

LESSON 9 THE ANGELIC SOCIETY

PART 3: WHAT DO ANGELS DO?

By Darrell Crow

Not So Basic Christianity — Study Guides For Discipleship

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Biblical Study Guides For Discipleship

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Darrell Crow

Part 3

What Do Angels Do?

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8.0 Angel Duties

The most basic characteristic of the good angels is seen in the way they are described in Hebrews 1:14 as ministering spirits and in the accounts of their many and varied activities of ministry as described throughout Scripture. Essentially, they function as priestly messengers (*leitourgika pneumatata*) in the temple-universe of God. From the account of their activities in the Bible, their service can be summarized as that of

8.1 Angels Worship God

Angels Worship God In Humility

Angels worship God in humility.

In fact, all of the creatures God has created should instantly and without ceasing, worship God in humility.

Isaiah 6:1–4 provides a glimpse of Angels worshipping God *“In the year of King Uzziah’s death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. [2] Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. [3] And one called out to another and said, “Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory.” [4] And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.*

Two wings covered each Seraphim’s (Angel) face. It is a concept that the Old Testament speaks of as shamefacedness. Shamefacedness is more than being shy or embarrassed. When used in the Bible, it is as an adjective and means bashful, showing modesty, and being embarrassed.

Angels are embarrassed and ashamed to be in the very presence of God Almighty, so when they stood before the throne of God they used two wings to cover their face to hide their shame in being in the presence of the holiest of holy, God. It was not because they were sinners.

These are holy angels, elect angels. These angels loved and served God. And there was not a trace of sin in them. Yet, there was still this sense of utter humility before God Almighty.

Look in Nehemiah where he gathered the people together for a worship service. When he opened the Scriptures and began to preach, the Israelites bowed their faces to the ground.

This is humbling of oneself when worshipping God is seen over and over again in the Bible.

- *Nehemiah 8:1–6 And all the people gathered as one man at the square which was in front of the Water Gate, and they asked Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses which the LORD had given to Israel. 2 Then Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly of men, women and all who could listen with understanding, on the first day of the seventh month. 3 He read from it before the square which was in front of the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of men and women, those who could understand; and all the people were attentive to the book of the law. 4 Ezra the scribe stood at a wooden podium which they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishaël, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah and Meshullam on his left hand. 5 Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. 6 Then Ezra blessed the LORD the great God. And all the people answered, “Amen, Amen!” while lifting up their hands; then they bowed low and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.*

The very essence of worship as we bow down before God involves two things.

- When we bow ourselves down as God’s created creature, we are lifting Him up as higher and more valuable than we are. The angels ascribe blessedness, holiness, majesty, might, power, wisdom, honor, and glory to God because of who God is. These are His attributes, His characteristics. As God’s worth is considered, it

We humble ourselves knowing full well our lowly position and insignificant worth compared to God Almighty the Creator of all things.

That is worship. It is exalting God and humbling ourselves. Bowing down is the natural response of a creature who senses the presence of God.

- In Genesis 17, when the Lord Himself appeared unto Abraham, Abraham fell on his face before God.
- The book of Ezekiel begins with the same picture. Ezekiel got a glimpse of the throne of God in Heaven. And it says when Ezekiel got a glimpse of that throne (in chapter one), that he fell on his face.
- Again in Ezekiel chapter three it says he got another glimpse of the throne of God and he fell on his face.
- When Job finally understood who he was dealing with, he said “Wherefore I abhor myself” (Job 42:6). He had to rejoice in the Almighty character of the Lord.
- When Daniel (in Daniel chapter ten) got a glimpse of God, his strength left him. He strength just failed him.
- In Matthew 17 when the disciples were on the mount of Transfiguration they heard a voice, the voice of Almighty God. The text says they just fell on their face before Him.
- In Revelation 1, there is that vision of the risen, glorified, Lord Jesus Christ. And John said when he saw it, he fell down as a dead man before Him!

