** said to be ministering unto us.
5. Yet, we have learned that in time past, angels gave instruction to people, and also comforted and strengthened God's people.
6. We learned that God has given to us (in this dispensation of grace) something far better than an angel. We have God the Holy Spirit dwelling within us to accomplish those ministries.
7. Today we will discover some more ministries that angels have performed and then compare them to the provisions God has made for us in this time period.

Angels are seen leading and guiding people.

1. Here are three examples of angels giving guidance:
 - Genesis 24 – An angel guided Abraham's servant to the right wife for Isaac. vs. 7, 40
 - Numbers 20:16 – An angel led the children of Israel out of Egypt to their own promised land. cf. Exodus 32:34
 - 2 Kings 1:15 – An angel led Elijah to go with the king's servants and stand before the king.
2. If I need guidance today from the Lord, where can I expect to find it? Do I ask God to send me an angel to show me God's way? No, I have a much more objective standard by which to make decisions.
3. Today, God has given us the completed Word of God. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 reveals that God's Word is able to "*thoroughly furnish*" the believer unto all good works.
 - The phrase "*thoroughly furnish*" means "to fully equip."
4. At one time, God's will was a mystery. God revealed bits and parts of His plan throughout history, but when God saved Paul, He revealed to him all the truths we know today. Paul said that God has now **made known** unto us the mystery of His will. Ephesians 1:9
5. Not only this, we have God's Holy Spirit living inside of us to reveal God's Word to us, and to lead us according to its principles. Romans 8:14; Galatians 5:18
 - As we yield to God's Spirit within us, the Holy Spirit fills us with wisdom to understand God's Word and how it relates to the everyday decisions of life.
6. As Spirit-indwelt believers, we are never encouraged to walk after an angel; but rather we are encouraged to walk after the Spirit. Romans 8:1

Angels are seen giving promises.

1. Here are three examples of angels giving promises:
 - Judges 13:3 - The angel's promise to Samson's parents
 - Luke 1:11-17 - An angel gave the promise of a son to Zacharias.
 - Luke 1:26-37 - An angel gave the promise to Mary that she would bear the Messiah, Jesus Christ.
2. Of course, today we have been given many promises. Our promises are not from angels, but our promises are found in the completed Word of God, rightly divided.
3. Paul tells us that the promises of God are in Christ, and that we are in Christ (2 Corinthians 1:20-21). This should give the believer confidence to stand upon God's promises.
4. Our promises are in God's Word, not in an angel. Our greatest need is to get into God's Word, learn how to rightly divide it, and then stand upon it with confidence.
 - Example of prayer promise: Philippians 4:6-7
 - Example of promise of justification: Romans 5:1 (I don't have to fret over being condemned by God, or not being accepted by Him.)
 - Example of promise of life: 2 Timothy 1:1

Angels are seen interceding for God's people

1. Here are a few examples:
 - Genesis 19 - Angels interceded for Lot when Sodom was destroyed by fire.
 - Genesis 22 - An angel interceded for Abraham when he was about to kill Isaac.
 - Numbers 22 - An angel interceded when Balaam rebelled against the Lord.
 - An angel interceded for Daniel when he prayed (Daniel 10) and when he was in the lion's den. Daniel 6:22
2. Praise God, in this age, we do not need the intercession of an angel. We have something far better! We have the Lord Jesus Christ himself, who acts as our mediator and intercessor before the Father in heaven. Romans 8:34; 1 Timothy 2:5; Hebrews 7:25
3. I would say we are in good hands, wouldn't you? Christ "*ever liveth to make intercession*" for His children.

In Conclusion:

1. So, what are angels doing today? Do they have any jobs to do in this day and age?
2. Rest assured, angels are still very busy. While we, as believers, are complete in Christ and have no need for the angelic ministries mentioned, angels are the servants of God and are at His disposal to be used however God deems best.
3. Most certainly, angels have a part in the affairs of this world. While their interaction with believers is much more limited today (because of our unique privileges), angels are watching and observing us, as we learned a few weeks ago.