

WHAT ABOUT ANGELS TODAY?

PART ONE

DO WE NEED THEM?

Angels: What
Does the Bible
Really Teach?

- Angels are _____-beings that are mentioned over _____ times in the Bible.
- Angels are powerful, seasoned _____.
- What part do angels play in God's program for the church age today? Do we need angels?
- Let's look at some of the main functions of angels in time past, and compare that to what God is doing today.

In time past, angels are seen giving _____ and understanding.

- An angel instructed Gideon to deliver Israel from the Midianites. Judges 6
- An angel instructed _____ to return to Abraham and Sarah. Genesis 16:7-9
- An angel instructed Elijah to confront the king's messengers, and gave him understanding as to what to say. 2 Kings 1:3-4
- An angel came and instructed Joseph, and gave him understanding concerning _____.
Matthew 1:18-25

Today, angels are _____ said to give believers instruction and understanding.

- Do we need instruction today? Do we need spiritual understanding? Absolutely! The question is, "How do we get it?"
- We have something better than an angel!
- We have God's very Spirit living _____ of us to teach and instruct us. 1 Corinthians 2:9-14
- *"Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."* **Romans 8:26**
- We are one with Christ and _____ in Him.
- *"To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory... And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power."* **Colossians 1:27; 2:10**
- We have the completed _____ of God.
2 Timothy 3:16-17
- We have everything we _____ in Christ and in God's Word. We simply don't need angelic instruction today.
- In fact, the Bible tells us that we, as believers, teach and instruct _____! Ephesians 3:9-10

A Bible Description of Angels

- In this lesson, we will put together a **Bible** description of angels. What do they look like? What are their character traits?

Angels are created, _____ - beings.

1. Angels were created by God (Psalm 148:2-5), probably on day two of creation when God created the heavens.
 - *“Thou, even thou, art LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are therein, the seas, and all that is therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.”* **Nehemiah 9:6**
2. Why were the angels created? Ultimately, they were created to glorify Jesus Christ, their Creator.
 - *“For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him.”* **Colossians 1:16**
3. Angels are not glorified _____ beings.
4. Man and angels have a completely different _____ and substance.
Hebrews 2:16
5. Angels are invisible, _____-beings. Hebrews 1:14; cf. Ephesians 6:12

Angels are _____. **Hebrews 12:22; Luke 2:13-15**

- *“And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders: and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands.”* **Revelation 5:11**

Angels possess _____ knowledge and wisdom.

- *“To fetch about this form of speech hath thy servant Joab done this thing: and my lord is wise, according to the wisdom of an angel of God, to know all things that are in the earth.”* **2 Samuel 14:20**

Angels have great _____ and might.

1. *“Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord.”* **2 Peter 2:11**
2. **Illustration:** *“Then the angel of the LORD went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.”* **Isaiah 37:36**
3. **Illustration:** *“And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.”* **Matthew 28:2**

Angels never grow _____. Mark 16:4-5; cf. Matthew 28:5-7

- *“And when they looked, they saw that the stone was rolled away: for it was very great. And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted.”* **Mark 16:4-5**

Angels are _____ creatures. Job 38:5-7; Luke 15:10; Revelation 5:12

- *“Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”* **Job 38:5-7**



- Angels are fascinating creatures of God. They are God's heavenly _____ that carry on the business of heaven.
- One of their functions in time past was to give instruction to people.
- But _____ are angels said to be instructing us or teaching us today.
- We, as members of the body of Christ, _____ angels today!
- How can this be? There are two simple truths that we must grasp.

First, we must understand that angels are _____ us.

- God makes it very clear that we do not _____ angels today, but angels **do** observe us.
- *"I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality."*
1 Timothy 5:21
- *"For I think that God hath set forth us the apostles last, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men."* **1 Corinthians 4:9**
- Angels are _____ creatures and are carefully scrutinizing our lives.