8.11 Angels Report To God

- *Job 1:6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.*
- *Job 2:1 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD.*

8.12 Angels Appear Before God

- *Job 1:6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.*
- *Job 2:1 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD.*

8.13 Angels Love to be in God's presence.

Oh how I wish man would learn to always “love to be in God’s Presence.” Angels are constantly returning to the presence of God. When humans get a glimpse of angels, they are often still radiating the “glow” of God’s glory. They are still “white” from being in His presence, in much the same way Moses was “white” after being face to face with God on the mountain when he received the Ten Commandments:

- *Ezekiel 1:13–14 In the midst of the living beings there was something that looked like burning coals of fire, like torches darting back and forth among the living beings. The fire was bright, and lightning was flashing from the fire. And the living beings ran to and fro like bolts of lightning.*

8.13 Angels Love God's Laws

Angels are also in love with God’s Law. The Apostle John said we demonstrate our love for God when we obey his Law (1 John 5:3 *For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.*) Angels understand this principle.) They love God’s truth and they love to share it with others: (Hebrews 2:1–3 *For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it. (2) For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty, (3) how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard,)* For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, and not stray away from it. For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and

disobedience received a just recompense, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation?

8.15 Angels Observe And Rejoice Over What God Does

- *Job 38:6-7 “On what were its bases sunk? Or who laid its cornerstone, (7) When the morning stars sang together And all the sons of God shouted for joy?”*
- *Luke 2:12-13 This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” (13) And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying*
- *Luke 15:10 In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”*
- *Revelation 8:1f-6 When the Lamb broke the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. (2) And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them. (3) Another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a golden censer; and much incense was given to him, so that he might add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which was before the throne. (4) And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, went up before God out of the angel’s hand. (5) Then the angel took the censer and filled it with the fire of the altar, and threw it to the earth; and there followed peals of thunder and sounds and flashes of lightning and an earthquake. (6) And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound them.*
- *Job 1:6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them.*
- *Job 2:1 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD.*

9.0 Angels Minister To God

9.1 Angels Are God’s Attendants

In their service to God, they are seen as attendants around His throne, waiting to serve Him and do His bidding.

- *Psalms. 103:20 Bless the LORD, you His angels, Mighty in strength, who perform His word, Obeying the voice of His word!*
- *Isaiah. 6:1-3 In the year of King Uzziah’s death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. 2 Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one called out to another and said, “Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory*
- *Revelation 5:11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands,*

9.11 Angels Serve God

9.12 Angels Are Servants Of Christ

9.13 Angels Obey God, Doing His Will

- *Psalm 103:20-21, "Bless the Lord, you His angels, Mighty in strength, who perform His word, Obeying the voice of His word! (21) Bless the Lord, all you His hosts, you who serve Him, doing His will."*

9.14 Angels Ministered to Jesus at The Temptation Of Christ

- *Matthew 4:11 Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him.*

9.15 Angels Ministered To Christ When He Suffered

Angels ministered to Him after His temptation

- *Matthew 4:11 Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and began to minister to Him.*

in His stress in the Garden of Gethsemane

- *Luke 22:43 Now an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him.*

Jesus said He could have called a legion of angels who stood ready to come to His defense if He so desired

- *Matthew 26:53 Or do you think that I cannot appeal to My Father, and He will at once put at My disposal more than twelve legions of angels?*

9.16 Angels Ministered to Christ When He Arose

In relation to His resurrection, an angel rolled away the stone from the tomb. Also, Angels announced Jesus resurrection to the women on Easter morning

- *Matthew 28:1-2 Now after the Sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave. (2) And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it.*
- *Matthew 28:5-6 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. (6) He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying. ; Luke 24:5-7 and as the women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, the men said to them, "Why do you seek the living One among the dead? (6) He is not here, but He has risen. Remember how He spoke to you while He was still in Galilee, (7) saying that the Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again."*

9.17 At Jesu's Ascension Angels Gave The Apostles Instructions.

Angels were present at His ascension and gave instruction to the disciples

- *Revelation 7:1 After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, so that no wind would blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree.*
- *Revelation 8:2 And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.*
- *Acts 1:10-11 And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them. 11 They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."*

9.18 Angels Will Minister To Christ At His Second Coming

The Bible tells us that the voice of the archangel will be heard at the translation of the church . And Angels will accompany Jesus in His glorious return to earth . The Angels will also be responsible for separating the wheat from the tares at Christ's second coming

- *1 Thess. 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first*
- *Matthew 25:31 "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.*
- *2 Thessalonians 1:7 and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire,*
- *Matt. 13:39-40 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels. (40) So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age.*

10.0 Messengers of God

The very name "angel" means "messenger," and each message delivered has been for a very specific purpose. The Bible says angels have been sent by God to bring a message of joy and good news announcements, to protect, to comfort, to hope, to serve, to carry out his judgment, to carry out special assignments, and to give Him praise.

Some people claim to have had encounters with angels. Some people may be aware of these angelic encounters while others are not as stated in Hebrews 13:2, "Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it."

