

"FEAR NOT! -THE ANGELS OF ADVENT | SUNDAY, NOV. 28 ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

ADVENT I (HOPE)

OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we are humbled to be part of your creation. You have "rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son...in whom we have redemption..." (1 Colossians 1:13) We are grateful that you go before all creation, on earth as well as in heaven, visible and invisible, in order to fulfill your purposes. Amen.

CONNECTING QUESTION

What are your first thoughts when you think about angels? Have your beliefs about angels changed since you were a child?

SCRIPTURE READING

Read Aloud & Meditate on God's Word: Hebrews 1:1-14

WATCH VIDEO

EXPLORE THE TEXT

- 1. Read Hebrews 1:1-14. We know that angels play a clear role in God's creation and plan. Note the comparison between Christ and angels in these verses. What are the significant differences?
- 2. Hebrews 1:14 tells us that angels are ministering spirits created to serve those who will inherit salvation. Have you ever sensed that angels were ministering to you or watching over you or someone else you know?
- 3. In Isaiah 6:1-7, we read about Isaiah's interaction with angels. What words do the angels audibly call out loud to one another? What can we infer about angels from this interaction?
- 4. Read Exodus 23:20-23. Angels, like human beings, have been created to serve their Creator. They praise and worship God, bring messages from God to mankind, provide for God's people, and carry out God's will. Why is it important that we don't misplace our trust in angels and recognize their role in our lives in comparison to Jesus?
- 5. Read Psalm 91:11. We live in a tangible earthly realm, but there is a whole spiritual realm that is unseen. Spiritual beings manifest in very personal ways. What are some similarities between angels and the Holy Spirit in our lives? What are some differences? Read Luke 15:10 and John 16:7 for guidance.
- 6. In his book titled Angels, Billy Graham says, "...God has countless angels at His command. Furthermore, God has commissioned these angels to aid His children in their struggles against Satan. The Bible does not give as

much information about them as we might like, but what it does say should be a source of comfort and strength for us in every circumstance." How does this bring you comfort?

7. Read Revelation 5:11-14. We will gather WITH the angels in eternity to worship God in heaven! What can we conclude about the position of angels in God's kingdom?

FOLLOWING JESUS

Billy Graham stated, "It is my prayer that you will discover the reality of God's love and care for you as evidenced in the ministry of his angels on your behalf; and that you would go forth in faith each day trusting God's constant watch-care over you." Acknowledge God's love for you each and every day, and look for ways He is providing for your every need.

CLOSING PRAYER

Read these Christmas hymn lyrics: "Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; you who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king." Give thanks and praise to God, as the angels do, for his merciful, grace-filled gift of his Son, Jesus our Savior.

Our Father...