

## ANGELOLOGY (20)

1. Angels were very active concerning God's creation. Job 38:6-7
2. Angels were very active concerning God's Word. Gal. 3:19; Heb. 2:2; Rev. 1:1; 22:8-9, 16
3. Angels were very active concerning God's nation - Israel. Rev. 7:1-8  
God's unfallen angels have always had a profound and important ministry to Israel. They were involved in blessing Abraham (Gen. 18:1-2, 16, 22; 19:1). They were involved in protecting Abraham's family (Gen. 19:1, 15). Angels protected Elisha and were used to deliver Israel from the Arameans (II Kings 6:15-20). Angels have had and undoubtedly still have a profound connection and association with the nation Israel.
4. Angels were very active concerning God's Son.  
Angels were very active concerning Christ's first coming (Mt. 1:20; 4:11) and they will be very active at His second coming (Mt. 25:31).
5. Angels are very active concerning God's church.
  - A. They were active at the beginning of it. Acts 8:26; 10:3, 7; 12:11
  - B. They are active during the development of it. Rev. 2:1, 8, 12, 18; 3:1, 7, 14
  - C. They will be active at the end of it. I Thess. 4:16
6. Angels are very active concerning Tribulation wrath. Rev. 7:1; 8:2; 10:1; 12:7-8; 16:1; 17:1; 18:1

We may certainly see that during every one of God's new programs or epoch times, angels are very active. From the beginning of creation to the calling of Israel, to the development of the Church right to the end, angels are involved in the whole program of God. We may assume from this that when God's program changes, so in some way do the ministry assignments of angels.

### **Angelic Responsibility Area #3** - Unfallen angels have a ministry connected to Jesus Christ.

Since Jesus Christ is God, we may assume that the same basic purpose of angels pertaining to God the Father, which is to serve Him, also pertains to God the Son (Col. 1:16). Scripture certainly supports the fact that angels have an intense relationship to God the Son:

1. Angels announced His coming. Mt. 1:20; Lk. 1:26-27
2. Angels announced His birth. Lk. 2:8-15
3. Angels protected His life. Mt. 2:13-15, 19-21
4. Angels strengthened Him after His temptations:
  - A. They strengthened Him in the wilderness. Mt. 4:1, 11
  - B. They strengthened Him in Gethsemane. Lk. 22:43
5. Angels would defend Him at any moment He requested. Mt. 26:53
6. Angels testified of His resurrection. Mt. 28:1-7; Lk. 24:1-9
7. Angels announce His future returns:
  - A. An angel will announce the Rapture. I Thess. 4:16
  - B. An angel will announce Christ's second coming. Rev. 19:17
8. Angels will participate in future worship. Rev. 5:11-12

Unfallen angels are closely associated with Jesus Christ at all times. They love Him and serve Him and worship Him.

## ANGELOLOGY (21)

Dr. Chafer quoted Dr. Cooke concerning the connection angels have to Jesus Christ and it is worthy to consider (Lewis Sperry Chafer, *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 2, pp. 20-21).