Angels and their ministries were created by God for the fulfillment of His will for worship and fellowship. "Colossians 1:16 For by Him all things

were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him."

There are many examples in the Bible of when God sends an angel to give a specific message to an individual or group. Sometimes it was a word of encouragement or to offer hope for what was still to come. Other times it was a clear warning for God's people and provided protection and guidance. Here are some examples from Scripture where God sent angels with messages:

10.1 Announcements

John The Baptist Coming

The Angel Gabriel came to Zechariah to tell him the news that Elizabeth, his wife, would bear a son.

Luke 1:8-20 Now it happened that while he was performing his priestly service before God in the appointed order of his division, [9] according to the custom of the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. [10] And the whole multitude of the people were in prayer outside at the hour of the incense offering. [11] And an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. [12] Zacharias was troubled when he saw the angel, and fear gripped him. [13] But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John. [14] You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. [15] For he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother's womb. [16] And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God. [17] It is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." [18] Zacharias said to the angel, "How will I know this for certain? For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years." [19] The angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God,

xxxxx and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. [20] And behold, you shall be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time.”

10.2 Mary Would Be The Mother Of The Messiah

God sent the angel, Gabriel, to Mary to tell her that she would give birth to the Messiah, the Son of God.

Luke 1:26–38 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, [27] to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. [28] And coming in, he said to her, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.” [29] But she was very perplexed at this statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was. [30] The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. [31] And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. [32] He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; [33] and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.” [34] Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” [35] The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God. [36] And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month. [37] For nothing will be impossible with God.” [38] And Mary said, “Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

10.3 Angelic Announcement To Joseph

Now Mary who was just told that she would be the mother of the messiah, was betrothed to a local Godly man. He did what we all should in tough circumstances. Think and approach God in prayer. God dispatched an angel of the Lord to give Joseph the good news that his fiancé was a faithful woman and all that she had told Joseph was indeed true.

- *Matthew 1:20* But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.

10.4 Angelic Announcement To Shepherds

- *Luke 2:8–14* 8 In the same region there were some shepherds staying out *Hebrew 2:2* For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just penalty, in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were terribly frightened. 10 But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; 11 for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” 13 And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased.”

10.5 Announcement Of The Birth Of Samson

About 14 miles west of Jerusalem lies the small town of Zorah near Nahal Sorek. It is situated on the crest of a hill overlooking the valley of Sorek. It lies at an elevation of about 1,150 feet (350 m) above sea-level. It is believed that the first inhabitants were from the tribe of Dan. Zorah’s claim to fame is that it is the birthplace of the legendary Samson, one of the Judges’ of Israel. Samson’s godly parents had the privilege of receiving two messages of joy along with parental guidelines from the angel of the Lord.

10.6 First Visit: Judges 22:2-5

There was a certain man of Zorah, of the family of the Danites, whose name was Manoah; and his wife was barren and had borne no children. [3] Then the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, “Behold now, you are barren and have borne

no children, but you shall conceive and give birth to a son. [4] Now therefore, be careful not to drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing. [5] For behold, you shall conceive and give birth to a son, and no razor shall come upon his head, for the boy shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb; and he shall begin to deliver Israel from the hands of the Philistines.”

10.7 Second Visit: Judges 22:8-5

”[8] Then Manoah entreated the LORD and said, “O Lord, please let the man of God whom You have sent come to us again that he may teach us what to do for the boy who is to be born.” [9] God listened to the voice of Manoah; and the angel of God came again to the woman as she was sitting in the field, but Manoah her husband was not with her. [10] So the woman ran quickly and told her husband, “Behold, the man who came the other day has appeared to me.” [11] Then Manoah arose and followed his wife, and when he came to the man he said to him, “Are you the man who spoke to the woman?” And he said, “I am.” [12] Manoah said, “Now when your words come to pass, what shall be the boy’s mode of life and his vocation?” [13] So the angel of the LORD said to Manoah, “Let the woman pay attention to all that I said. [14] She should not eat anything that comes from the vine nor drink wine or strong drink, nor eat any unclean thing; let her observe all that I commanded.”

[21] Now the angel of the LORD did not appear to Manoah or his wife again. Then Manoah knew that he was the angel of the LORD. [22] So Manoah said to his wife, “We will surely die, for we have seen God.”

