

Angels Around Us

[Luk 2:8-15 NASB95] 8 In the same region there were [some] shepherds staying out 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." 15 When the angels had gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds [began] saying to one another, "Let us go straight to Bethlehem then, and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has made known to us."

- One of the primary players in birth of Christ
 - Angels mentioned over 200 times. More in the NT than the OT.
 - Two Warnings concerning angels
 - Not be worshiped - new age, curiosity, hopelessness - [Col 2:18 NASB95] 18 Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on [visions] he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind,
 - Not be believed if they counter the Bible - Mohammed, Joseph Smith - [Gal 1:8 NASB95] 8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!
 - Bill Johnson, "We don't worship angels, but we would be stupid to ignore them."
 - Angels are used to bring answers to prayer.
 - [Gen 28:12 NASB95] 12 He had a dream, and behold, a ladder was set on the earth with its top reaching to heaven; and behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.
 - [Heb 1:14 NASB95] 14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?
- I. Here are some facts about angels' interaction with us.
- A. Angels praise God.
- [Isa 6:1-4 NASB95] 1 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.
 - John saw the same thing in Revelation
 - Shows the importance,
 - When we praise God, we are joining with the angels
- B. Angels rejoice greatly when sinners repent.
- [Luk 15:7-10 NASB95] 7 "I tell you that in the same way, there will be [more] joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. 8 "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? 9 "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!' 10 "In the same way, I

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tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

- Understand the importance of winning the lost

C. Angels protect people.

- Most often given message by angels is FEAR NOT
- [Psa 91:11-12 NASB95] 11 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.
- [2Ki 6:15-17 NASB95] 15 Now when the attendant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was circling the city. 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 Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." And the LORD opened the servant's eyes and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

D. Angels bring judgement.

- [Act 12:21-23 NASB95] 21 On an appointed day Herod, having put on his royal apparel, took his seat on the rostrum and [began] delivering an address to them. 22 The people kept crying out, "The voice of a god and not of a man!" 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.
- We choose blessing or cursing

E. Angels bring direction.

- [Dan 10:12-14 NASB95] 12 Then he said to me, "Do not be afraid, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart on understanding [this] and on humbling yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to your words. 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. 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.]"
- [Act 10:1-7 NASB95] 1 Now [there was] a man at Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian cohort, 2 a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, and gave many alms to the [Jewish] people and prayed to God continually. 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!" 4 And fixing his gaze on him and being much alarmed, he said, "What is it, Lord?" And he said to him, "Your prayers and alms have ascended as a memorial before God. 5 "Now dispatch [some] men to Joppa and send for a man [named] Simon, who is also called Peter; 6 he is staying with a tanner [named] Simon, whose house is by the sea." 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,
- Both men had a dynamic walk with God, consistent for years.

F. Angels minister strength.

- [Luk 22:43 NASB95] 43 Now an angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him.
- [1Ki 19:4-5 NASB95] 4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree; and he requested for himself that he might die, and said, "It is enough; now, O LORD, take my life, for I am not better than my

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fathers." 5 He lay down and slept under a juniper tree; and behold, there was an angel touching him, and he said to him, "Arise, eat."

G. Angels heed God's Word.

- [Psa 103:20 NASB95] 20 Bless the LORD, you His angels, Mighty in strength, who perform His word, Obeying the voice of His word!

H. Angels accompany us when we die.

- [Luk 16:22 NASB95] 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.

I. Angels are used to bring provision.

- [Gen 31:11-13 NASB95] 11 "Then the angel of God said to me in the dream, 'Jacob,' and I said, 'Here I am.' 12 "He said, 'Lift up now your eyes and see [that] all the male goats which are mating are striped, speckled, and mottled; for I have seen all that Laban has been doing to you. 13 'I am the God [of] Bethel, where you anointed a pillar, where you made a vow to Me; now arise, leave this land, and return to the land of your birth.'"

II. Here are some actions/attitudes that we need to incorporate in our lives concerning angels' interaction with us.

A. Speak the Word.

B. Worship God.

C. Allow them to speak.

D. Spread the Gospel. Pray for people.

E. Treat people right. [Heb 13:2 NASB95] 2 Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.

F. Be comforted and at peace concerned loved ones who have passed away.

G. Believe for supernatural results.

- God has commissioned angels to render service for us.