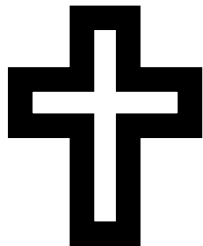


Twelve Lessons
on
Angels and Demons

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THE MINISTRY OF ANGELS – LESSON 1

Hebrews 1:1-14 – “*Ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?*”

Introduction: Today we are seeing an increase in demonism. Paul warned that these characteristics would be prevalent in the last days before the coming of the Lord. II Timothy 3:1 – “*...in the last days perilous times shall come.*” With this information, we should be reminded that Satan only drew 1/3 of the angels with him when he fell. We learn this from Revelation 12:4.

1. More than 300 times the Bible teaches us that angels aid and help the saints.
 2. Matt 18:10 – “*Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven.*” According to this verse, there at least two angels which accompany each “little one”.
 3. Why has God given us angels? Because they are ministers of the heirs of salvation.
- This lesson will focus on the blessings we receive from the presence and work of angels.

Lesson Goals:

1. To show the blessings we receive from the presence and work of angels.
2. To give the characteristics of angels and their ministry to the saints.
3. Examine the role angels play in the 1st and 2nd advent of Christ.

Definitions of Important Terms/Phrases:

1. Angel – A deputy; a messenger; specifically of God; a representative.
2. Ministering spirits – Hebrews 1:14 – All the angels, even those of the highest order, are employed by their Creator to serve those who believe in Christ Jesus (Adam Clarke's Commentary)

I. EXTRAORDINARY POWERS – To help us with extraordinary problems.

A. Great Numbers – The Devil would have us to believe we're all alone.

1. II Kings 6:14-17 – In this passage, the servant of Elisha became scared when he saw the great host of the Assyrians. The Bible says, “*And Elisha prayed, and said, Lord, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see.*” The Lord opened the eyes of the young man and the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire.
2. Other instances of angels being seen in the Bible – David saw 20,000; On Mt. Sinai – 10,000, Deuteronomy 32:10; In Revelation 5:10 there is a number which is 10,000 x 10,000; Hebrews 12:22 speaks of a number innumerable.

B. Great Speed

1. Angels are able to move quickly. They can be “quick to the rescue”.
2. In fact Luke 10:18 tells us that Christ “*beheld Satan as lightning fall from Heaven.*” We know that Heaven is light years away. Lucifer, being an angelic being, shows the speed at which angels can travel no matter what the purpose.
3. Yet in Daniel 10:12-13 an angel apologized for being 21 days late when he was sent to minister to Daniel. It is obvious that God can send angels specifically to help the people of God.

C. Great Knowledge

1. II Samuel 14:20 – “*My Lord is wise, according to the wisdom of an angel of God, to know all things that are in the earth.*”
2. Angels, although very intelligent, do not possess all knowledge. Mark 13:32 tells us of the coming of the Lord. “*But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in Heaven.*”

D. Great Power

1. II Kings 19:35 – One angel slew 185,000 Assyrians
2. II Samuel 24:15-16 – 70,000 men were slain from the pestilence of an angel
3. Acts 12:23 – Herod was smitten by the angel of the Lord and died.
4. Angels have power over human laws.
5. Angels can enter a locked prison and delivered Peter – Acts 12:7
6. Angels can open prison doors – Acts 5:19
7. Angels can ascend in a flame – Judges 13:19-20. After telling Manoah about the child Samson, the angel walked into fireplace and went up with the flame.
8. Satan will be bound by one angel.

II. EXTRAORDINARY PROTECTION – Angels are our ministering servants.

A. They touch and strengthen the saints

1. Daniel 10 – Daniel had been fasting for 21 days and had lost all strength. Verse 10 states, “*And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands.*”
2. Many times when I have felt tired, been exhausted, and really didn’t feel like preaching or even going to church, suddenly I have been given extra strength. What was it? Could it have been an angel.

B. They make God’s will known

1. Acts 8:26 – “*And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip saying, Arise, and go toward the south.*”
2. There have been many testimonies of Christians who have suddenly had the urge to go see an individual

C. They preserve saints from death

1. Angels have been known to preserve saints even if the saint is in a backslidden condition.
2. Genesis 19:16 – “*And while he lingered, the men laid hold upon his hand...and they brought him forth, and set him without the city.*”

D. They Give Us Hope In Desperate Situations

1. Have you ever felt like you just couldn’t go on? Then you had hope!
2. Acts 27:20 – “*All hope that we should be saved was then taken away*” Verse 23 – “*For there stood by me, this night, the angel.*”

III. AN EXTRAORDINARY POSITION IN THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS

A. An Angel will blow the Trumpet

1. I Thessalonians 4:16 – “*voice of the archangel and the trump of God.*”
2. With the shout of Jesus there will also be the voice of an archangel and a trumpet will be sounded.
3. Many believe Michael will be the archangel and Gabriel will blow the trumpet.

B. Judgment will be poured upon the earth

1. Immediately following the trump of God, trouble and judgment will be poured out upon the earth.
2. Nearly 50 times in the Bible God used angels to pour out judgment. We may assume from this fact that God will employ angels in the judgments which come upon the earth.
3. The book of Revelation pictures angels having a part in the Great Tribulation judgments.

C. The Judgment Seat of Christ

1. Believers will be judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ and angels will take part!
2. First, to affirm our salvation – Luke 12:8 – “*Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of Man also confess before the angels of God.*” They will be witnesses of our salvation.
2. Second, as record-keepers of our life as a Christian.
 - a. I Corinthians 11:10 tells us to watch how we dress because of the angels.
 - b. Every child of God has two angels that are always with him. We are never alone.

D. Angels will accompany Jesus when He comes back in glory.

1. Matthew 25:31 – “*When the Son of Man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of glory.*”
2. There are at least two reasons we know of for the accompaniment of angels.
 - a. They will gather out of the kingdom things that offend
 - b. One will bind Satan 1,000 years.

IV. AN EXTRAORDINARY PROMISE FOR THE CHILD OF GOD IN DEATH

A. Angels helped the Lord Jesus Christ

1. They were with Him in Gethsemane.
2. They were with Him at the Cross.
3. They were with Him at His burial and at His resurrection.
4. In the same manner they will be with us.

B. With angels we have the promise that death is not a monster

1. Death is a fiery chariot coming to take us home.
2. Death is the gentle voice of the King of kings.
3. Death is an invitation to a non-stop trip to the banquet hall of the world of glory.

C. If needed, what can angels do?

1. Elisha was protected by angels in II Kings 6:14-17.
2. Children are protected by angels in Matthew 18:10.
3. Blessings are received by prevailing in prayer in Genesis 32.
4. Bonds are broken in Acts 12:5-11.