10.8 Announcement To Abraham And Sarah

In Genesis 18, we find Abraham camped at a place called the Oak of Mamre which is about 24 miles south of Jerusalem in what is now a Palestinian town on the West Bank. Here known God sent three of His messengers to Abraham and Sarah to tell them that even in her old age, she would soon bear a son. Within just a year, those words had come true.

10.9 Gideon

God sent an angel to the discouraged Gideon in Judges 6, who greeted him with the words, “The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.” Hardly the words Gideon may have used to even describe himself at that time. But God saw with different eyes, and the angel’s words spoke truth and life to a fearful soul.

11.0 Messages To Serve

11.1 Prophetic Messages

- *Revelation 1:1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated it by His angel to His bond-servant John,*

11.2 Angels Announce God’s Judgement

- *Daniel 9:22 He gave me instruction and talked with me and said, “O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you insight with understanding.*
- *Genesis 19:13 for we are about to destroy this place, because their outcry has become so great before the LORD that the LORD has sent us to destroy it.”*
- *Acts 12:23 And immediately an angel of the Lord struck him because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and died.*
- *Revelation 14:6-7 And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having an eternal gospel to preach to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people; 7 and he said with a loud voice, “Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; worship Him who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters.*
- *Revelation 16:1 Then I heard a loud voice from the temple, saying to the seven angels, “Go and pour out on the earth the seven bowls of the wrath of God.”*

12.0 Messages For Special Assignments

12.1 Angels Were Involved In The Giving Of The Mosaic Law

- *Galatian 3:19 Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made.*

12.2 Angels Are Warriors in Spiritual Combat

- *Daniel 10:13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia was withstanding me for twenty-one days; then behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left there with the kings of Persia;*
- *Revelation 12:7 And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war,*

12.3 Angels Rebuke People

- *Numbers 22:22-23, "But God was angry because he was going, and the angel of the Lord took his stand in the way as an adversary against him. Now he was riding on his donkey and his two servants were with him. (23) When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord standing in the way with his drawn sword in his hand, the donkey turned off from the way and went into the field; but Balaam struck the donkey to turn her back into the way."*

12.4 Angels Engage Satan and Demons In Combat

12.5 Angels Assist in winning people to Christ

12.6 Angels Test Men

12.7 Angels Give Warnings

12.8 Angels Will Be God's Tribulation Agents.

During the Tribulation angels will be the agents God uses to pour out His judgments (see Revelation Chapters 8, 9, and 15.)

12.9 Angels Will Separate The Righteous From The Unrighteous

(Matthew 13:39-40 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels. (40) So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age.)

12.10 Angels Are Instruments of God's Judgments.

- *Revelation 7:1 After this I saw four angels standing at the four corners of the earth, holding back the four winds of the earth, so that no wind would blow on the earth or on the sea or on any tree.*
- *Revelation 8:2 And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.*

13.0 Angels Minister to God's People

- *Hebrew 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?*

13.1 Angels Assist In Winning People To Christ

- *Acts 8:26 But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.)*
- *Acts 10:3 About the ninth hour of the day he clearly saw in a vision an angel of God who had just come in and said to him, "Cornelius!"*

13.2 Angels Will Appear As People

Gen. 19:12-13, "Then the men said to Lot, 'Whom else have you here? A son-in-law, and your sons, and your daughters, and whomever you have in the city, bring them out of the place; 13 for we are about to destroy this place, because their outcry has become so great before the Lord that the Lord has sent us to destroy it.'"

13.3 Angels Care For The Righteous At The Time Of Death

- *Luke 16:22 Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried.*

13.4 Angels Deliver The Law

- *Acts 7:53, "you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it."*
- *Galatians 3:19, "Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed should come to whom the promise had been made."*
- *Hebrews 2:2, "For if the word spoken through angels proved unaltera-*

ble, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense."

13.5 Angels Encourage In Times Of Danger

- *Acts 27:23-24 For this very night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood before me, 24 saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar; and behold, God has granted you all those who are sailing with you.'*

13.6 Angels Give Warnings

For example, an angel warned Joseph to take Mary and the baby Jesus and flee into Egypt

- *Matthew 2:13-15 Now when they had gone, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up! Take the Child and His mother and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is going to search for the Child to destroy Him." (14) So Joseph got up and took the Child and His mother while it was still night, and left for Egypt. (15) He remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "OUT OF EGYPT I CALLED MY SON."*

