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God, through His Son Jesus, provides eternal grace for our failures and human limitations.

Angel's in General.

(2013)

The Bible not only reveals God's eternal plans purposes and promises

But also shows how you can know God for yourself.

Teach it, don't demand it.

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man. As to such I neither claim special knowledge or perfect understanding.

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Angel's in General.

Topics.

- Jacob sees angels in a dream.
- God's holy power communicating to man's mind.
- God charges his angels with error.
- The son of man shall come with his saints and with his angels.
- A vision of angels.
- Mary and angels.
- Angels ascending and descending upon the son of man.
- Christians are to judge angels.
- Entertain strangers for some maybe angels.
- Angels in the book of revelation.
- Satan and angels.

From Strong's Concordance the English word angel in the Old Testament is from the Hebrew word mal'ak. In the New Testament the English word angel is from the Greek word aggelos. The word mal'ak in the Old Testament and the word aggelos in the New Testament have sometimes been translated to the English word messenger or messengers while at other times mal'ak and aggelos are translated angel or angels.

Malak: means to dispatch as a deputy, a messenger, an ambassador or a representative it can apply to and angel of God, a king, a prophet, a priest or teacher. The same word is used for the supernatural angels of God and for human messengers thus it can apply to God's supernatural angels or human men who are sent as messengers.

Aggelos: means a messenger or envoy sent from God to bring tidings. Aggelos is used all of the time in the New Testament for the supernatural angels of God (except for Luke chapter twenty), but it is also used for human men (i.e., pastors, ministers and such like) thus aggelos can apply to God's supernatural angels or human messengers.

From Genesis to Revelation there is: -

- An angel of the Lord and of God.
 - Angels that do the work of God.
 - Angels that appear as humans.
 - In the book of Revelation, Jesus has an angel.
 - Human men who are called angels.
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Jacob sees Angels in a Dream (Holy power personified as angels).

Genesis 28:10-12 ---- ¹⁰Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it

under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. ¹²And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels (mal'ak) of God were ascending and descending on it!

Angels do not need ladders to climb up and down, there are no ladders between heaven and earth this is a vision in Jacobs mind (like a dream) that God has given him to comfort and reveal to Jacob that there are angels ascending and descending between heaven and earth (Genesis 28:10-12).

God's Holy Power Communicating to Mans Mind.

Job 4:12-17 ----- ¹²Now a word was brought to me stealthily; my ear received the whisper of it. ¹³Amid thoughts from visions of the night, when deep sleep falls on men, ¹⁴dread came upon me, and trembling, which made all my bones shake. ¹⁵A spirit glided past my face; the hair of my flesh stood up. ¹⁶It stood still, but I could not discern its appearance. A form was before my eyes; there was silence, and I heard a voice: ¹⁷Can mortal man be in the right before God? Can a man be pure before his Maker?

Eliphaz is in a deep sleep and in this deep sleep has a vision which caused him great fear (similar to a dream). In this vision he saw a spirit pass before his face and even though it stood still he could not discern the form of it though an image was before he eyes and he heard a voice. The voice (in his mind) basically told him that no mortal man can be pure before God's Holiness.

This is a vision in the night that has come to the mind of Eliphaz while he is in a deep sleep. Angels or the Spirit of God may come to many in this same manner (i.e., in visions within the mind). It is God communicating his comfort or message by His Spirit to our mind, when God acts this way it is often written, "An angel spoke."

God charges His Angels with Error.

Job 4:18-19 ----- ¹⁸Even in his servants he puts no trust, and his angels he charges with error; ¹⁹how much more those who dwell in houses of clay.

The following are the three most common theories regarding the words, "God charges his angels with error" (v18).

1. It refers to the devils angels, but this is unlikely since they are called God's angels and no-one has to be told they are judged to destruction.
2. Eliphaz has God's supernatural angels in focus, we know this because he contrasts the angels with mortal men of dust saying, "Even in his servants he puts no trust, and his angels he charges with error how much more those who dwell in houses of clay?" (Job 4:18-19). Regarding God's angels the author of Hebrews wrote: -
 - God says, "He makes his angels winds, and his ministers a flame of fire" (Heb. 1:7).
 - Angels are all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation? (Heb. 1:14).

Here we see that angels are sent from God for the benefit of those who are to inherit eternal salvation so it is very unlikely that God has angels surrounding his throne that he cannot trust. Added to this there is not one example in the Bible of God charging His supernatural angels with folly or the angels rebelling against God. With this in mind consider the following verses: -

- Eliphaz says, "Even the heavens are not clean in God's sight" (Job 15:15).
- Bildad says, "Even to the moon and the stars are not pure in God's sight" (Job 25:5).

