

# Armies of Heaven

arrayed in

## **Fine White Linen**

(2019)

# WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



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 perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

### Armies of Heaven Arrayed in Fine White Linen.

Revelation 19:14: And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure (clean
in KJV), were following him on white horses.

The armies in this verse refer to the resurrected redeemed who Christ will bring with him when he returns in glory. They are referred to as the called and chosen in the following verse:

• Revelation 17:14: They (the ungodly beast nations) will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful." (Revelation 17:14).

Jesus returns with mighty angels.

• 2 Thessalonians 1:7: To grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels.

The English word angel comes from the Hebrew word mal'ak meaning messenger. In the Old Testament the Hebrew word mal'ak has in some verses been translated angel while in others it has been translated messenger. This means that the word angel can apply to heavenly angels or human messengers. In most instances the context the word angels is used in make it clear as to whether it is referring to human messengers or heavenly angels (though there are some exceptions).

The following are some Bible examples where the word (mal'ak s) has been translated to messenger showing that the Hebrew word (mal'ak) can refer to human people or heavenly angels. In all the following verses the word angels is the Hebrew word (mal'ak) meaning angel, but is translated in our English Bibles as messenger which means the following men referred to as messengers are in the original manuscripts called angels.

**The Biblical Pattern:** in most instances (there are exceptions). Bible translators have translated the Hebrew word (mal'ak) to the English word angels when they are identified with God or heaven and translated it to the word messenger when they are identified with man or the earth. When man sends (mal'ak) (angel) the translators of the Bible have translated the Hebrew word (mal'ak) to messenger whereas when God sends (mal'ak) the translators of the Bible have translated the Hebrew word (mal'ak) to angel.

### John the Baptist is a human angel.

• Matthew 11:9-11. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written, " 'Behold, I send my *messenger* (aggelos) (angel) before your face, who will prepare your way before you.

### John the Baptist sent human angels.

• Luke 7:24. John's *messengers* (aggelos) (angel) had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?

### John the Baptist is Jesus' human angel.

• Luke 7:27. This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger (aggelos) (angel) before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'

### Jesus sends human angels.

• Luke 9:51-52. When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup>And he sent *messengers* (aggelos) (angel) ahead of him, to the village of the Samaritans.

### Titus is a human angel of the church.

2 Corinthians 8:23. As for Titus, he is my partner and fellow worker for your benefit.
 And as for our brothers, they are messengers (aggelos) (angel) of the churches, the glory of Christ.

The means that the mighty angels in (2 Thess. 1:7), that Jesus returns with may be real supernatural angels, or they could be the resurrected redeemed who Christ will bring with him when he returns in glory.

### THE LORD CAME WITH TEN THOUSANDS OF HIS HOLY ONES

• **Jude 1:14-15:** Behold, the Lord came with ten thousands of his holy ones, <sup>15</sup>to execute judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed in such an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things that ungodly sinners have spoken against him." (Jude 1:14-15).

Here Enoch speaks of the Lord coming with ten thousands of his holy ones to execute judgment on all the ungodly. In the book of Revelation, we read of the heavenly host praising Jesus for the people from every tribe, language, and nation, who he had ransomed for God by his blood, and then we read:

• Revelation 5:8-12: He has made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth." 11Then 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, 12saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

The resurrected redeemed are made pure and holy and will come with Christ to judgment, but this vision does not refer to the day of judgment, but to Christians on earth. The faithful are at this present time in a state of warfare, in this world standing against many enemies such as, sin, Satan, temptations and all things ungodly in the world. Christ their head and Captain of their salvation has provided them with the whole armour of God (Eph.6: 11-18). They are spoken of as being in heaven, because their names are written in heaven and from heavens view all the redeemed are counted as being born from above, partakers of the heavenly calling, belonging to heaven, citizens of heaven, and are themselves pressing on to heaven and therefore already viewed by God as being seated in heaven. The following verses show that being clothed in white garments is the usual description of those who are pictured as being in heaven:

- Revelation 3:4-5: Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled
  their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. <sup>5</sup>The one who
  conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the
  book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels.
- **Revelation 4:4:** Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads.
- Revelation 7:9: I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from
  every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and
  before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands.

- Revelation 7:13: One of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?"
- Revelation 15:6: Out of the sanctuary came the seven angels with the seven plagues, clothed in pure, bright linen, with golden sashes around their chests.

These verses show that being clothed in white garments signifies that those clothed in them are not only holy and purely righteous, but also fully accepted and considered as being most glorious by God, by Christ and by all the heavenly host. It should be highlighted here that prior to our resurrection to eternal glory, not one of us is counted by God as being righteous according to our own works, righteous and religious deeds, but according to Christ's righteousness. We are made white by being washed in the blood of the Lamb, and by our faith in Christ. God sees us clothed in Christs robe of righteousness which is pure and spotless, in contrast our own self-righteousness.

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

Bible House of Grace