

Remnant Life Church

September 2, 2018

**Angels – pt. 2**

**What They Do**

Job 38:4-7

The characteristics of angels (review)

1. They are personal beings (emotion, intelligence, with a fully surrendered will)
2. They are spiritual beings first (we are physical beings first)
3. They are distinct and different than man (a person does not become an angel when they die)
4. They are part of a created collective (not born and do not die)
5. They exist only to serve God and submit themselves to His authority alone

### What Angels Do

#### 1. They worship God

- a. We see this in the oldest, earliest writings of the Bible
  - i. The Bible is not arranged in chronological order
  - ii. The Genesis speaks of the creation before time, Moses was not present at that time
  - iii. Matthew was not the first book of the NT written – that was the book of Mark
- b. The oldest book in the Bible is Job (date unknown but content setting is prior to the early/mid 1400's BC of the Pentateuch)
- c. The writings of the oldest book bear out what angels have done since their creation
- d. **Job 38:4-7** - *“Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—while the morning stars sang together, and all the angels shouted for joy?”*
- e. **Ps 103:20- 22** - *Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will. Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion. Praise the LORD, my soul.*
- f. And they are even organized – **Luke 2:13-14** - *Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”*
- g. Just as it was when Jesus came into the world then, as we get closer to the time of Jesus’ return we should expect and embrace an increase in angelic activity again
  - i. Why? As a means to help bring every person possible to a knowledge of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior
  - ii. **John 6:39-40a** - *And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me but raise them up at the last day. For my*

*Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life...*

- iii. God will utilize all of His heavenly hosts to accomplish His will
- iv. How many is that? – we don't know
  - 1. John reports a number in **Rev 5:11-12** - *Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they were saying: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"*
  - 2. In biblical times, the number 10,000 was the highest number used to express a count
    - 1. To multiply that number by itself is the same as saying infinite (one hundred million)
- v. But their primary purpose and function is to praise and worship God
- vi. The vision of Isaiah, as he received his commission from God, affirms this
- vii. **Isaiah 6:1-3** - *In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."*
- viii. In his book *7 Days Behind the Veil* – John Paul Jackson wrote, “The reason all of heaven keeps repeating ‘Holy, holy, holy’ is not because that’s just what they do up there, strumming along with their little golden harps. “Holy!” is a witness to what God has just done. Every time God acts, the act is holy, and so the angels and every other heavenly creature bear witness to that holy act and cry out ‘Holy!’”
- h. That is why every Sunday out time together is all about worship
  - i. Worship is not just music however
  - ii. Worship is prayer, song, the Word, and fellowship
  - iii. Worship is not an activity of our lives - as Christians worship is our life!
  - iv. What do angels do? They worship God!

## **2. Angels protect us**

- a. The Scripture clearly states the involvement of angels in our lives
  - i. **Ps 34:7** - *The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them*
    - 1. Several times throughout both the old and new testaments we see angels intervening to either protect, free, or deliver God's people
  - ii. The **91<sup>st</sup> Psalm** is often read by Christians who are going through difficult times because of the comfort it provides as the reader is reminded of God's presence, care, and love for them
    - 1. **Ps 91:11-12** - *For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.*

2. Where do you see this verse quoted by someone who be the last you would think would say it?
  1. satan when he was tempting Jesus in the wilderness to jump off the roof of the temple
  2. **Matt 4:6; Luke 4:10**
- b. To many this represents what has been come to be known as Guardian Angels
  - i. The Scripture bears out the truth of their existence and function
    1. They come to aide those who fear God (**Ps 34:7**)
  - ii. BUT...we do not pray to them, or call out to them, or attempt to establish some type of contact or relationship with them through cultic practices
  - iii. They serve God and do only what He tells them to do – we only pray to God!
- c. Did you catch the condition on which these ministering and guarding angels come?
  - i. ‘Those who fear God’
  - ii. Turn to **Psalm 91:14-16** - present wonderful promises from God to His children who fear Him – He says:
    1. I will deliver him
    2. I will set him on high
    3. He shall call upon My name and I will answer him
    4. I will be with him in times of trouble
    5. I will honor him
    6. With long life I will satisfy him
    7. I will show him my salvation
  - iii. That word ‘salvation’ in the original Hebrew is ‘Yeshuah’ which also translates to deliverance and victory
    1. It is a derivative of the name Joshua (Yehoshuah)
      - i. Therefore, it is the most common form of the name Jesus (also Lord)
      - ii. i.e. - Yeshua HaMashiach – Jesus the Messiah
    2. God saves the best promise for last
    3. To know Jesus is the first, the best, and the last of what we can hope for in our lives
    4. To ‘know Jesus’ is more than head knowledge
      1. It is a desire for the closest possible intimacy with our Savior
      2. A brokenness that demands every area of my life be surrendered to Him
      3. It is a death to self, to my will, and my ego
      4. That is why here at RLC we calls ourselves servants
      5. Servants of the Most High God so whatever I am asked or called to do I do it with no other goal but to please my Heavenly Father
      6. I am convinced if the church of the 21<sup>st</sup> century would conduct all of its ministry and activities this way – the power of the Holy Spirit would flow through us unimpeded

by our selfish pride and the ensuing revival would change the world!

### 3. Angels help guide us through their actions and messages

- a. Under the direction of God, not of their own good will or our efforts to engage them in our lives
- b. Examples of guidance provided by God's messengers in the OT
  - i. **Gen 22:11**- an angel appeared to Abraham on Mt. Moriah and told him not to sacrifice his son Isaac
  - ii. **Num 22:22** – an angel prevented Balaam from riding to Jerusalem to pronounce a curse on God's people
  - iii. **Judges 6:12** – an angel appeared to Gideon to encourage him and give him direction in battle
  - iv. **I Kings 19:5** – an angel brought food and encouraged Elijah when he had fled from Ahab and Jezebel
  - v. **Dan 6:22** – an angel closed the mouths of the lions and kept Daniel safe
- c. Examples of messages brought in the NT
  - i. **Luke 1:19-20; 28-37** – an angel brought the news to Zechariah about the birth of his son John the Baptist and to Mary about the birth of Jesus
  - ii. **Luke 2:10** – an angel choir appeared to the shepherds declaring the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem
  - iii. **Matt 1:20; 2:13, 19-20** – angelic messages were given to Joseph in dreams about how to keep Mary and the baby Jesus safe
  - iv. **Matt 28:1-7** – an angel declared the resurrection of Jesus to the women at the tomb on Sunday morning
  - v. **Acts 12** – an angel miraculously set Peter free from prison before he could be martyred by King Herod
  - vi. **Acts 28:23** – an angel appeared to Paul on his 3<sup>rd</sup> missionary journey to assure him that he and those on the boat with him would not die in the storm

Why is this important this morning?

- Realize that God not only protects us with His love, but His angels are sent to minister to us as well.
- You are never alone, and God knows the needs and the circumstances of your life
- To receive this blessing begins with a fear of the Lord in our lives
- Caution: never pray to an angel or any other spiritual entity but to God alone!