Thus: it is most likely Eliphaz was simply using biblical lofty language to shine a brilliant floodlight on the greatness and purity of God's holiness to show that it is so far above the heavens, the moon, the stars, the angels and all that God has created that nothing is perfectly pure when it is compared to the holiness of God.

3. At the end of the book of Job the LORD after speaking with Job said to Eliphaz, "My anger burns against you and against your two friends, for you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has"(Job 42:7).

God rebukes Eliphaz because he had not spoken what was right so it is likely Eliphaz was speaking from his own limited knowledge and wrong understanding of God and of God's angels, so what he said is an incorrect statement concerning God charging his angels with error.

The Son of Man shall come with His Saints (from the Old Testament).

Zechariah 14:5 ----- ⁵And you shall flee to the valley of my mountains, for the valley of the mountains shall reach to Azal. And you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD my God will come, and all the *saints* (holy ones in ESV) with him.

Saints: means sacred (ceremonial or moral) i.e., a holy One. It can refer to an angel or a human man or woman.

Consecrated and Sanctified.

The words, "Consecrated and Sanctified" basically mean to be blessed dedicated, glorified and made holy.

The following New Testament verses speak of Jesus returning with his saints and with his angels.

The Son of man will come with his angels.

- The Son of Man is going to come with his *angels* (aggelos) in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done (Matt. 16:27).

The Son of man will come and all the holy angels with him.

- When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the *angels* (aggelos) with him then he will sit on his glorious throne (Matt. 25:31).

Jesus will come in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

- Whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the *holy angels*" (aggelos) (Mark 8:38).

Jesus will come in the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.

- Whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the *holy angels* (aggelos) (Luke 9:26).

Jesus will come with all his Saints.

- So that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his *saints* (hagios) (1 Thess. 3:13).

Jesus will be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels.

- When the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty *angels* (aggelos) ⁸in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus (2 Thess. 1:7-8).

The Lord come with ten thousands of his saints.

- It was also about these that Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his *saints* (hagios) (holy ones in ESV) (Jude 1:14)

SUMMARY: the word angels in some verses is interchangeable with the word saints (referring to faithful men and women in Christ) and likewise saints can be referred to as angels this is especially true in the context of these verses because when faithful brothers and sisters in Christ (the saints) are gathered together with Christ they will be as the angels (immortal and eternal).

A Vision of Angels.

Luke 24:22-23 ----- ²²Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, ²³and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels (aggelos) who said that he was alive.

Here the two disciples going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem (Luke 24:13) told Jesus that the women had seen a vision of angels, who said Jesus was alive (for more, see the next title; Mary and the Angels).

Mary and Angels.

John 20:11-12 ----- ¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb, and as she wept she stooped to look into the tomb. ¹²And she saw two angels (aggelos) in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had lain, one at the head and one at the feet.

In the previous verses (Luke 24:22-23) the two disciples going to Emmaus said the women had seen a vision of angels, yet here Mary says she saw two angels. We know that sometimes God causes gives visions of angels in the mind of the person who sees them and that vision in some Scriptures are written as though they are real events (i.e., as though the person actually saw them).

An example of this is Peter who has certain God given visions within his mind in which he talks to the Lord in the vision. This is because though the vision is happening in the mind it can be so vivid and clear that the events and the voices heard in the vision appear to the person having the vision as a real event (Luke 24:22-23). Even secular people in a deep sleep can have dreams that seem so real that their entire body reacts emotionally to it, yet it is only a figment of the imagination acting on the nervous system of the person having the dream.

Throughout this study of angels we have seen that angels have appeared to men of the Bible as real angels, or as men, as a vision in their mind or appear as a vision before their eyes (much like a hologram). Often is not possible to tell which of these forms the angels in the stories are appearing to the person in, especially when different writers are relating the story second hand, but it matters little since it is not the angel that is important, but the message they bring.

Angels Ascending and Descending upon the Son of Man.

John 1:49-51 ----- ⁴⁹Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels (aggelos) of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

Jesus told Nathanael he would see angels descending and ascending on him the only way Nathanael was able to see angels descending and ascending on Christ

was by the power that came on Christ to perform the great miracles, signs and wonders he did. In this context the power that came upon Jesus to perform the miracles that no other man on earth could do is referred to as angels, this is because this power came from heaven.

Christians are to judge Angels.

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

Obviously we are not going to judge God's angels since the Bible says they are, "Ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?" (Heb. 1:14-14).

