

Angels (II)

Angels rescued God's people from danger.

- Gn.28:...10-12, ladder... link...
- Gn.32:1-2, *Mahanaim*, two camps (his and angels of God)
 - 31:25, two hostile camps met
 - 32:6-8, two possibly hostile camps to meet
 - 32:22-24... Jacob and his family
 - Angels assure him as he leaves Canaan (ch. 28)
 - Angels (Angel) assure him as he returns (ch. 32). Hosea 12:3-4

I. What angels did,
are doing, or will do

¹Gave Law to Israel –

- Ac.7:51-53, *direction* of angels (NKJV); *delivered* by angels (ESV); *ordained* (NASB):
 - A king's decree is issued, published through his servants...
- Gal.3:19
 - Israel was terrified of God's presence; they could not take One-on-one revelation
 - Moses went from people to God (priestly)
 - Moses went from God to people (prophetic)

¹Gave Law to Israel –

- Ac.7:51-53, *direction* of angels (NKJV); *delivered* by angels (ESV); *ordained* (NASV):
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 - Israel was terrified of God's presence; they could not take One-on-one revelation
- Hb.2:2, spoken by angels
 - God was the actual speaker, but He used angels to convey it to the people.
 - Writer turns them to the ***word***.

²Achieved God's will for nations –

- Dn.10:...5-6, 12-13, 18-11:1-4; 12:1

³Protected / ministered to believers –

- Dn.3:...19-28 . . . 6:22
- Ps.91:11 [Mt.4:6]. Lk.22:43
- 1 K.19:5ff, Elijah
- 2 K.6, Elisha
- Ac.5:19, apostles' rescue
- Hb.1:14 [Mt.18:10; Ac.12:15]

⁴Punished God's enemies

- 2 K.19:...35, saved Jerusalem
- Gn.19:11-14, protected Lot
- Ac.12:23, removed a threat

⁵Worship and praise God

- Rv.5:11-14, many angels...

I. What Angels did / do / will do

II. Angels do not . . .

1. Receive worship from men

- Col.2, context: freedom in Christ –
 - Freedom from ...
 - Enticing words, 4-7.
 - Vain philosophy, 8-10.
 - Judgment of men, 11-17.
 - Improper worship, 18-19.
 - Doctrines of men, 20-23.

Col.2, context: freedom in Christ –

- Freedom from early Gnosticism, 18
 - Gnostic prided himself on special visions of secret things that others could not see
 - This was not the fault of good angels: they do not call attention to themselves (1:18).

Col.2: context: freedom in Christ

- Good angels refused man's worship, Rv.22:8-9
- New Age Movement helped popularize angels: they enhance creativity, add fun and play to your life, relieve stress and tension, and enhance youthful zest for living... ? ?

2. Communicate directly with us today

- 2 Co.4⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels...
- Even in days of miracles, angels helped sinner and preacher to meet (Ac.8:26; 10:1-7)
- Completion of NT: *no need* for angels to speak to preachers or sinners. 2 Tim.3:16-17
- Gal.1:6-9, what would angels tell us?
 - More than gospel?
 - Less than gospel?
 - Something different than gospel?

False claims have always been a threat

- 1 K.13:...18, He said to him, I too am a prophet as you are, and an angel spoke to me by the word of the LORD, saying, Bring him back with you to your house, that he may eat bread and drink water.
- (“He was lying to him.”)

False claims have always been a threat

- Gen.18-19, Abraham / Lot saw no halos, wings, dazzling lights (Jg.13:...6)
- Mt.28² And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat on it. ³ His countenance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow. ⁴ And the guards shook for fear of him, and became like dead men. ⁵ But the angel answered and said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified...”

False claims have always been a threat

- Lk.1¹¹ Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense. ¹² And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.

3. Work miracles today

- 1 Co.13:8-13
 - Bible does **not** tell us to seek angelic encounters.
 - Angelic experiences are **not** a sign of spiritual superiority – not even in the miraculous age. [Nu.22:21-38, Balaam]
 - Paul's claim was verified by following events, Acts 27:21-44.
- 2 Co.11:13-15

- Hb.1¹⁴ Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?
- Miracles would cease
- Nothing says service of angels will end
- Should give us
 - Encouragement
 - Faith in power / providence of God
 - Humility
- God will use angels in Judgment – Mt.13:41-43; 2 Th.1:7

Angels do not preach the gospel, Acts 10

- Angel was aware of the lost, 3-4
- Angel spoke to the lost, 3-4
- Angel did not preach gospel, 5-6
- Even if he could, it would have to be truth, Gal.1:8
- Angel told sinner how to contact the preacher, 22, 34 ... 42