



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

FAITH IS REASON AT REST WITH GOD.

SERMON OF THE WEEK



ANGELS

Psalms 91:11-12 NLT; Psalms 34:7 NLT; **Hebrews 1:14 NLT**

Dr. Joshua Beckley, Senior Pastor

INTRODUCTION

- † The word “Angel” in the Bible means *messenger*.
- † Original Greek word is “*angelos*” - to be a messenger for someone else.

ANGELS

First mention of Angels in the Bible:

- † **Cherubim** (plural of “*cherub*,” a Hebrew word)
- † Celestial beings sent by God to guard the tree of life in the Garden of Eden
- † Genesis 3:24 NKJV

Represented symbolically:

- † On the Ark of the Covenant (Exodus 25:18–20)
- † In the Tabernacle (Exodus 26:31)
- † In the Temple (2 Chronicles 3:7)
- † Seen by prophet Ezekiel in a vision of the restored Jerusalem (Ezekiel 41:18–20).

Two angels are **named** in the Bible: Gabriel and Michael, the chief or archangel
(Daniel 8:16; 9:21; 10:13; Luke 1:19, 26; Jude 1:9; Revelation 12:7–9)

OT references portray a variety of services rendered by Angels for the gracious intervention of the Lord toward his people, sometimes to an individual, sometimes on a national scale.

- † OT is written for learning (Romans 15:4 NKJV)
- † Angelic figures served Israel positively as guides and protectors (Exodus 14:19)
- † Angelic figures served as companions in wilderness wanderings (Exo. 23:20; 33:2; Num. 20:16)
- † Angelic figures also served negatively as assassins or destroyers (2 Samuel 24:15-17)
- † Yet always acting to pre-serve the sanctity of Israel’s covenant with God.

Certain individuals were also confronted by the divinely commissioned messenger:

- † Hagar (Gen. 16:7; 21:17)
- † Balaam (Num. 22:21-22)
- † Abraham's servant (Gen. 24:7, 40)

Other references: 1 Sam. 29:9; 2 Sam.14:20; 19:27; 1 Kgs 19:7; 2 Kgs 19:35; 1 Chr. 21:15; 2 Chr. 32:21

Distinguishing between the angel of the Lord and the Lord Himself

(Gen. 16:7-13; 21:17; 22:11-18; 24:7, 40; 31:11-13; 48:16; Exo. 3:2-10; Judges 6:12-14; 13:21-22).

God promises that His very presence will be among the Israelites, and yet it is the angel who goes with them (Exodus 23:23 NKJV)

The commander of the army of God is given reverence equal to God's (Joshua 5:13–6:2).

The angel seems to possess the full authority and character of God.

The presence of the messenger of the Lord, in whom God's "name" resides (Exo. 23:20) assures the hearer/reader that it is one God who directs the course of history (Gen. 16:7; 31:11; Ex 3:2).

Angels appeared to many of God's people in the Bible:

- a) To announce good news (Judges 13:3)
 - b) To warn of danger (Genesis 19:15)
 - c) To guard from evil (Daniel 3:28; 6:22)
 - d) To guide and protect (Exodus 14:19)
 - e) To nourish (Genesis 21:14–20; 1 Kings 19:4-7)
 - f) To instruct (Acts 7:38; Galatians 3:19)
-
-
-

When Christ came to earth as the Savior, Angels:

- a) **Heralded** His birth (Luke 2:8-15)
 - b) Guided and warned His parents (Matthew 2:13)
 - c) Strengthened Him when He was tempted (Mt 4:11) and in His last distress (Luke 22:43-44)
 - d) Observed His resurrection (Matthew 28:1-6).
 - e) **Jesus** spoke about the **guardian** angels of little children (Matthew 18:10).
 - f) Philip was **guided** by an angel (Acts 8:26).
 - g) Apostles were **rescued** from prison by an angel (Acts 5:19; 12:7-11).
 - h) In a frightening situation, the apostle Paul was **encouraged** by an angel (Acts 27:21-25).
-
-
-

10 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ANGELS

1. **Angels are ministering spirits** (Hebrews 1:14 NKJV, key descriptors of angels)
 - † For St. Augustine, the angels are servants and messengers. That is their job.
2. **There are ranks of Angels** (Ephesians 6:12 NKJV)
 - † Jude 9 NLT (This took place when Michael was arguing with the devil about Moses' body.)
3. **There are guardian Angels** (Psalm 91:11-12 NKJV)
4. **Not all creation is fallen, some of the Angels did not fall.**
 - † Romans 8:20-22 NKJV
 - † Revelation Ch. 4–5 - glimpse of heavenly worship.
5. **Angels appear in key moments in the biblical storyline** (Gen. 3:24 NKJV; Rev.22:6 NKJV)
6. **Angels appear in the biblical text in a variety of ways** (review Scriptures given in Introduction).
7. **Angels are not to be worshipped** (only the creator is worthy of worship).
 - † Angels are mighty creatures and there is a temptation to worship them (Rev. 22:8-9).
 - † False teachers troubling the Colossians advocated the worship of angels (Colossians 2:18-19).
 - † Un-fallen angels know better.
8. **Angels are not the object of prayer** (Mt. 26:53 NKJV)
 - † Jesus entertained the possibility of angelic assistance, but through asking the Father.
 - † The way of interposition - to place in an *intervening position; to put (oneself) between*.
 - Instead of addressing the Father and Jesus, as our Great High Priest...
 - We put another or others in their place (e.g., Mary and the saints).
9. **Angels are judged by believers.**
 - † Human beings and angels are persons.
 - † Rev. 22:9 NKJV - The angel who appears to John speaks in these terms:
 - Both human beings and angels are moral persons.
 - Consequently, both fallen angels and fallen human beings face divine judgment.
 - Happily, for believers, Christ has faced it for us.
 - † Ps.8:5 NKJV - Hierarchy, appears human beings are higher than angels.
 - † According to Paul, believers judge angels in 1 Cor. 6:3.
 - † There is no biblical text to support the idea that angels judge believers.
10. **Scripture is addressed to believers—not angels.**
 - † Scripture is not addressed to angels, but to believers.
 - † Angels are messengers that remind us of what Scripture says.
 - † By so doing, angels encourage believers to obey (Luke 2:10-12 NKJV)

CONCLUSION

- † Hebrews 13:2 NLT