Clearly these angels are serving God and doing His will, so who are these angels we are going to judge? In the previous study titled, 'Angels can be Human Messengers' it has been shown that the word angel which simply means messenger sometimes refers to God's angels while at other times it refers to human men (i.e., God's prophets, priests pastors and teachers etc.), so in the context of this verse the word angels refers to corrupt and self-serving religious men who have great positions of authority, power and influence over the Kingdom of God, but are serving self and not Christ.

When Christ returns as King of kings and Lord of lords ruling and reigning from God's Holy City Jerusalem (on Mount Zion God's Holy Mountain) to establish God's Kingdom of righteousness, justice, joy and peace on earth during his millennial reign. The dead in Christ and the faithful, who are alive, will be gathered together to rule and reign as kings and priests with the Lord over those nations who are left outside the Holy City of God. It is at this time we will judge angels, meaning those who have used God and his Kingdom for their own selfish ambition.

The book of Revelation states: -

- Jesus Christ, the faithful witness who loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father is coming in glory and every eye shall see him, and they also who pierced him and all kindreds of the earth (Revelation 1:5-7).

And in Revelation chapter five we are told that: -

- Christ was slain, and by his blood he redeemed a people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation and made them a kingdom and priests to God and they shall reign on the earth (Revelation 5:9-10).

At the end of this glorious Kingdom age God descends to earth on a Great White Throne the sea, death and hades (the grave) give up the dead. They stand before God and are judged according to what is written in certain heavenly books according to what they have done.

Death and those counted unworthy are cast into the Lake of Fire a symbol of eternal destruction (i.e., total extinction) (also called the, Second Death) (Rev 20:11-15). Christ hands the Kingdom over to his heavenly Father and God is ALL in ALL and ETERNITY begins in all its fullness and majestic royal glory.

For further information see titles: -

- Kingdom of God (ON WEBSITE MENU).
- The Second or Great White Throne Judgment.

In, Resurrection (ON WEBSITE MENU).

Entertain Strangers for Some maybe Angels.

Hebrews 13:1-2 ----- ¹Let brotherly love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels (aggelos) unawares.

The words, "Some have entertained angels unawares" can apply to two groups: -

- 1 God's heavenly angels as they appeared to Abraham in (Gen. 18), and Lot (Gen. 19:1-11) though today it is unlikely that this will ever be our case since we do not need angels today to proclaim God's will and revelation to us since we have it in print in the cannon of the Bible. Nevertheless since God is sovereign we cannot annihilate His dominion to do as he wills so it is possible that God might send a spiritual angel in some form to help a person suffering a great crisis or great need, but this certainly is not the norm for Christian life today neither should we live with the expectation of it since most in the Bible who had angels visit them were taken by surprise and certainly not expecting them to appear.
- 2 To human strangers who we show hospitality and kindness to and they turn out to be an enormous blessing to our lives, either financially, emotionally or spiritually or in any other way that lifts a great burden from us. Even those in the world use the expression "They were like an angel from heaven to me" referring to a human person who has greatly helped them through a difficult time.

Many men and woman throughout history have been involved in accidents, natural disasters and such like things that have threatened their life and a total stranger has come to their rescue. It is right and proper for the person whose life was saved from certain horror or death to say to their friends that, "The stranger was an angel of God sent to their rescue."

Angels in the Book of Revelation.

The word angel in the book of Revelation is always translated from the Greek word (aggelos) which means messenger and can be God's angels, human men or an envoy of men. Since most of the book of Revelation is written in very symbolic language the collective power of any authority whether it is an army or government can be called an angel. If that power results in blessing it would be called an angel of blessing, but if the power results in destruction it would be called an evil angel of destruction. To give an example; if the leader of the Arabs gathered together a number of Moslem countries and went to war against Israel, and successfully burned down and destroyed Jerusalem rather than the Bible writers detailing the exact events or give a detailed historical account of this event it can be written in the following manner: -

- An evil angel went up against Israel and destroyed Jerusalem.
- An evil angel from the north descended on Israel and destroyed Jerusalem.
- An evil angel came up from the abyss upon Israel and destroyed Jerusalem.

This is because angels can be human men; supernatural angels of God; a personification of God's power or the collective power of sin flowing out from the human heart which is manifested outwardly through governments and armies.

Satan and Angels.

Satan's angels are in some verses titles given to corrupt and wicked people especially religious men and priests, teachers and ministers who distort and twist the Scriptures and use God's Kingdom for their own selfish gain and in other verses are names give for the personification of indwelling sin and its outward manifestation of wicked and corrupt behaviour.

This is another topic altogether, for further information, see the titles: -

- Devil.
- Satan.

Both titles are in Satan and his Family (ON WEBSITE MENU).

End