

The Spiritual Realm - Lesson 11: Angels

Galatians 1:8 *But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.*

2 Corinthians 11:14 *And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.*

1. Don't be misled by the spiritual

Why is the Bible God's Word and other writings are not?

- **Fulfilled prophecies**
- **Archeology** - thousands of archeology finds support the Bible
- **Manuscript evidence** - the careful OT copies show they believed it was God's Word immediately. The many NT copies show they believed it was God's Word immediately.
- **Eyewitness collaboration** - the prophets and Jesus were not in hiding or speaking privately.
- **Historical accuracy** - the events and places recorded are not fanciful mythology but true to their time.
- **Spiritual Authenticity** - all the writers agree and do not contradict each other and they are being inspired by the same God. Not written by one man.

Angels are beings

- Angels are spiritual beings.

Hebrews 1:14 *Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?*

- Angels are described with brilliance and glory: White garments, shining, lightning-like countenance.

Matthew 28:2-3 *And behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow.*

- Angels are also described appearing as men.

Genesis 18:1-8 *And the Lord appeared to him by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. 2 He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth 3 and said, "O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. 4 Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, 5 while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." 6 And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, "Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes." 7 And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. 8 Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.*

Genesis 19:1 *The two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom.*

- We will have spiritual (resurrected) bodies.

1 Corinthians 15:42-49 *So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. 43 It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. 44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. 45 Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. 46 But it is not the spiritual that is first but the natural, and then the*

spiritual. 47 The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. 48 As was the man of dust, so also are those who are of the dust, and as is the man of heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. 49 Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven.

- Angels appear and disappear.

Luke 2:8-15 *And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was 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 those with whom he is pleased!" 15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."*

2. Don't make wrong conclusions

Old Testament: Malak - angel (111x), messenger (98x); Bēn Elōhim - sons of God (5x)

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.*

New Testament: Angellos - angel (179x), messenger (7x); Daimon - demon or devil (59x)

The Origin of Angels

- Angels were created by God.

Colossians 1:16 *For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. 17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*

- God created the physical rulers and the spiritual rulers.

Ephesians 6:12 *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.*

Psalms 148:2, 5 *Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his hosts! ... 5 Let them praise the name of the Lord! For he commanded and they were created.*

- Angels were created before or at the same time as the earth.

Job 38:4-7 *Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?*

Genesis 1:1-2 *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.*

- Angels were created holy and good.

Ezekiel 28:11-15 *You were the signet of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. You were in Eden, the garden of God; ... On the day that you were created they were prepared... You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created, till unrighteousness was found in you.*

Angels have personality: Intelligence (Dan. 9:21-22; 10:14); Will (Isa. 14:12-15); Emotion (Luke 2:13)

Michael the Archangel (“Who is like God?”)

- Stands for Israel during the tribulation.

Daniel 12:1 *At that time shall arise Michael, the great prince who has charge of your people. And there shall be a time of trouble, such as never has been since there was a nation till that time. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone whose name shall be found written in the book.*

- He helps a lesser-ranked angel get through to answer Daniel's prayer.

Daniel 10:13 *The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia*

Daniel 10:20-21 *Then he said, “Do you know why I have come to you? But now I will return to fight against the prince of Persia; and when I go out, behold, the prince of Greece will come. 21 But I will tell you what is inscribed in the book of truth: there is none who contends by my side against these except Michael, your prince.*

- Contends with Satan about Moses' body.

Jude 9 *But when the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, “The Lord rebuke you.”*

- He fights Satan in heaven.

Revelation 12:7-19 *Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, 8 but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.*

Gabriel (“Mighty one of God”)

- Announces John the Baptist to Zechariah.

Luke 1:11-13, 18-20 *And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. 12 And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. 13 But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. ... 18 And Zechariah said to the angel, “How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years.” 19 And the angel answered him, “I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. 20 And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time.”*

- He predicts the birth of Jesus to Mary (Luke 1:26).

3. Trust God is working behind the scenes