

Do Angels work today?
www.uvachurch.com

Introduction: Angels have played a crucial role in the work of God since the creation.

- A. In the Patriarchal age we read of *the Angel of the Lord*.
 - 1. The Angel of the Lord *helped Hagar* in her distress. (**Gen 16:7**)
 - 2. The Angel of the Lord *stayed Abraham from killing Isaac*. (**Gen 22:11**)
 - 3. Two angels *visited Lot to warn Him*. They were powerful beings. (**Gen 19:1, 11**)
- B. Angels played a role in *the leading and nourishing of Israel* in the wilderness.
 - 1. The Angel of the Lord *appeared to Moses in the burning bush*. (**Ex 3:2**)
 - 2. An angel was *associated with the pillar of fire* and cloud that led the people. (**Ex 14:19**)
 - 3. Manna was described *as coming from angels*. (**Psa 78:24-25**)
 - 4. Later *the conquering of the land* was attributed to an angel! (**Ex 23:20-24**)

I. Some Facts about Angels

- A. Angels *are created beings*. (**Col 1:16**)
 - 1. They are “messengers.” Look at the context *to see which kind!* (**2 Cor 8:23**)
 - 2. They are spiritual beings that have a beginning but *they will not die*. (**Lk 20:36**)
- B. Angels have for now, *a greater power and place than man*. (**Heb 2:6-7**)
 - 1. We have a great advantage over angels because *we have God’s help*. (**Heb 2:16**)
 - 2. We will have a greater place before God in eternity.
- C. Angels *are powerful*.
 - 1. They have *great strength*. (**Isa 37:36**)
 - 2. They have *great wisdom* and play a role in our salvation. (**1 Cor 13:1, Heb 1:14**)
 - 3. Can you imagine what *twelve legions of angels* could do? (**Mt 26:53-54**)
 - 4. What do these wise, powerful beings *consider valuable*?
- D. Angels *have a given place*.
 - 1. They are *not to be worshiped*. (**Col 2:18; Rev 22:8-9**)
 - 2. They can *leave their God given place* and thus sin. (**Jude 6**)
 - 3. Unlike us, *angels have no plan of salvation*.

II. Angels worked in the ministry of Christ

- A. Gabriel appears to *Zacharias and Mary*. (**Lk 1:19, 26-27**)
 - 1. Gabriel was in *a special place before God*.
 - 2. Later a host of angels *sing at his birth!* (**Lk 2:9-13**)
- B. An angel *appears in a dream to Joseph* on two occasions.
 - 1. Joseph *was informed later* about Mary’s being with child. (**Mt 1:20-21**)
 - 2. Later *he was warned* to leave and later return. (**Mt 2:13, 19**)
- C. Angels appear on two occasions *to aid Jesus*. (**Mt 4:11; Lk 22:43**)
 - 1. For the most part we do not see angels acting in His ministry.
 - 2. They do *play a role in his resurrection*. (**Mt 28:2, 5**)

III. Angels worked in the ministry of the apostles and prophets

- A. An angel opened prison doors and provided escort. (**Acts 5:19; 12:7-11**)
- B. Angels worked to get the preacher and the lost together.
 - 1. Phillip was sent to the Eunuch. (**Acts 8:26**)
 - 2. Cornelius was sent to Peter. (**Acts 11:13**)
 - 3. Angels never preached the gospel! (**Gal 1:8**)
- C. An angel executed Herod. (**Acts 12:21-23**)
- D. An angel gave comfort to Paul. (**Acts 27:23-26**)

III. Angels do have a work in our lives

- A. They serve as witnesses to our actions. (**Heb 12:22, 25**)
 - 1. Do not think that what you see is all that is here.
 - 2. If one chooses to repent and name the Lord today, there will be more that rejoice than just men. (**Lk 15:10**)
 - 3. Angels witness our actions as Christians. (**Mt 18:10; 1 Cor 4:9**)
- B. We may serve them without knowing it. (**Heb 13:1-3**)
 - 1. We should be looking to help others because of God's mercy in our lives.
 - 2. Has an angel born witness to your service?
- C. As faithful Christians we can know we will not be alone at death. (**Lk 16:22**)
- D. Angels will have a great work at the second coming of Christ. (**2 Th 1:7; Mt 13:41**)
 - 1. Where will the angels put you and me? (**Mt 13:49**)
 - 2. Can we see the unseen?
- E. Angels will be witnesses in our personal judgement.
 - 1. Will Jesus confess my name before angels? (**Rev 3:5**)
 - 2. Will Jesus be ashamed of me before angels? (**Lk 9:26; 12:8-9**)

IV. Angels are Appealed to Concerning How We Live

- A. God wishes women to wear a “symbol of authority” on her head. (**1 Cor 11:10**)
 - 1. We must recognize the God-given order of subjection. (**1 Cor 11:3-4**)
 - 2. This is not the only way angels teach us about subjection!
- B. We must have a deep respect for God's authority. (**Jude 6**)
 - 1. Jesus expects the angels to obey Him. (**1 Pt 3:22**)
 - 2. Disobedient angels will suffer the wrath of God. (**2 Pt 2:4**)
 - 3. Even though they are wise and have great power, they too can succumb to the allure of pride. Satan is likely a fallen angel!
 - 4. Angels, like men, can be an example in their disobedience. We must not be one!
- C. We should seek wisdom in this life because we will judge angels. (**1 Cor 6:3**)
- D. We must be careful how we use our tongues. (**2 Pt 2:11-12**)
 - 1. Foolish men ignore the wisdom of angels.
 - 2. How do we speak of others? “Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.”

Conclusion: We have a salvation that no created thing can take from us! (**Rom 8:38-39**)