

ANGELS ON ASSIGNMENT Part 1
The role of Angels in the earth

Sunday 25th February 2024

INTRODUCTION – Why talk about angels?

- i. Angels played an active role in the Old Testament
- ii. Angels were present during the earthly life of Jesus
- iii. Angels were prominent at the beginning of the Church Age
- iv. Angels are at work today in the earth
- v. Angels will have a powerful presence in the Tribulation and at the End of the Age

1. God has a supernatural plan for our lives

2. God has given us supernatural assistance / ministries to grow us to the full maturity of Christ!

- i. Jesus Christ has given us the 5-fold ministry – spiritual gifts – apostle, prophet, pastor, evangelist, teacher to grow us to the full stature of Christ! (Eph 4)
- ii. God has sent the Holy Spirit (Helper), GOD IN & UPON US! (Acts 1:8, Acts 2)
- iii. God has given us HIS WORD which is a creative spiritual substance so we can speak God's covenant promises into the earth and change things!
- iv. NOT ONLY that ... God has given us ministering spirits who are ANGELS – who have been assigned to serve us as heirs of salvation. (Heb 1:7,14)
- v. **Our born again spirit has a right to connect with the Holy Spirit, and with ministry spirits, (who are angels), so we can function beyond normality.**
- vi. God is getting us ready for powerful visitations and supernatural activity in the earth – deliverance, transfers of wealth, demonic thrones that will crumble and restoration in our generation ... (1 Corinthians 3 Read)

3. Angels play a key role in God's plan for our lives and the earth

In the OT people were familiar with God's role for His angels. The early Church understood and were familiar with the ministry by the of angels. Jesus received strengthening from angels!

Over the next 5 weeks, we will look at '**How to connect with angels in a Biblical way?**'

THE ORIGIN, NATURE & ROLE OF ANGELS

The Bible describes angels as powerful spirit beings, whose appearance and presence often startled those who encountered them.

1. Angels are created beings

Colossians 1:16 ***For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.***

2. Angels are spirit beings

Hebrews 11:3 ESV *By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.*

1 Corinthians 15:40 NIV *There are also heavenly bodies and there are **earthly bodies**; but the splendor of the **heavenly bodies** is one kind, and the splendor of the earthly bodies is another.*

- i. God is a Spirit Being ...
- ii. Angels are spirit beings ... (Hebrews 1:14)
- iii. We were created 'spirit' beings!
- iv. God also gave us a 'natural body' – we live in both realms.'

3. Angels have different names, titles, and rank

- i. In the Bible angels are called: hosts of heaven, armies, sons of God, servants, watchers.
- ii. Some angels have high rank/titles: prince, chief prince, archangel, cherubim, seraphim, the 4 living creatures.
- iii. Lucifer, Satan, was one of the chief princes, an archangel ...
- iv. **God holds the title: "LORD of hosts"** denotes, He is Sovereign over the heavens and the earth. Ref Ps 24:10

4. Angels can appear in the form of men

Genesis 18:1–2 *Then **the LORD appeared to him** by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. ² So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, **three men were standing by him**; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground.*

5. Angels are servants of the LORD of hosts

Matthew Henry: *"The most exalted angels are ministering spirits, servants of Christ, to execute His commands. The saints, at present, are heirs, The angels minister to them in opposing the power of evil spirits, in protecting and keeping their bodies, instructing and comforting their souls, under Christ and the Holy Spirit."*

6. God has sent His angels to serve the heirs of salvation

Hebrews 1:14 NIV **Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?**

"**serve**" – "diakonia" – "attendant, servant, aid, service, relief ad-minister

"**salvation**" – 'soteria' – "deliverance, welfare, safety, **prosperity**, preservation, deliverance"

Psalms 91:11-12 NIV *For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; 12 they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.*

Genesis 24:40 *...the LORD, before whom I walk, will send His angel with you and prosper your way;*

7. The angels of the Lord innumerable

Psalms 68:17 KJV *The chariots of God are **twenty thousand, even thousands of angels**: the Lord is among them, as in Sinai, in the holy place.*

Hebrews 12:22 *But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an **innumerable company of angels**.*

Example: Elisha – a great number of angelic hosts protecting them

2 Kings 6:15-17 NIV *When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked. ¹⁶ "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. **"Those who are with us are more than those who are with them."** ¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see." Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full.*

8. Angels are mighty in strength

Psalms 103:20 NASB *Bless the LORD, you His angels, **mighty in strength**, who perform His Word, obeying the voice of His Word!*

Revelation 20:1-3a *Then I saw **an angel** coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. ² He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a **thousand years**; ³ and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him...*

9. **God assigns each person a guardian angel** – that angel will be with you all the days of your life.

10. **God's angels encamp all around us to deliver us**

Psalms 34:7 *The angel of the LORD **encamps all around** those who fear Him, and delivers them.*

Psalms 91:11-12 **He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.**¹² *In their hands they shall bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.*

Example: An angel encouraged Paul during a storm & delivered them

Acts 27:22-25 NIV *But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed.*²³ **Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me**²⁴ **and said, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.’**²⁵ *So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me.*

11. Angels provide supernatural protection

Psalms 91:11-12 NIV **For He will command His angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;**¹² *they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.*

Example: Daniel and the lion’s den (king Darius, Medes & Persians)

Daniel 6:21-23 *Then Daniel said to the king, “O king, live forever! 22 **My God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him;** and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you.”* 23 *Now the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God.*

12. Angels can impart physical strength to people

Daniel 10:17-19 *As for me, no strength remains in me now, nor is any breath left in me.”*¹⁸ *Then again, the **one having the likeness of a man touched me and strengthened me.***¹⁹ *And he said, “O man greatly beloved, fear not! **Peace be to you; be strong, yes, be strong!**”* So when he spoke to me I was strengthened, and said, “Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me.

13. Angels can execute God’s judgment

Example 1. Nebuchadnezzar – lifted with pride

Daniel 4:13-17 NASB *‘I was looking in the visions in my mind as I lay on my bed, and **behold, an angelic watcher, a holy one, descended from heaven. ‘He shouted out and spoke as follows:** Chop down the tree and cut off its branches, strip off its foliage and scatter its fruit; ...*

Example 2. NT – king Herod was lifted up with pride

Acts 12:21-23 NIV *On the appointed day Herod, wearing his royal robes, sat on his throne and delivered a public address to the people. ²²They shouted, “This is the voice of a god, not of a man.”*²³ **Immediately, because Herod did not give praise to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and died.**

14. God’s angels’ function by His Word

Psalms 103:20 *Bless the LORD, you His angels, who excel in strength, who do His word, heeding the voice of His Word.*

- i. God is not speaking His Word in the earth. We are the ones to give voice to God’s Word.
- ii. When a believer speaks the Word of God – it is as if God were speaking His own Word.
- iii. According to how we know how to speak, angels will act on God’s Words the same as if God Himself were speaking it!

15. We do not worship angels

Revelation 22:8–9 *And I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel showing me these things. ⁹ Then **he said to me, “See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book.***