

Questions About Angels

Introduction:

1. Psalm 103:20-22 tells us that angels do God's commandments, hearken unto the voice of His Word, and do His pleasure.
2. Angels are God's ministers that carry on God's business throughout the heavens and the universe.
3. During our study on angels, we have learned many fascinating things about these creatures of God.
4. During this final lesson on angels, we will seek to answer some commonly asked questions about angels.

Do all angels have names?

1. It would appear from Scripture that they do. Two of the angels' names are given to us in God's Word:
 - Michael – Jude 9; Revelation 12:7
 - Gabriel – Luke 1:19, 26
2. Jesus asked the demon in Mark 5:9, "*What is thy name?*" The demon answered, "*My name is legion: for we are many.*"
3. Satan was a cherubim of God before he fell into sin and rebellion. According to Isaiah 14:12, his name was Lucifer.

Can angels appear in different forms?

1. Angels are spirit beings (Hebrews 1:14). Angels have a completely different nature than human beings. They are not composed of flesh and blood. Hebrews 2:14-16; Ephesians 6:12
2. Because angels are spirit beings, they usually work invisibly beyond the sight of man's mortal eye. **Example:** 2 Kings 6:15-17
3. In Scripture, only in unique situations did angels appear to men and women. When they did appear, they always appeared in human form as young men. Mark 16:4; Luke 24:4; Acts 1:10; Revelation 21:17
4. Also, whenever angels appeared, it was always for the purpose of communicating a message. Mark 16:4-7; Luke 1:26-38; Acts 1:10-11
5. Do angels appear to church age saints today in visible form? According to Colossians 2:18, they do not. Why is this? It is because we have the completed Word of God, and there is no need for angels to communicate with us. Everything we need to know is found in God's written Word. 2 Timothy 3:16-17
 - Angels are not sideshow acts that God uses to entertain us, or give us cool stories to tell people. Angels are God's heavenly warriors that He uses for very specific purposes. If an angel ever appears, it is for a very special and unique purpose involving some type of message from God.

6. What about in the book of Acts when angels appeared to believers?
 - Acts is a transitional book that shows us the falling away of Israel and the bringing in of the church, the body of Christ. Israel is still in the picture, and apostles are still present with miraculous sign gifts, etc.
 - We are not living during the age of the Acts of the Apostles. During the Acts of the Apostles, many strange phenomena occurred, but there are no apostles today.
 - They did not possess the completed Word of God during the Acts time period. God's revelation was still very incomplete and in the process of being dispensed.
 - The full revelation of our completeness in Christ had not yet been given. This came to us primarily through Paul's prison epistles which were written after the book of Acts.
7. Can angels appear in different forms? Yes, they can. Do they appear in visible forms to believers today? There is no evidence in the Bible, or otherwise, that would indicate the necessity of this.

Is the New Age movement using angels?

1. The New Age movement teaches people to look within themselves to find the answers to life's problems. It teaches people that they are gods.
2. The New Age movement also encourages people to look within and communicate with their "spirit guides." Many times they will call these spirit guides by other names, such as: inner guide, imaginary doctor, higher self, or guardian angel.
3. We, as Christians, know that these are nothing but names for one thing: devils!
 - Satan's spirit is said to be at work **in** unbelievers. Ephesians 2:2
 - Satan definitely desires to misconstrue people's ideas of what angels really are. Satan himself deceives people by appearing as an "*angel of light*." 2 Corinthians 11:14
4. People today are enamored by the subject of angels. Satan realizes this and is encouraging this. He desires to persuade people to chase angelic experiences rather than seeking Jesus Christ. **Illustration:** Play-action fake in football. They want you to chase the guy without the football.

Do believers have guardian angels today?

1. Granted – it is a warm and fuzzy thought! But, unfortunately there is no solid biblical evidence that suggests that each believer has a guardian angel by his or her side, 24 hours a day.
2. You may ask, "What about Hebrews 1:14?"
 - First, we must remember who this book was written to – Hebrews in the last days (1:2), not Gentiles in the church age.
 - Second, these angels are helping Hebrews who "*shall be* (future tense) *heirs of salvation*." These angels are ministering to people who don't yet have salvation, and they are protecting and providing for them until they get it.

- Third, the salvation in the context (2:1-4) is the deliverance of Israel (Hebrews) and the ushering in of their kingdom rest. This is the salvation Christ spoke of while on earth. Matthew 4:23
 - This cross-references perfectly with Revelation 7:1-3. Angels will seal and protect the 144,000 Hebrews in the last days until the time of their salvation (deliverance). cf. In Romans 11:26, “*shall be saved*” is same terminology as Hebrews 1:14.
3. Today, we have individual salvation. But at Christ’s Second Coming to earth, there is a nation that will be delivered and saved. Angels will guard and protect the nation of Israel from the furor of the antichrist until the day of their salvation.
 4. While the Bible doesn’t promise us 24-hour angelic protection, it does promise us the 24-hour presence and protection of God, the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 4:30
 - The Jews in the last days are sealed and protected by angels.
 - We, in this church age, have an even greater blessing. We are sealed and protected by the Holy Spirit Himself.
 5. Two Bible illustrations make this point perfectly clear:
 - Daniel in the lion’s den – An angel protected and preserved him. Daniel 6:22
 - Paul in the lion’s den – The Lord Himself stood with Paul and strengthened and delivered him. At the end of Paul’s ministry, he said, “*And the Lord shall deliver me...*” **2 Timothy 4:17-18**
 6. In this wonderful age of grace that we live in today, it is the Lord Himself who is there for us in our time of need. What a privilege we have today!

Should a Christian have pictures and arrangements of angels in their houses?

1. Remember, angels are seldom pictured as they are really described in God’s Word. Anything associated with error and false representation of the Bible should be avoided.
2. I certainly do not desire to lord over your life in any way, but my advice would be to glorify Christ in whatever you do. 1 Corinthians 10:31
3. We are to seek to magnify Christ in everything we do and in all that we possess. Philippians 1:20
4. Our homes, our offices, and our lives should magnify Christ and point people to Him, not angels. Remember, Satan desires to take the attention and focus off of Christ and on to anything else he can. He will even use “good” things to accomplish this.