

The Doctrine of Angels – Part 3

Unnamed messengers abound in the 199 references to angels found in the Bible. An angel appeared to Peter and released him from prison; Acts 12:7 and an angel appeared to Paul prior to his shipwreck and assured him there would be no loss of life, Acts 27:23. Another often used term is “Lord of hosts” which literally is Lord of “armies” and refers to the angel armies that were at His disposal (see 2 Sam 7:26-27; Isa 6:3; Jer 44:1; Hag 1:7; Zech 1:16-17). Jesus alluded to an angel host at his arrest when he declared he could call on the Father to send twelve legions of angels, if needed. (Mt 26:53).

Duties of Angels

Their Duties include Guidance Gen 24:7, 40; protection Ps 34:7; deliverance Dan 6:22; gathering Act 12:7-10; Mt 24:31; special assignments, Acts 8:26; comfort Acts 27:23-24; ministering Heb 1:14; punishment of unbelievers Gen 19:3; Jud 5:23; Acts 12:23; Ps 35:5, 6. Angels continually praise God (Job 38:7; Ps 103:20; 148:2; Rev 5:11-12; Luke 2:13-14). Angels are messengers to humans (Dan 10:10-21; 12:1; Lk 1:26-38; Acts 7:53; 11:13; 10:3-7; 12:7-11; Gal 3:19; Heb 2:2). Angels care for believers (Ps 34:7; 91:11; Lk 15:10; 16:22; Acts 12:6-11; 1 Cor 4:9; 11:10. Angels execute judgment for God (2 Kin 19:35; 2 Sam 24:16; Acts 12:23; Rev 8:6-9:21; 16:1-17; 19:11-14). Angels will join in the second coming of Jesus (Mt 13:39-42; 24:31; 25:31; 1 Thess 4:16-17).

The Ministry of Angels to Jesus

Special ministry of angels to Jesus include: Announcement of His conception Mt 1:20-21; His birth Lk 2:10-12; they sustained Jesus after the attack of Satan, Mt 4:11; they announced His resurrection, Mt 28:5-7; they accompanied him to heaven Acts 1:9-11.

Fallen Evil Angels

We know that when Satan rebelled against God he took a contingent of angels with him, 2 Pet 2:4; Jude 1:6. We shall discuss them in a separate lesson on evil angels.

Summary about angels

1. God has provided powerful unseen spiritual beings to help us in time of need.
2. Angels serve and praise God and thus are examples for us to follow.
3. Angels will assist us in death and return with Jesus in His second coming.

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