

# WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY

## Angels

July 3, 2022

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

### 1. What work do angels accomplish?

#### A. Angels bring messages from God to people.

*But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. Matthew 28:5 (ESV)*

*...you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it." Acts 7:53 (ESV)*

#### B. Angels sing praise to God.

*"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."*

*Revelation 4:11 (ESV)*

#### C. Angels protect and serve us.

*For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. Psalm 91:11 (ESV)*

*Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation? Hebrews 1:14 (ESV)*

*Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Matthew 2:13 (ESV)*

#### D. Angels execute God's judgment.

*Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last. Acts 12:23 (ESV)*

*And that night the angel of the Lord went out and struck down 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians. And when people arose early in the morning, behold, these were all dead bodies. 2 Kings 19:35 (ESV)*

#### E. Angels battle demonic forces.

*The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia,... Daniel 10:13 (ESV)*

## F. Angels celebrate when sinners repent.

Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents." Luke 15:10 (ESV)

## G. Angels carry us home to heaven when we die.

The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried,... Luke 16:22 (ESV)

# 2. What are some of the different kinds of angels?

## A. Cherubim

He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life. Genesis 3:24 (ESV)

There I will meet with you, and from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubim that are on the ark of the testimony, I will speak with you about all that I will give you in commandment for the people of Israel. Exodus 25:22 (ESV)

## B. Seraphim

Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" Isaiah 6:2-3 (ESV)

## C. The Living Creatures

...And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" Revelation 4:6-8 (ESV)

## D. Watchers

"I saw in the visions of my head as I lay in bed, and behold, a watcher, a holy one, came down from heaven." Daniel 4:13 (ESV)

## E. Archangel

Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. Revelation 12:7-8 (ESV)

# 3. What are common questions about angels?

## A. How many angels do we know by name?

## B. Are angels limited by space and time?

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, Luke 1:26 (ESV)

## C. How many angels are in the universe?

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,... Revelation 5:11 (ESV)

## D. Do we have a guardian angel?

"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. Matthew 18:10 (ESV)

They said to her, "You are out of your mind." But she kept insisting that it was so, and they kept saying, "It is his angel!" Acts 12:15 (ESV)

## E. Are angels more powerful than people?

Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word! Psalm 103:20 (ESV)

whereas angels, though greater in might and power, do not pronounce a blasphemous judgment against them before the Lord. 2 Peter 2:11 (ESV)

Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life! 1 Corinthians 6:3 (ESV)

## F. Who is the angel of the Lord?

But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." Genesis 22:11–12 (ESV)

And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush... And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Exodus 3:6 (ESV)

# 4. What about angels show us God's love for us?

## A. We are created in God's image. Angels are not.

"Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image. Genesis 9:6 (ESV)

Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation? Hebrews 1:14 (ESV)

## B. Angels can not bear children.

For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. Matthew 22:30 (ESV)

## C. No angel will be saved.

*For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham.*  
Hebrews 2:16 (ESV)

*And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation,...”*  
Revelation 5:9 (ESV)

## 5. How are angels involved in our daily life?

### A. Angels are present in worship.

*But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering,...”*  
Hebrews 12:22 (ESV)

### B. Angels watch our obedience and disobedience.

*In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels I charge you to keep these rules... 1 Timothy 5:21 (ESV)*

### C. Angels may take on human form to visit us.

*Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.* Hebrews 13:2 (ESV)

### D. Angels deliver us from danger.

*My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths, and they have not harmed me,... Daniel 6:22 (ESV)*

*But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out,...” Acts 5:19–20 (ESV)*

## 6. In what ways should we be cautious of angels?

### A. Beware of false teaching that comes from angels.

*But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed.* Galatians 1:8 (ESV)

*And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.*  
2 Corinthians 11:14 (ESV)

### B. Angels should not be worshipped or sought.

*Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind,...”*  
Colossians 2:18 (ESV)

*Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.” Revelation 19:10 (ESV)*

## Life Group Questions

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1. How did this message change the way you think about angels?
2. How does it change your attitude in worship to know you are in the presence of angels that join you in singing to God?
3. Do you think angels watching you right now? What do you think they feel as they watch you?
4. Have you ever experienced remarkable joy after praying with someone to receive Jesus as their savior? Do you think angels celebrating when a sinner repented and turned to Jesus (Luke 15:10) might have contributed to your joy?
5. Have you experienced a remarkable rescue from danger and wondered if angels were involved in helping you at that time?
6. How do you think you will feel when God elevates you from being below the angels to above the angels? (1 Corinthians 6:3) How do you think you will feel when God asks you to participate in judging the angels? How do these facts help you better comprehend how much God loves you and how good plans are for you through Jesus?