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Angels

can be

Human Messengers.

(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.

Angels can be Human Messengers.

Topics.

- Human angels in the Old Testament.
- Human angels in the New Testament.

The meaning of the word angel: 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 an 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.

HUMAN ANGELS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

The following verses show that men sent human angels (malak) (meaning messengers).

Jacob sent human angels.

- **Genesis 32:3.** And Jacob sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) before him to Esau his brother in the land of Seir, the country of Edom.

Moses sent human angels.

- **Numbers 20:14.** Moses sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) from Kadesh to the king of Edom.

Israel sent human angels.

- **Numbers 21:21.** Then Israel sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to Sihon king of the Amorites, saying.

Joshua sent human angels.

- **Joshua 7:22.** So Joshua sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) and they ran to the tent.

Gideon sent human angels.

- **Judges 7:24.** Gideon sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) throughout all the hill country of Ephraim.

Jephthah sent human angels.

- **Judges 11:12.** Then Jephthah sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to the king of the Ammonites.

Israel sent human angels.

- **Judges 11:17.** Israel then sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to the king of Edom.

Saul sent human angels.

- **1 Samuel 16:19.** Therefore Saul sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to Jesse.

Saul sent human angels.

- **1 Samuel 19:11.** Saul sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to David's house to watch him.

A Human angel comes to Saul.

- **1 Samuel 23:27.** a *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) came to Saul, saying, "Hurry and come, for the Philistines. have made a raid against the land."

David sent human angels.

- **2 Samuel 2:5.** David sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to the men of Jabesh-gilead.

Abner sent human angels.

- **2 Samuel 3:12.** And Abner sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to David.

Hiram sent human angels.

- **2 Samuel 5:11.** And Hiram king of Tyre sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to David.

Joab sends a human angel to David.

- **2 Samuel 11:18-19.** Then Joab sent and told David all the news about the fighting. ¹⁹And he instructed the *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) "When you have finished telling the news to the king.

A human angel Joab sent goes to David.

- **2 Samuel 11:22-23.** So the *messenger* (mal'ak) (Angel) went and came and told David all that Joab had sent him to tell. ²³ The *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) said to David we drove our enemies back.

David sends a human angel back to Joab.

- **2 Samuel 11:25.** David said to the *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) "Thus shall you say to Joab.

Joab sent human angels back to David.

- **2 Samuel 12:27.** And Joab sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to David.

Jezebel sent a human angel to Elijah.

- **1 Kings 19:2.** Then Jezebel sent a *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) to Elijah.

A human angel goes to Miciah.

- **1 Kings 22:12-13.** And all the prophets prophesied so and said, "Go up to Ramoth-gilead and triumph; the LORD will give it into the hand of the king." ¹³And the *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) who went to summon Micaiah said to him.

Elisha sent a human angel.

- **2 Kings 5:10.** And Elisha sent a *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean."

Human angel comes to Elisha's Elders.

- **2 Kings 6:32-33.** Elisha was sitting in his house, and the elders were sitting with him. Now the king had dispatched a man from his presence, but before the *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) arrived Elisha said to the elders, "Do you see how this murderer has sent to take off my head? Look, when the *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) comes, shut the door and hold the door fast against him. Is not the sound of his master's feet behind him?" ³³And while he was still speaking with them, the *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) came down to him and said, "This trouble is from the LORD! Why should I wait for the LORD any longer?"

A human angel comes to Jehu.

- **2 Kings 9:18.** So a man on horseback went to meet him and said, "Thus says the king, 'Is it peace?'" And Jehu said, "What do you have to do with peace? Turn around and ride behind me." And the watchman reported, saying, "The *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) reached them, but he is not coming back."

A human angel comes to Jezreel.

- **2 Kings 10:7-8.** And as soon as the letter came to them, they took the king's sons and slaughtered them, seventy persons, and put their heads in baskets and sent them to him at Jezreel. ⁸When the *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) came and told him, "They have brought the heads of the king's sons," he said, "Lay them in two heaps at the entrance of the gate until the morning."

Amaziah sent human angels.

- **2 Kings 14:8.** Then Amaziah sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to Jehoash.

Ahaz sent human angels.

- **2 Kings 16:7.** So Ahaz sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to Tiglath-pileser king of Assyria.

Human angels reproached the Lord.

- **2 Kings 19:23.** By your *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) you have mocked the LORD, and you have said, 'With my many chariots I have gone up the heights of the mountains, to the far recesses of Lebanon; I felled its tallest cedars, its choicest cypresses.'

Hiram sent human angels.

- **1 Chronicles 14:1.** And Hiram king of Tyre sent *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) to David, and cedar trees, also masons and carpenters to build a house for him.

A human angel goes to call Micaiah.

- **2 Chronicles 18: 12.** And the *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) who went to summon Micaiah said to him, "Behold, the words of the prophets with one accord are favourable to the king."

The LORD sent human angels.

- **2 Chron. 36:15.** The LORD, the God of their fathers, sent persistently to them by his *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) because he had compassion on his people and on his dwelling place.

A human angel comes to Job.

- **Job 1:13-14.** Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, ¹⁴and there came a *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them.

Job desires a Good human angel.

- **Job 33:22-24.** His soul draws near the pit, and his life to those who bring death. ²³If there be for him an *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) an interpreter, one of the thousand, to declare to man what is right for him, ²⁴and he is merciful to him, and says, 'Deliver him from going down into the pit; I have found a ransom.

A wicked man is a human angel.

- **Proverbs 13:17.** A wicked *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) falls into trouble, but a faithful envoy brings healing.

A king's wrath is a human angel of death.