**Second, angels can understand God's _____
by observing us.**

- Angels are not omniscient (all-knowing). There are many things that they have not experienced and do not understand. 1 Peter 1:10-12; Ephesians 3:9-10
- There was a great _____ hidden in God from the beginning of the world. This is the wonderful truth of the body of Christ that God is calling out today.
- God is taking Gentiles, saving them by His _____, and placing them into Christ. This is a mystery time period that was hidden in the mind and wisdom of God.
- But, now it is possible for the angelic creation to learn and understand this great wisdom and mystery of God.
- How will they learn? Ephesians 3:10 tells us, "... *by the* _____." That is us!
- Angels know nothing of God's grace and redemption, and if they are to know anything about them, it will be by _____ us. They learn as they see God's grace and wisdom working in us.
- We now have an intimate family relationship with God, the Father. The _____ have never enjoyed this. Romans 8:14-17

When believers live according to their marvelous position in Christ, the angels see and learn about the grace and wisdom of God, and our lives have an _____ on earth, and throughout the heavenly realm.

An Angelic Job Description

Introduction:

1. What do angels do? What is their purpose? What events take place in the daily life of an angel?
2. When you contemplate the life of angels, what do you envision them doing?
3. In this lesson, we will examine God's Word, and from it create an angelic job description.

First, angels are seen offering _____ and _____ to God.

1. Psalm 148:2 declares, *"Praise ye him, all his angels: praise ye him, all his hosts."*
2. In Revelation 5:11-12 and 7:11, the angels are worshipping Jesus with a _____ voice.
3. *"But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."* **John 4:23-24**

Second, angels are seen bringing _____ upon the enemies of God.

1. Let's look at two Old Testament examples:
 - Genesis 19:1, 12-13 – Two angels are sent by God to totally annihilate the perverse cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.
 - 2 Kings 19:35; 2 Chronicles 32:21 – An angel kills 185,000 leaders in the Assyrian army.
2. A New Testament example is found in Acts 12:20-23.

3. Angels will also be used by God to bring judgment to the world in the future.

- Judgment to the _____ – Revelation 7:2, 8:5-7
- Judgment to unbelievers – Revelation 9:15, 14:19, 15:1;
cf. Matthew 13:40-42; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9
- Judgment to _____ – Revelation 20:1

Third, angels are seen ministering to _____ during His earthly life.

1. If a person studies the life of Christ, he will see angels involved from beginning to end.

- An angel announced the _____ of Jesus. Luke 1:26-28
- An angel gave Joseph assurance. Matthew 1:20
- An angel warned Mary and Joseph to flee into Egypt (Matthew 2:13), and then told them when it was _____ to return. Matthew 2:19
- Angels announced to the shepherds Christ's birth. Luke 2:8-15
- Angels ministered to Jesus after His _____ in the wilderness. Matthew 4:11
- Angels strengthened Jesus while in the Garden of Gethsemane. Luke 22:43
- Angels were ready to assist Jesus while on the _____.
Matthew 26:53
- An angel _____ away the stone in front of the tomb of Jesus. Matthew 28:2
- Angels accompanied Christ at His ascension into heaven. Acts 1:10
- Angels will accompany Christ when He returns to the _____ the second time. Matthew 16:27, 24:30-31, 25:31; Revelation 19:14

Fourth, angels are seen ministering to the _____ of _____.

1. Over and over again, the nation of Israel enjoyed angelic instruction and intervention in many different ways.

- It was an angel that confirmed God's covenant _____ to Abraham. Genesis 22:15-18
- It was an angel that prevented Abraham from killing the child of promise (Isaac). Genesis 22:10-13
- It was an angel that gave Israel guidance (Exodus 14:19) and led them from the bondage of Egypt to their _____ land. Exodus 23:20, 23; Judges 2:1; Numbers 20:16
- It was an angel that would help Israel drive out the _____ nations. Exodus 33:2
- It was through angels they received God's _____. Galatians 3:19
- Angels gave encouragement (Judges 6:11-22) and comfort (1 Kings 19:5-7) to Israel's leaders and prophets.
- Angels brought judgment and chastisement to Israel when needed. 2 Samuel 24:15-17
- Angels brought miraculous deliverance when needed. Daniel 3:28, 6:22
- When Jesus returns to earth to give Israel their promised kingdom, He will send His angels to _____ them together from the ends of the earth. Matthew 24:31

Angels are _____ creatures that are carrying on the business of heaven.

