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GRACE**

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John Falls
at the
Feet of an Angel

(2019)

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.

John Falls at the Feet of an Angel.

- **Revelation 19:10:** Then I (John) fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! (See thou do it not in KJV) I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God." For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.
- **Revelation 22:8:** I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me,

Falling-down and prostrating oneself was a common posture of adoration and humility in the East and amongst the early church. The apostle Paul said:

- If the whole church comes together and prophesies or proclaims the Gospel and an unbeliever hears and is convicted and the secrets of their heart are disclosed, they will fall on their face and worship God and declare that God is really among them. (1 Cor. 14:24-25).

John and the worship of the angel: after having being shown the glory of the new Jerusalem and the triumphant and victorious end for the redeemed church, especially after seeing so many horrors and woes, that are to come upon earth. Johns first impulse after being filled with overwhelming feelings of joy at seeing such wonder was to fall upon the ground in the posture of worship and adoration before the angel who had revealed such magnificent prophetic visions and revelations to him. It is not difficult to understand John's response when it is considered this angel was the angel of Jesus and spoke the words of Jesus.

A common custom: the following verses show that prostration, or falling at the feet of a person considered superior, to pay them honour due to their pre-eminence, was a common custom in Eastern countries.

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- **Genesis 44:14:** When Judah and his brothers came to Joseph's house, he was still there. They fell before him to the ground.
- **1 Samuel 25:23-24:** When Abigail saw David, she hurried and got down from the donkey and fell before David on her face and bowed to the ground. ²⁴She fell at his feet and said, "On me alone, my lord, be the guilt. Please let your servant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your servant.
- **2 Kings 4:36-37:** Then he (Elisha) summoned Gehazi and said, "Call this Shunammite." So he called her (the mother of the child). And when she came to him, he said, "Pick up your son." ³⁷She came and fell at his (Elisha) feet, bowing to the ground. Then she picked up her son and went out.
- **Esther 8:3:** Then Esther spoke again to the king. She fell at his feet and wept and pleaded with him to avert the evil plan of Haman the Agagite and the plot that he had devised against the Jews.

Some suppose that John being the apostle of love and with Jesus while he walked on earth, would have known that it was forbidden to worship any other creature other than Jesus, and that such worship would be considered idolatry and therefore he would never have done this. However, since this is the angel of Jesus it is very possible that the angel being the angel of Jesus appeared in some heavenly majestic form, and likeness to Jesus, or that he mistook the heavenly majestic angel standing before him to be the Messiah who he was accustomed to worship, especially when it is taken into account that Jesus appeared to him at the beginning, and John was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day and I heard behind him a loud voice like a trumpet, and when he turned to see the voice that was speaking to him, he saw:

- Seven golden lampstands, ¹³and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, ¹⁵his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. ¹⁶In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. (Rev. 1:12-16).

And then we read:

- When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, ¹⁸and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades. (Rev. 1:17-18).

The angel quickly corrected Johns mistaken identity telling him not to worship him, but God alone. It should be mentioned here that this does not mean the Jesus himself should not be worshipped, but that it is wrong to offer worship to angels.

WORSHIP OF ANGELS FORBIDDEN

The angels' words, "You must not do that! (See thou do it not in KJV) I am a fellow servant with you," are very short and spoken in an abrupt manner, and in great haste; as the angel feared John would be guilty of idolatry. This warning of the angel shines a spotlight upon the truth, that it is totally wrong to worship any of the following:

- An angel.
- A majestic creature or animal.
- The Pope, and the Virgin Mary.
- The bread and wine of the eucharist (Catholics believe the bread and wine turns into the literal flesh and blood of Christ), which is why some worship it.
- Departed believers that the Catholic Church has exalted as saints.
- Minsters and preachers that have great gifts and talents; oratory skills and global congregations.

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.
