

## Angels, God's Unseen Army

*"Are they not all [angels], ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?"* Hebrews 1:14

### God's Unseen Army of Mighty Warriors

*"Are they not all [angels], ministering spirits...?"* Hebrews 1:14a

- Angels are created by God (Job 38:7; Colossians 1:16)
- Angels have personalities, names and free will (Ezekiel 27:12-19; Daniel 8, 10; Luke 1:19, 26; Revelation 12:7)

### God's Unseen Army of Messengers

*"...sent out to render service..."* Hebrews 1:14b

- *Angelos* = Greek for "messenger"
- Angels are sent out on mission to serve and proclaim the glory of God (Matthew 1:20, Luke 1:26, Luke 2:8-15; Matthew 28:1-7; Revelation 14:6-7)

### God's Unseen Army of Ministers

*"...for the sake of those who will inherit salvation"* Hebrews 1:14c

- Angels guard, guide, protect God's people (2 Kings 6:11-17; Psalm 92:11-12; Acts 12:7-11)
- We also minister to angels as God's people (1 Corinthians 4:9; Hebrews 13:2; 1 Peter 1:12)

### God's Unseen Army of Models of Worship

*"...And let all the angels of God worship Him (Jesus)..."* Hebrews 1:6

- Angels worship Jesus with emotion and truth (Revelation 5:11-14)
- Angels were created to worship God not be worshipped (Colossians 2:18, Revelation 22:8-9)

## 10 FAQ's about Angels

1. **Is it wrong to have angel trinkets around the house?**

No, but we need to be careful that simple trinkets don't become idols that we worship or believe we need in order to be protected in the spiritual world we live in. God has given us all we need in the truth of the Bible, the Holy Spirit, fellow believers and an army of angels to guide, lead and protect us!

2. **Do some people become angels when they die?**

No, angels are in a different created category than humans. 1 Corinthians 6:3 tells us we will be involved in judging (fallen) angels in eternity, not becoming angels.

3. **Is it possible we may have interacted with an angel?**

Yes! Hebrews 13:2 tells us when we show hospitality to strangers some of us have "entertained angels without knowing it."

4. **Are all angels good?**

No. In 2 Corinthians 14:11 it tells us, Satan himself "disguises himself as an angel of light." The Bible teaches that 1/3 of created angels fell with Satan when he rebelled against God. It is interesting to keep in mind that both Islam and Mormonism were created through a "revelation" from an angel to Mohammad and Joseph Smith respectively. Fallen angels are deceptive liars and enemies of Jesus.

5. **Why are angels often depicted with a halo and dressed in white?**

Angels are called "holy" in Mark 8:38 and many artists throughout history have depicted the holiness of angels with a light above their heads or a halo. There are no references to angels having halos or crowns in the Bible.

6. **Do angels have to earn their wings?**

No, angels don't earn their status with God, they are simply assigned roles as servant messengers of God.

7. **Do we have an assigned guardian angel?**

No, the Bible doesn't give us any details of assigned angels, although Matthew 18:10 does describe angels that specifically look after children. In reality, as Revelation 5 talks about, we have an army of angels surrounding and available to us, not just one!

8. **Can people pray to angels?**

No, angels are created to give worship and honor to God alone. They are created beings and sent to minister to us, perhaps because of our prayers, but not as recipients of our prayers.

9. **Are there classes of angels?**

The Bible describes 5 different potential names (and roles) for angels. "Seraphim" angels stand in the presence of God (Isaiah 6), "Cherubim" are described as guarding holy things (Genesis 3:24, 1 Samuel 4:4). "Archangels" are titles given to Gabriel and Michael (Daniel 8:9, Luke 1, 1 Thessalonians 4:16 and Revelation 12). "Fallen angels" are a 4th category (Revelation 12:3-4) and perhaps a 5th category is "rulers and powers" (Ephesians 6:12).

10. **Will the Angels baseball team win the World Series this year?**

No, not enough starting pitching or offense! My money is on the Oakland A's. (Sorry couldn't resist!)

## LifeGroup Questions:

1. Do you feel most Christians have an accurate view of who angels are? Why or why not?
2. Read Hebrews 1:1-14. The main mission of angels is to worship Jesus and minister to God's people. How does this mission encourage you in your mission as a follower of Jesus?
3. Read Revelation 5:11-14. There are "myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands" of angels around the throne of God in heaven. Now go to the Old Testament and read the account of Elisha and the mountains full of angels in 2 Kings 6:11-17. How does knowing there are an army of angels worshipping God and protecting God's people encourage you in the spiritual battles of your life?

## Next Steps:

1. **Place your faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord today.** Use the booklet in the seat rack in front of you called, "Connect with God" to help guide you through this life changing decision.
2. **Proclaim you are a follower of Jesus through baptism.** The next opportunity to be baptized is during the Memorial Day Weekend One Service on Sunday, May 24 at 10:00 am. If you are interested in being baptized or just want to learn more about baptism join our 1-hour class on Sunday, May 17 at 8:45 am or 10:45 am in the Prayer Room (located to the right side of the stage in the Worship Center).
3. **Read Hebrews 1 and 2** several times this week for encouragement and hope as you walk through spiritual battlefields. Jesus is powerful!