WHAT ABOUT ANGELS TODAY?

PART TWO

DO WE NEED THEM?

Angels: What
Does the Bible
Really Teach?

- Angels are spirit beings that God created to glorify Him, and to assist Him in His work. They are mentioned over _____ times in the Bible.
- But in writing directly to the church, the body of Christ, the apostle Paul only refers to angels about 15 times. Why is this? Do we need angels today as people did in times past?
- Let's examine some more ministries that angels have performed in time past and then compare that to how God has equipped us today.

**In time past, angels are seen giving _____
to those in need.**

- An angel comforted Hagar when it looked as if her son would die. Genesis 21:9-20
- Angels comforted Jesus after He fasted for 40 days in the wilderness and was tempted by Satan. Matthew 4:1-11
- What about us living in this present church age?
- We have something far _____ than an angel to comfort us. We have the Comforter Himself – God the Holy Spirit! John 14:16-18, 26, 15:26, 16:7
- Our comfort doesn't come outwardly from an angel, but _____ from the Holy Spirit.
2 Corinthians 1:3-5

In time past, angels are seen strengthening and _____ others.

- An angel strengthened the prophet _____ when he was weak and didn't feel that he could go on any longer. 1 Kings 19:1-8
- When Jesus was in agony, praying earnestly in the Garden right before the cross, an angel appeared, strengthening Him. Luke 22:43
- Again, today we have something better than an angel. We have the greatest _____ source on the earth dwelling within us – the Holy Spirit of God.
- Outwardly we may be exhausted and feel like we can't go on, but inwardly the Holy Spirit is there to strengthen, empower, and _____ us. Romans 5:3-5; 2 Corinthians 4:16

- **We see the complete sufficiency of our salvation. We are in Christ and sealed with the Holy Spirit.**
- **We also have God's completed Word that God's Spirit uses to minister comfort and strength any time we _____ it.**

Angels: God's Heavenly Warriors

Introduction:

1. People assume that angels always come in _____, bringing tranquility and rest.
2. As we study the Scriptures, we discover that this is not true at all. Angels are seasoned warriors that are seen fighting, making war, and bringing destruction to God's enemies.
3. But, why must angels fight and make war? There are three truths we must understand:

There are angels that aligned themselves with _____.

1. Isaiah 14:12-15 and Ezekiel 28:13-19 describe the fall of Satan.
2. When Satan fell from his position, he began to _____ his plan of rebellion to the angelic host. Many of God's angels followed Satan in his rebellion against God. Matthew 25:41; Revelation 12:7
3. Here are a few biblical facts about Satan's angels:
 - They are _____-beings, just like the angels of God.
 - ◇ *"When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick."* **Matthew 8:16**
 - They are _____. Mark 5:1-13
 - They are set in _____. There are no new demons being created.
 - They work deceptively. They usually appear as angels of _____ and ministers of righteousness.
 - ◇ *"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works."* **2 Corinthians 11:13-15**

There is a great angelic _____ being fought.

1. Angels are God's warriors, and demons are Satan's warriors.
2. There is an all-out invisible _____ being fought. Revelation 12:7-9 pictures this angelic conflict.
3. The Christian's enemy is not someone _____. Our enemies are the demonic forces of evil. Ephesians 6:11-12
4. But praise God, He has given us the spiritual provisions needed to _____ against the attacks of Satan and his armies. Ephesians 6:10-17

The angels are organized into an intricate system of _____, position, and authority.

1. Ephesians 6:12 refers to the demons as principalities, powers, and rulers of the darkness. These are designated positions of rank and authority.
2. Satan imitated God, because the holy angelic creation follows the same pattern. Colossians 1:16, 2:10, 15; Ephesians 1:19-21, 3:10
3. It is clear that God has established positions of rank and authority among the angelic host, similar to a political or military organization.
4. Angels have structured activity and _____. They have clearly-defined positions and jobs to do. Angels are literally carrying on God's business on _____ and in the heavenlies.