13.7 Angels are Guardian Angels Of Man.

Perhaps no aspect angels' ministry to man is more talked about than the idea of "a guardian angel." People often ask, "Does everyone have a guardian angel?" The concept that every person has a specific guardian angel is only by implication from the statement that angels do guard or protect as Psalm 91:11 declares (*For He will give His angels charge concerning you, To guard you in all your ways*). But this passage is directed to those who make the Lord their refuge. The psalmist explained that no harm or disaster can befall those who have made the Lord their refuge (mahseh, "shelter from danger"; ...) because God has commissioned angels to care for them. Angels protect from physical harm and give believers strength to overcome difficulties. Satan, in tempting Christ, quoted Psalm 91:11–12 (*For He will give His angels charge concerning you, To guard you in all your ways.* (12) *They will bear you up in their hands, That you do not strike your foot against a stone* (Matthew 4:6) and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written, 'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU'; and 'ON their HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'")

This quote by Satan shows that even God's most marvelous promises can be foolishly applied. Surely it is comforting to know that God may protect, provide, and encourage us through His angels, but this fact does not always guarantee such deliverance, and certainly we should never presume on this provision of God. So having considered the various ways angels minister, we should keep in mind that God does not always deliver us from danger or supply our needs in miraculous ways whether by angels or by His direct intervention

13.8 Angels Are the Guardian of Israel.

In relation to the nation of Israel, Michael, the archangel, seems to have a very important ministry

- Daniel 10:13 *But the prince of the kingdom of Persia was withstanding me for twenty-one days; then behold, Michael, one of the chief princes,*

came to help me, for I had been left there with the kings of Persia

- Daniel 10:21 *However, I will tell you what is inscribed in the writing of truth. Yet there is no one who stands firmly with me against these forces except Michael your prince*
- Daniel 12:1 *"Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.*
- Jude 9 *But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses, did not dare pronounce against him a railing judgment, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"*

13.9 Angels Provide Guidance to Christ's family.

An angel directed the family to return to Israel after Herod died Matthew 2: 19–21 *But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, and said, 20 "Get up, take the Child and His mother, and go into the land of Israel; for those who sought the Child's life are dead." 21 So Joseph got up, took the Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Then after being warned by God in a dream, he left for the regions of Galilee, 23 and came and lived in a city called Nazareth. This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophets: "He shall be called a Nazarene."*

13.10 Angels Are Interested in Mankind

Angels have been and will forever be involved in the affairs of man. They are the instruments by which God dispatches to fulfill His will. always be interested in what is happening in the lives of human beings.

Daniel 10:14 *"Now I have come to give you an understanding of what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision pertains to the days yet future."*

- *Luke 15:10 In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."*

13.11 Angels Ministers to Christ's Church

Hebrews 1:14 describes their ministry as "ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation." In this, however, Scripture points to a number of specific ministries:

13.12 Angels Help In Bringing People To The Savior

- *Acts 8:26 But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.*
- *Acts 10:3 About the ninth hour of the day he clearly saw in a vision an angel of God who had just come in and said to him, "Cornelius!"*

13.13 Angels Encourage In Times Of Danger

- *Acts 27:23-24 For this very night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood before me, 24 saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must stand before Caesar; and behold, God has granted you all those who are sailing with you.'*

13.14 Angels Care For God's People At The Time Of Death

- *Luke 16:22 Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried.*

13.15 Angels Were Active During The Early Years Of The Church

- *Acts 8:26 But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.)*
- *Acts 10:3 About the ninth hour of the day he clearly saw in a vision an*

angel of God who had just come in and said to him, "Cornelius!"

- *Acts 10:7 When the angel who was speaking to him had left, he summoned two of his servants and a devout soldier of those who were his personal attendants,*
- *Acts 12:11 When Peter came to himself, he said, "Now I know for sure that the Lord has sent forth His angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."*

13.16 Angels Rejoice As Each Soul Is Converted.

In keeping with the role of announcing the Good News, angels rejoice whenever any of us decides to repent and place our trust in Christ:

- *Luke 15:8-10 "Or what woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin which I had lost.' In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."*

13.17 Angels Take All Believers Home

Angles love us enough to take us home and ensure we will be reunited to God

- *Luke 16:21-23 and longing to be fed with the crumbs which were falling from the rich man's table; besides, even the dogs were coming and licking his sores. (22) Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried. (23) In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom.*

