

THE BIBLE DOCTRINE OF ANGELS

I. INTRODUCTION:

1. The Greek word for angel is _____, meaning “messenger”.
2. Angels are also referred to as:
 - A. Sons of God Job 1:6
 - B. Spirits I Kings 22:19
 - C. Holy Ones Zech. 14:5
 - D. Watchers Daniel 4:14
 - E. Host of the Lord Joshua 5:14
 - F. Host of Heaven I Kings 22:19
3. They are counted in great numbers:
 - A. Psalms 68:17
 - B. Hebrews 12:22
 - C. Matthew 26:53
 - D. Revelation 5:11
4. They have the capacity to sin
 - A. II Peter 2:4 - “For if God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to Tartarus, and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment.”
 - B. Jude 6 - “For the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under the darkness unto the judgment of the great day.”
5. Michael is considered the Archangel of the Israelite Nation
 - A. Jude 9 - “Yet Michael, the archangel, when contending with the Devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.”
6. Man is made just a little lower than the angels
 - A. Psalms 8:5
 - B. Hebrews 2:5-7
7. Angles appeared in the form of men at various times
 - A. Genesis 18:2

- B. Jacob wrestled with an angel all night
 - 1. Hosea 12:2-4 Says that Jacob prevailed over an angel
 - 2. Genesis 48:15-16 Jacob at his death states that an angel had watched over him

- 8. The Sadducees did not believe in them
 - A. Acts 23:8-9

- 9. Christ is higher than angels
 - A. Hebrews 1:4-7
 - B. Hebrews 2:16
 - C. I Peter 3:22

- 10. We are not to worship angels
 - A. Col. 2:18

II. EXAMPLES OF OLD TESTAMENT APPEARANCES OF ANGELS

- 1. To Hagar who fled from Sarah Genesis 16:7-
- 2. To Abraham to announce the birth of Isaac at Mambre Genesis 18:1-22
- 3. To Lot to lead him to safety out of wicked Sodom Genesis 13; 19
- 4. To Abraham to keep him from killing Isaac on Mount Mariah Genesis 22:11-12
- 5. To Samson's parents to tell them of his (Samson) birth Judges 13:19
- 6. To David for numbering the people II Samuel 24:16-17; I Chron. 21:15-18
- 7. Many times to the Old Testament Prophets

III. EXAMPLES OF APPEARANCES OF ANGELS DURING THE NEW TESTAMENT PERIOD

- 1. To Zachariah: Announcing the birth of John the Baptist
Luke 1:1-19

- 2. To Mary: Announcing the birth of Jesus
Luke 1:26-35

3. To Joseph: Announcing the birth of Jesus
Matthew 1:20, 24
4. To the Shepherds: Announcing the birth of Jesus
Luke 2:8-15
5. The tomb of Christ: John 20:12; Luke 24:23; Matthew 28:5
6. To the Apostles: At the Ascension
Acts 1:10-11
7. To Philip: During his preaching tour in Samaria
Acts 8:26
8. To Cornelius: Telling him to send to Joppa for Peter
Acts 10:7, 22; 11:13
9. To Peter in prison: Acts 12:8-15
10. To Paul on board ship: Revealed to Paul that he would preach there
Acts 27:23
11. To John: Penning the Book of Revelation
Revelation 7:1-2, 11; 8:13; 9:14-15; 14:10; 21:12

IV. WHAT DO ANGELS DO?

1. They guided Abraham's servant when he went looking for a bride for Isaac
Genesis 24:7, 40
2. Guided the Israelites from Egypt until they reached the Promised Land
Exodus 23:20, 23; 32:34; 33:2
3. The Law of Moses was delivered through the medium of angels
Acts 7:53; Galatians 3:19; Hebrews 2:2
4. Delivered Shadrach, Mesach, Abednego
Daniel 3:28
5. Shut the mouth of the lions and saved Daniel
Daniel 6:22
6. God sent angles on different occasions to fight for Israel
7. Angels came and ministered to Jesus
Psalms 91:11; Matthew 4:11; Mark 1:13
8. Their main duty seems to have been that of a messenger

9. Christ is to return with His angels
II Thess. 1:7; Mark 8:38; Luke 9:26; Matt. 25:31
10. Angels to gather the ungodly out of the Kingdom
Matthew 13:41-42
11. Angles to sever the just from the unjust
Matthew 13:49
12. John seems to suggest in the Book of Revelation that the angels are constantly serving God, adoring Him, and offering up praises to Him

V. THERE ARE FOUR IMPORTANT PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE TO EXAMINE CONCERNING ANGELS

1. Children have their own angel:
 - A. Matthew 18:10 “Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you that in Heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in Heaven.”
2. We shall be like angels after the Resurrection:
 - A. Luke 20:27-36 “Then cam to him certain of the Sadducees, which deny that there is any resurrection; and they asked him, saying, Master, Moses wrote unto us, if any man’s brother die having a wife, and he die without children, that his brother should take his wife, and raise up seed unto his brother. There were therefore seven brethren: and the first took a wife, and died without children. And the second took her to wife, and he died childless. And the third took her; and in like manner the seven died also. Therefore in the resurrection whose wife of them is she? For seven had her to wife. And Jesus answering said unto them, the children of the world marry, and are given in marriage; but they which shall be accounted worthy to obtain that world, and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage: Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being the children of the resurrection.”
 - B. Mark 12:25 “For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven.”
3. Paul says that in entertaining strangers we may have had angels, unaware

- A. Hebrews 13:1-2 “Let brotherly love continue. Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.”

Note: Are we to assume that God has stopped using angels in present time? We would be hard pressed to prove it! - RTH

4. Angels came and carried Lazarus to Abraham’s bosom
 - A. Luke 16

“Swing low, sweet chariot,
Coming for to carry me home.
A band of angels coming after me,
Coming for to carry me home.”

CONCLUSION:

1. So let us thus live so that when our call comes to launch out across the deep, God will send his angels that we might be carried gently home to Christ.