

### War: Angels

**Ephesians 6:10-12** -- 10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 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.

Ephesians 6 reminds us that our battle is not against flesh and blood but against spiritual forces. We live in a physical world, but Scripture reveals a spiritual realm that is just as active. **Spiritual warfare** is not fantasy; it is the unseen dimension behind everyday life. Demons are real, but so are God's angels, and God's army (the hosts of heaven) is greater than any of hell's armies. Today, I want to spend some time teaching you about Angels. What they are? The types of Angels there are, and what their purpose is.

### SO, WHAT ARE ANGELS?

**Psalm 148:2-5** teaches that angels are created by God. **Psalm 8:5 - 5** Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor.

- So we know we were made a little lower than the angels.
- Angels are spiritual beings, not human spirits, and not divine. They serve the divine God.
- **Divine** means: something sacred that carries a sense of holiness – Angel are NOT to be worshipped

### These are some important things to know about Angels:

- **They are created by God** – we see this in **Psalm 104:4 - 4** Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire:
  - we see that this verse sits right in the beginning of this creation **psalm**. In **verse 3** God is laying out the waters of the earth
  - in **verse 5** the psalmist says that after the creation of the Angels God sets the earth on its foundation
  - So, scholars would place the creation of Angels around day 2 of creation.
- **Angels were not born – THERE ARE NO BABY ANGELS** – Angels were all created at one time
  - **Matthew 22:30** – tells us that angels don't marry and are not given in marriage
  - **So there are NO new angels being made. At least NOT in the way that we reproduce**
- **They are spiritual, not human**- in this same Psalm we also learn that they are not made in the way that we are made.
  - We don't fully know WHAT the nature of the angels is but we know that they are NOT bound to natural and chemical elements like we are.
  - Angels, like in **Psalm 104**, are often referred to as fire and we see this is **Hebrews 1:7, Isaiah 6:2-7, and 2 Kings 6:17** where we're told about the horses and chariots of fire also.
- **They are able to do that which we are NOT able to do** - **Daniel 9:21-21** while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the first, came to me in swift flight at the time of the evening sacrifice.
  - Angels can move swiftly and be dispatched in a moment to engage in an assignment.
  - Though angels are not humanoid by default, they DO appear to have the ability to take on a human form while on assignment – we see an example of this in the beginning **Genesis 18**- where we see 3 "men" who appeared to Abraham.
  - **Genesis 19** tells us that 2 of these men were in fact angels who had taken on the form of men, the 3<sup>rd</sup> "man" was a **theophany**, where the Lord himself had taken on the form of a man to speak to Abraham.
  - A **theophany** is any **manifestation of God to humans in a visible or tangible way**

### Types of angels include but are not limited to:

- **Archangels** such as Michael (**Jude 1:9; Revelation 12, Daniel 10**), who fights spiritual battles.
  - these are seen as warrior or authority Angels
  - considered to be the highest ranking angels

- **Messenger angels** such as Gabriel (**Luke 1**). These angels are God's spokesmen — sent to deliver divine messages.
  - o These angels bring revelation, warning, and direction to us
  - o Gabriel: Explained prophecy to Daniel, Announced the birth of John the Baptist, Announced the birth of Jesus
- **Cherubim** are the angels who guard God's holiness (**Genesis 3:24**).
  - o These are the first angels mentioned in the Hebrew bible
  - o They were placed at the gates of the Garden of Eden to prevent Adam and Eve from returning
  - o These are guardian angels – but not in the way some of us may think.
  - o **Psalm 91:11** supports the idea that angels guard God's people, but the doctrine of personal guardian angels comes more from theological interpretation, not a direct statement in the verse.
- **Seraphim** who worship around God's throne (**Isaiah 6:2**).
  - o Lead worship in heaven, Purify God's servants, Declare God's holiness
  - o Their name means worship and FIRE – it was a seraph who would press the burning coal on Isaiah's lips
- **Daniel also refers to the "beings" called "watchers" and Hebrews 1:14 to those that minister**
  - o The watchers may be assigned the task of overseeing and carrying out decrees
  - o The ministering angels who were sent to help, protect, guide and bring deliverance
- **We also see angels of Judgment that were used by God to bring justice –**
  - o We see them in **Genesis 19, Exodus 12, Revelation 8-16**
  - o They brought things like plagues and destruction
- **Demons are fallen angels (Revelation 12:9) who now oppose God.**

### **WHY ARE ANGELS NECESSARY?**

**Psalm 103:20** shows angels carry out God's commands. **Daniel 10** shows angels engaged in real spiritual battles against demonic forces. **Hebrews 1:14** teaches angels are sent to minister to believers. They protect, guide, and serve God's purposes.

- YES, God is omnipotent and technically he could do all of this without help
- But angels, like us, are part of a much bigger prophetic plan
- Angels exist to carry out the decrees of the Creator, but also exist to worship.

**EVERYTHING** that God has created is not just for a task and not JUST for worship... but for both

- When you study scriptures that speak about the nature of Heaven – what it is and what it looks like, and what happens there.
- We always see worship. – their worship is a standard devotion – but they also have assignments
- Angels are a model for us to gaze into what "forever" will look like in Glory, for all those who trust in Jesus
  - o At the Lord's every beck and call and worshipping for all eternity --- FOREVER AND EVER
  - o Worship forever and ever

### **WHY DO ANGELS MATTER TO US?**

**1 John 4:4** reminds us that God is greater than any enemy. Angels do not save us—Jesus does.

- But angels show that heaven is fighting for God's redemptive plan.
- When scripture talks about God being the LORD OF HOSTS or Yahweh Sabaoth – the army of heaven is an army of angels!
- In Spiritual warfare angels function as God's messengers and warriors in warfare,
  - o actively protecting believers, fighting demonic forces, and executing divine judgment
  - o **they don't exist solely for our benefit, but their existence benefits us.**
- Their role is to uphold God's purposes in the unseen battle for humanity.

AS we learn more and more about spiritual warfare over the next few weeks, I find it a blessing for us to be able to wonder at the fact that HEAVEN has an army

- We have not fought alone...
- We will not fight alone
- Heaven leans an ear to the cries of God's children – Praise the Lord for heaven's angels.
- And praise the Lord for the perfection and fullness of His plan.