13.18 Angels Love God's Saints

Given how much angels love God, it shouldn't surprise us they would reflect this love on us as God's created children. God loves those who have repented and given themselves to Him. This is why the angels also love the saints: Angels love us enough to appear to us in our own form. Angels are immaterial, spiritual beings. But when they appear humans, they typically take on our form. Why would they do this? Perhaps it is because they love us and want to connect with us as created beings. One thing is clear, however. Angels never appear to wicked people. They only appear to the saints; to those who belong to God:

13.19 Angels Act As An Intermediary Between God and Man

- *2 Kings 1:15, "And the angel of the Lord said to Elijah, 'Go down with him; do not be afraid of him.' So he arose and went down with him to the king."*
- *Daniel 4:13, "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."*
- *Acts 8:26, "But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, 'Arise and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a desert road.)"*

13.20 Angels Observe Christian Work, Order, And Suffering

- *Luke 12:8-9 "And I say to you, everyone who confesses Me before men, the Son of Man will confess him also before the angels of God; (9) but he who denies Me before men will be denied before the angels of God."*
- *1 Timothy 5:21 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of His chosen angels, to maintain these principles without bias, doing nothing in a spirit of partiality.*
- *1 Corinthians 4:9 For, I think, God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as*

men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.

- *1 Corinthians 11:10 Therefore the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.*
- *Ephesians 3:10 so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.*
- *1 Peter 1:12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven -- things into which angels long to look.*

13.21 Angels Assist In Winning People To Christ

- *Acts 8:26 But an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip saying, "Get up and go south to the road that descends from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a desert road.)*
- *Acts 10:3 About the ninth hour of the day he clearly saw in a vision an angel of God who had just come in and said to him, "Cornelius!"*

13.22 Angels Perform Special Assignments

- *Hebrew 1:14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?*

13.23 Angels Guard The Tree Of Life

- *Genesis 3:24, "So He drove the man out; and at the east of the garden of Eden He stationed the cherubim, and the flaming sword which turned every direction, to guard the way to the tree of life."*

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Lesson 8: Heaven
Lesson 9: Angels
Lesson 10: Hell
Lesson 11: Satan And Demons
Lesson 12: Earth And Man

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Lesson 13: God's Foreknowledge
Lesson 14: God's Election
Lesson 15: Predestination

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Lesson 17: ELECTION Of Angels
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- Lesson 46: Marriage
- Lesson 47: Pre-Millennial &The Millennial Kingdom
- Lesson 48: The Final War and Judgement
- Lesson 49: New Heavens & New Earth
- Lesson 50: Restored



In a lay-leader class at Medway Community Church of Medway, MA a few years ago, I was challenged to defend my faith and the doctrines I held dear. I found myself embarrassed as it was quickly apparent that I was ill equipped to either defend or explain my beliefs.

Less than two weeks passed and I was again challenged in a local Men's Bible study. To my discredit, I once again was unable to defend my beliefs.

I resolved to correct this deficiency and set out to thoroughly study the Scriptures and document my findings on salvation and Jesus' teachings in an organized fashion. My original objective was to put together a short "white paper" to define and support my position and beliefs on predestination. God wanted me instead, to become His disciple in a life long pursuit of truth. I quickly found myself asking more and more questions that compelled me to constantly research, study and document. My goals expanded broader and faster. This study required me to put aside all my biases, read God's word freshly and intently, discuss with scholars and read numerous documents on Christian doctrines. I lost track of time, so involved were my studies. It has now been over a decade since I first undertook the quest to write a simple white paper.

God has been especially gracious in guiding my study of His revealed word. This study has been a true joy. The more I studied, the more in awe of our Almighty God I became. I was compelled from within to continue worshipping, studying, fellowshiping, and serving Him.

Quick Notes About the Author

- Married, father of three children, four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.
- Saved in 1974 at FBC Church, San Jose, CA
- Tutored by lay leaders, ministers, authors, teachers, scientists and philosophers
- Currently member of FBC Bellingham, MA under the ministry of Pastor Rodrigues
- Challenged in 2 bible studies by my lack of understanding biblical doctrines. I resolved to correct this deficiency and committed myself to becoming a disciple of Christ
- These study guides summarize God's teachings and chronicles God's plan to restore Man for eternal fellowship with Him.

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God's desire to share Himself and fellowship with mankind sparked God to plan, elect and create all things. Man was created for eternal fellowship and love with God. God elected (planned and made choices) all things prior to speaking the Universe, and all life into existence. And His Creation was "Very Good."

God

Creation

Foreknowledge, Election, Predestination

The Elect

Restoration

Discipleship

End Times