“How constant their attendance on the Incarnate Savior during his mysterious life among men! At his birth they are his heralds, and with songs exultant announce glad tidings to mankind. In his temptation they minister to him; in his agonies they succor him; on his resurrection they are the first to proclaim his triumph; on his ascension they come to escort him to the mediatorial throne; in his glorified state they render him supreme homage as their Lord; and when he returns to judge the world they will form his retinue! What sublime thoughts would be suggested, what emotions of wonder and joy would be excited, by the scenes they witnessed on earth and still witness in heaven, in reference to Christ, his two-fold nature, and his great redeeming work. God incarnate! This was new to them. They had seen the Son in his Deity; but never till now enshrined in humanity. What amazing condescension! Obeying his own law as if he were a mere creature, and in the attitude of a servant! This was new. They had seen him as the governor of the universe; but never till now as a subject! Encountering Satan in conflict and prolonged temptation! This was new. They had seen him frown the arch-rebel from his presence and hurl him to perdition; but never till now submitting to be tempted by him whose subtlety and power had seduced myriads to eternal ruin. Suffering the scorn and reproach of sinful men! This was new. They had seen myriads of happy spirits worship, adore, and love him; but never till now had they seen him personally insulted, reproached, and maltreated by his creatures. Groaning in Gethsemane, and crucified between two thieves, and dying as a sacrificial victim! This was new. They had seen him supremely happy and glorious; but to see him agonize, to hear that dying wail, and to behold him a bloody corpse, and all this to save the world which had revolted from him! What mysterious love! To see him, after all this, enthroned and glorified in human nature. This was a new fact in the moral history of the universe. The whole scenes were full of interest, wonder, and mystery; a gradation of wonders rising in succession, until they culminated in the permanent presence of the God-man, resplendent with a glory that fills the heaven of heavens. Here were chapters of instruction for angelic minds to ponder; here were developments of hidden truths; here were discoveries of the Divine perfections, never known before; and still unfolding in brighter effulgence as ages roll on!”

**Angelic Responsibility Area #4** - Unfallen angels have a ministry to believers .

There is no question that God’s unfallen angels are actively involved in the life of a believer in many ways. One of the main differences concerning the ministry of angels, in this Church Age as opposed to other ages, is their visible appearance. Angels have ministries connected to every believer, but probably would never be physically seen by the believer.

In other dispensations when angels were present, they were, for the most part, visibly seen. However, their ministries for the most part in this dispensation will remain unseen. Dr. Chafer thought one reason for this is that every believer is indwelt by the Holy Spirit and are subject to the leading of an actual member of the Trinity, which is more “constant, vital and exalting than angelic visitations could possibly be.” Angels do have various ministries to believers and we would like to observe seven:

## ANGELOLOGY (22)

**(Angelic Believer Ministry #1)** - Angels help enable a believer to do God's work.  
Acts 8:26; 10:3

Although angels do not audibly speak to us today or appear in a revelatory vision, we may conclude that since God's Word establishes that angels did help enable one to carry out various assigned ministries, this type of ministry would still be operative.

We may specifically assume the assistance will be in the context of ministry closely associated with the N.T. church (Matt. 18:15-18; I Tim. 5:21-22; Rev. 2:1, 8, 12, 18; 3:1, 7, 14). We may also assume from various observations from the book of Acts that angelic ministry is operative in the actual orchestrating of circumstances that enables one to accomplish a specific work of God (i.e. Acts 12:7).

In this present time of the Church Age, for the most part, believers have no visible evidence that angels are working behind the scenes helping the believer to do the work of God, and accomplish the will of God. However, we may be certain that they are very active and very real and are very much involved in us accomplishing God's will.

John G. Paton, a foreign missionary, tells a remarkable story of how God evidently used angels to protect him and his wife so they could continue to minister when they had no idea angels were even present. One night, John and his wife discovered that their mission headquarters on the New Hebrides Islands was surrounded by hostile natives who looked as though they intended to burn down the mission, and kill John and his wife. John said he and his wife prayed all night that God would protect them and deliver them. When daylight came, he was amazed to see the natives unaccountably leave. John and his wife rejoiced and thanked God for the answer to prayer. One year later, the chief of these hostile natives came to faith in Jesus Christ. After this, John asked the chief why he and his warriors didn't kill them the night of the attack. The chief informed John that it was because of the hundreds of men who stood surrounding the mission house with their swords drawn. Mr. Paton replied that there were no men, only he and his wife. It suddenly dawned on John Paton that God had sent His angels (Billy Graham, *Angels*, p. 15).

This type of story is perfectly consistent with the angelic ministry for this age. The angels were protecting the mission work so that God's Word and work could continue. The believers had no knowledge or sight of the angel's presence, but they were there and were involved in protecting their very lives so that they could continue to minister.

Angelic help will be most operative to the believer who is doing God's work and will. The believer may biblically believe that God's angels are present and are enabling them in a variety of ways to accomplish their tasks for God.