Colossians - Chapter 2

“Getting Wrapped Up in Angels”

Colossians 2:18-19

Verses 18-19

1. Now we come to another problem that was threatening this church - the issue of religious mysticism. This is a belief that a person can tap into the invisible _____ world and have contact with spirit-beings.
2. Obviously, there were people at Colosse that were claiming to have had contact and experiences with angels.
3. Paul addresses this subject in a very straightforward manner. Believers had better take heed to Paul's instruction, lest you be deceived by Satan.
4. Paul basically gives three reasons why these false teachers had become engrossed in religious mysticism and angels.

A. First reason - they had been _____ . vs. 18

- The word “*beguile*” means “to _____.” It carries the idea of taking something away from someone on false pretences, or by deceiving them.
- What these false teachers were saying sounded good. It appealed to the emotions, senses, mind, and _____.
- Paul says, “It is all a deceptive sham, and they are threatening to cause you to lose your reward.”
- Satan loves nothing more than when believers get caught up in _____ experiences, rather than focusing on God's Word and their completeness in Christ.

B. Second reason - they possessed a _____ humility.

- Humility is a good attribute, but here it is bad. It was a **false** humility.

- Religion says, “You're not _____ enough to approach God in worship. You must perform our mystical rites and rituals. You must go through our religious leaders, or through dead saints, or through angels to approach God.”
- This is a false humility, and leads people to get wrapped up in seeking angelic experiences, and mystical, supernatural experiences.
- False humility says, “I'm not good enough to approach God, so I'll start with one of His angels.” There is _____ mediator between God and men - Jesus Christ. 1 Timothy 2:5
- Trying to approach God any other way than through His Son is _____.

C. Third reason - they were intruding into areas that were

_____.

- These believers that had become engrossed with angels were intruding into areas where they didn't belong, and were obviously claiming to have seen angels.
- But, God's Word says that they **didn't** see them. Whatever they claimed to see was not from God, and was _____ one of God's angels. It was counterfeit.
- God's Word _____ any type of attempt to communicate with spirit-beings or the departed spirits of people. Deuteronomy 18:9-14
- In this dispensation, there is no need for a believer to see or communicate with an angel. We walk by _____ in Christ and His Word, not by sight. 2 Corinthians 5:7

WHAT ABOUT ANGELS TODAY?

PART THREE

DO WE NEED THEM?

Angels: What
Does the Bible
Really Teach?

- Angels are seen from Genesis to Revelation doing a variety of different activities.
- But, how much of a role do they play in today's church age?
- Angels are only referred to about 15 times in the apostle Paul's letters to the church. In those references, angels are _____ said to be ministering unto us.
- 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 _____ and guiding people.

- An angel guided Abraham's servant to the right wife for Isaac. Genesis 24
- An angel led the children of Israel out of Egypt to their own promised land. Numbers 20:16
- 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?
- Today, God has given us the _____ Word of God.
- *"Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself."* **Ephesians 1:9**
- Not only this, we have God's Holy Spirit living inside of us to _____ God's Word to us, and to lead us according to its principles. Romans 8:14

- *"But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law."*
Galatians 5:18

Angels are seen giving _____.

- An angel gave the promise of a son to Zacharias.
Luke 1:11-17
- An angel gave the promise to _____ that she would bear the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Luke 1:26-37
- Our promises today are not from _____, but our promises are found in the completed Word of God, rightly divided.
- *"For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God."* **2 Corinthians 1:20-21**

Angels are seen interceding for God's _____.

- Angels interceded for _____ when Sodom was destroyed by fire. Genesis 19
- An angel interceded for _____ when he prayed (Daniel 10) and when he was in the lion's den. Daniel 6:22
- Praise God, in this age, we do not need the intercession of an angel. We have something far _____! We have the Lord Jesus Christ Himself.
- *"For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."* **1 Timothy 2:5**