- **Proverbs 16:14.** A king's wrath is a *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) of death, and a wise man will appease it.

A cruel human angel.

- **Proverbs 17:11.** An evil man seeks only rebellion, and a cruel *messenger* (mal'ak) (aAngel) will be sent against him.

The human angel of a nation.

- **Isaiah 14:32.** What will one answer the *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) of the nation?

God's blind servants are human angels.

- **Isaiah 42:18-19.** Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! ¹⁹Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) whom I send?

God sends human angel.

- **Isaiah 44:24-25.** who frustrates the signs of liars and makes fools of diviners, who turns wise men back and makes their knowledge foolish, ²⁶who confirms the word of his (God's) servant and fulfils the counsel of his (God's) *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel).

Angels are human messengers.

- **Ezekiel 23:40.** They even sent for men to come from afar, to whom a *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) was sent; and behold, they came. For them you bathed yourself, painted your eyes.

God sends human angels.

- **Ezekiel 30:9.** On that day *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) shall go out from me (God) in ships to terrify the unsuspecting people of Cush, and anguish shall come on them on the day of Egypt's doom.

God sends human angels.

- **Nahum 2:13.** Behold, I (God) am against you, declares the LORD of hosts, and I (God) will burn your chariots in smoke, and the sword shall devour your young lions. I (God) will cut off your prey from the earth, and the voice of your *messengers* (mal'ak) (angel) shall no longer be heard.

Haggai is a human angel.

- **Haggai 1:13.** Then Haggai, the *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) of the LORD, spoke to the people with the LORD'S message, "I am with you, declares the LORD."

Old Testament priests are the LORD'S human angels.

- **Malachi 2:7.** For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) of the LORD of hosts.

In Malachi John the Baptist and Jesus are both described as human angels.

- **Malachi 3:1.** "Behold, I send my *messenger* (mal'ak) (Angel) and he (John) will prepare the way before me (Jesus). And the LORD whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the *messenger* (mal'ak) (angel) of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

Since the English translation of the Hebrew word (mal'ak) is angels these verses clearly show that human men in the Bible are often referred to as angels.

SUMMARY OF HUMAN ANGELS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

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.

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- Jacob sent a messenger (mal'ak) meaning angels to Esau (Gen 32:3).
- Moses sent messengers (mal'ak) meaning angel from Kadesh (Numbers 20:14).
- Israel sent messengers (mal'ak) meaning angel to Sihon (Num 21:21).
- Joshua sent messengers (mal'ak) meaning angel to Achan (Josh 7:22).
- Gideon sent messengers (mal'ak) meaning angel to Ephraim (Judges 7:24).
- Saul sent messengers (mal'ak) meaning angel to Jesse (1 Sam 16:19).
- David sent messengers (mal'ak) meaning angel to Jabesh-gilead (2 Samuel 2:5).
- Jezebel sent a messenger (mal'ak) meaning angel to Elijah (1 Kings 19:2).
- A wicked messenger (mal'ak) meaning angel falls into trouble (Proverbs 13:17).
- What shall one answer a messenger (mal'ak) meaning angel of a nation? (Isaiah 14:32).

It is clear that it was the common Hebrew language to call certain human men an angel (mal'ak's) and that many angels of the Bible are human men (both good and bad).

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. For further information see the title:

- Angels can be Human Messengers in, Angels (ON WEBSITE MENU).

The biblical pattern for Satan: in most instances (there are some exceptions) when the enemies of God are God's fallen or wicked servants then the Bible translators have left the Hebrew word as satan whereas when the enemies of God are the unbelieving ungodly people of the world they have translated the Hebrew word satan to the English word adversary. It is interesting to notice that in the Hebrew language the word satan is not personified and therefore does not have a capital 'S' since the word itself simply means to withstand as an adversary or an opponent (especially against God and against what is good). For further information see the title:

- Satan in, Satan and his Family (ON WEBSITE MENU).

HUMAN ANGELS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

The Greek word *aggelos* means a messenger or envoy sent from God to bring tidings 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.

The following verses show two things:

1. That human men sent angels.
2. That angels are often human men.

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. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my *messenger* (*aggelos*) (angel) before your face, who will prepare your way before you.' ¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

John the Baptist is a human angel.

- **Mark 1:1-3.** The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my *messenger* (*aggelos*) (angel) before your face, who will prepare your way, ³the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. "

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. ⁵²And 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.

Paul's thorn in the flesh was human angels of satan.

- **2 Corinthians 12:7.** So to keep me from being too elated by the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a *messenger* (aggelos) (angel) of Satan to harass me, to keep me from being too elated.

Rahab received human angels.

- **James 2:25.** And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the *messengers* (aggelos) (angel) and sent them out by another way?

SUMMARY OF HUMAN ANGELS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

The English word angel in the New Testament comes from the Greek word *aggelos* meaning messenger. In some verses the Greek word *aggelos* has been translated angel while in others it has been translated messenger and sometimes it refers to heavenly angels while at others to 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 (*aggelos*) has been translated to messenger showing that the Greek word (*aggelos*) can refer to human people or heavenly angels.

John the Baptist is a human angel.

- **Matthew. 11:10-11.** I send my *messenger* (*aggelos*) before your face, who will prepare your way before you." Truly, I say to you, "Among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist (Matt. 11:10-11).

John the Baptist sent human angels.

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- **James 2:25.** Rahab the prostitute was justified by works when she received the *messengers* (*aggelos*) and sent them another way?

It is clear that it was common in the Greek language to call certain human an angel (aggelos) and that many angels of the Bible are human men (both good and bad).

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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.