

Chapter 19: Angels: What are angels? Why did God create them?

Angels are created, spiritual beings with moral judgment and high intelligence, but without physical bodies.

A. What are Angels? (p. 396)

1. Created Spiritual Beings (Neh 9:6, Col 1:16)
 - a. Exercise Moral Judgment (2Pe 2:4)
 - b. High Intelligence (Mat 28:5, Rev 4:11)
 - c. Spirits without physical bodies (Heb 1:14, Luk 24:39)
 - d. They do not have physical bodies; therefore, we cannot see them unless God gives us the ability (Num 22:31, 2Ki 6:17, Luk 2:13). Sometimes they temporarily take on bodily form (Heb 13:2)
2. Other Names for Angels
 - a. Sons of God (Job 1:6)
 - b. Holy Ones (Psa 89:5, Psa 89:7)
 - c. Spirits (Heb 1:14)
 - d. Watchers (Dan 4:13)
 - e. Thrones, dominions, principalities, and authorities (Col 1:16)
3. Other kinds of heavenly beings in Scripture
 - a. Cherubim (Gen 3:24, Psa 18:10, Exo 25:22)
 - b. Seraphim (Isa 6:2-7)
 - c. Living creatures (Eze 1:5-14, Rev 4:6-8)
4. Rank and Order (Jud 1:9, Rev 12:7-8, 1Th 4:16)
5. Names of specific angels. 2 mentioned: 1) Michael (Jude 1:9, Rev 12:7-8)
2) Gabriel (Dan 8:16, Luk 1:18-19)
6. Only one place at a time (Luk 1:26, Dan 10:12-14)
7. How many angels? (Deu 33:2, Psa 68:17, Heb 12:22, Rev 5:11)
8. Individual guardian angels? (Psa 91:11-12)
9. Angels do not marry (Mat 22:30, Psa 103:20, Eph 1:21, 2Pe 2:11, Heb 2:7, 1Co 6:3)
10. Power of angels (Ps 103:20; Eph. 1:21; 2 Pet 2:11; Heb 2:7; 1 Cor 6:3)
11. Who is the Angel of the Lord?
 - a. Sometimes = God Himself (Gen 16:13, Gen 31:11, 13, Exo 3:2, 6)
 - b. Sometimes an angel sent by God (2Sa 24:16, Psa 34:7, Luk 1:11)

B. When Were Angels Created? (p. 401)

- 1) Before the seventh day of Creation (Gen 2:1, Exo 20:11)
- 2) First day? (Job 38:6-7)
- 3) God has not given much information
- 4) Angels rebelled before the Fall (2Pe 2:4, Jud 1:6, Gen 1:31)

C. The place of Angels in God's Purpose (p. 402)

- 1) Show greatness of God's love and plan
 - a) We are more like God than angels (never said "made in the image of God") (Gen 1:26)
 - b) We will have authority over angels (1Co 6:3)
 - c) Angels cannot bear children (Mat 22:30)
 - d) God's love for mankind: no angels were saved (2Pe 2:4, Heb 2:16, Rev 5:9)
- 2) Remind us unseen world is real (Act 23:8, 2Ki 6:17, Heb 12:22)
- 3) Examples for us (Mat 6:10, Rev 5:11-12)
- 4) They carry out some of God's plans: Messages (Act 8:26), Judgment (2Ch 32:21, Mat 16:27)
 - a) Patrol Earth: Zec 1:10-11
 - b) War against demonic forces: Dan 10:13
 - c) Proclaim Christ's coming: 1Th 4:16, Rev 18:1-2
- 5) They directly glorify God (Rev 4:8, Psa 103:20, Isa 6:2-3, Luk 15:10, 1Pe 1:12)

D. Our Relationship to Angels (p. 405)

- 1) We should be aware of angels in daily lives
 - a) Though we do not ordinarily see or hear evidence of this heavenly worship, it certainly enriches our sense of reverence (Heb 12:22-23)
 - b) Angels can sometimes take human form to make "inspection visits" (Heb 13:2, Gen 18:2-5)
 - c) Angels can suddenly deliver from danger or distress (Dan 6:22, Act 12:7-11, Psa 91:11-12)
- 2) Cautions regarding our relationship to angels
 - a) Beware of receiving false doctrine (Gal 1:8, 2Co 11:14, 1Ki 13:18-19)
 - b) Do not worship, pray to, or seek (Col 2:18, 1Ti 2:5)
 - c) Do angels appear to people today? (Act 8:26, Act 10:3-6, Heb 13:2, 2Co 11:14)

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