Angels, God's Special Agents

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Sub-title: Pre-Message of "Angels on Assignment"

Today we are embarking on a 6 week journey (40 Day Campaign) to learn about angels & their activity in the earth & in the heavenlies.

The purpose & expected outcome of this series of messages is:

- To educate & encourage believers concerning the wonderful benefits of having God's angels assigned to us
- To raise our faith level & our confidence level so we can live free from fear in these last days
- To prepare us for increased angelic activity in the leadup to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ

Revelation 5:11–14 (NKJV) Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!" 13 And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: "Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!" 14 Then the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

- Apostle John describes a future scene in heaven where:
 - Angels are present around the throne of Jesus Christ (Lamb of God)
 - o Angels number multiplied thousands times thousands & thousands
 - o There are also:
 - 24 elders (resurrected [glorified] human beings)
 - Four living creatures (a special class of heavenly beings)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT ANGELS:

Today we will address common questions about angels, such as:

Where do angels come from?

- What, or who are angels?
- What do angels do?
- How many angels are there?
- How can we facilitate more angelic activity in our lives?

1. Where do Angels come from?

Psalm 104:1,4 (NKJV) Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty. ... **4 (God) Who makes His angels spirits,** His ministers a flame of fire.

- Angels are a certain class of heavenly created beings, created by God
- Angels are spirits (a created spirit is an eternal being)
- Angels have "celestial (spiritual) bodies"

1 Cor. 15:40 (NKJV) There are also celestial bodies & terrestrial bodies; ... the glory of the celestial is one, & the glory of the terrestrial is another.

- Apostle Paul speaks about:
 - Celestial bodies (celestial heavenly)
 - Terrestrial bodies (terrestrial earthly)
 - As human beings, we currently have a terrestrial body
 - o In the resurrection, born again people will receive a celestial body
 - Angels are created with a celestial body

1 Corinthians 15:44 (NKJV) It is sown a *natural body*, it is raised a *spiritual body*. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body.

- A natural body is made from earthy substance
- A spiritual body is made from spiritual (heavenly) substance

Note: Angels are NOT graduated human beings (Movie: Angels in the Outfield)

2. Why are Angels (mostly) not visible?

- Answer: Because they are spirit beings with a spiritual body
- However, they can manifest in the natural realm and become visible

Hebrews 13:2 (NKJV) Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.

- There are only two ways for angels to become visible to human beings
 - a. When they manifest in the natural realm (seen with natural eyes)
 - b. When God opens the (spiritual) eyes of people & allows them to see into the realm of the spirit (2 Kings 6:17 Elisha's servant)
 - c. (Of course, once people leave this earth, they leave the natural realm & enter the realm of the spirit, and then, angels will be visible to them at all times)

3. How many Angels are there?

- Our opening Scripture speaks of multiplied thousands, multiplied by thousands & thousands of angels
- Hebrews 12:22 speaks of ... "an innumerable company of angels"

Hebrews 12:22 (NKJV) But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to **an** <u>innumerable</u> **company of angels.**

- Innumerable an unlimited number
- There are (always) ... "more with us than there are with them"

2 Kings 6:14–17 (NKJV) Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city. 15 And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" 16 So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." 17 And Elisha prayed, and said, "Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

• Provided we walk in God's will (walk in obedience), God will make sure that there are always more angels than enemies (natural or demonic)

4. What do Angels do?

Hebrews 1:7,14 (NKJV)... of the angels He (God) says: "Who makes His **angels** spirits & **His ministers** a flame of fire." **14** Are they not all **ministering spirits** <u>sent forth</u> to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

Psalm 103:20-21 (NIV) Praise the Lord, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. 21 Praise the Lord, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.

- Angels are God's (military) ministers & servants sent forth to minister (diakonos) to & help Christians (primarily, but not limited to)
- Angels do God's bidding & obey His Word
- Angels are also called "Heavenly hosts" (hosts fighting force, army)
- God is called: The Lord of hosts (2 Samuel 6:2)

5. Angels are our Fellow Servants & we must NOT be worshipped!

Revelation 19:10 (NKJV) And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

- Apostle John was impressed with the magnificence of an angel
- He began to worship him, but the angel said: Do not do that!
- Instead, the angel told John to worship God

6. Angels are under the direct Command of Jesus Christ

1 Peter 3:21–22 (NKJV) through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

Joshua 5:13–14 (NKJV) And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, & behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?" 14 So He said, "No, but as Commander of the army of the Lord I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth & worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?"

7. How can we facilitate more angelic Activity in our Lives?

Psalm 103:20 (NKJV) Bless the Lord, you His angels, who excel in strength, who do His word, heeding the voice of His word.

- People who walk in love & speak the Word will activate angels in their lives
- People who walk in strife & speak their fleshly feelings will activate demons in their lives