



Doctrine: Angels
From sermon 10.20.19

Read *Revelation 5:11-12*

Questions, Answers, and Review from Sunday's sermon: Angels are real. They are spiritual beings that do the will of God and serve His people. They are almost never what the world makes them out to be. While we should be aware of their presence and ministry, we are not to obsess over them or try to communicate with them in any way. They are ordered, as God is order. They affect much in human affairs.

Read *1 Peter 1:10-12*. This grace/election/salvation that we experience apparently intrigues the angels. We have no indication that any fallen angel can be saved. Discuss the Personhood of angels. Various thoughts and answers: they have emotions. They can be angry and they can worship. They have intelligence and a will. They continually, willfully defend the holiness of God.

What are the only 3 named angels and what do their names mean?

<u>Scripture</u>	<u>Angel</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
<i>Daniel 10:13</i>	<u>Michael</u>	"who is like God"
<i>Luke 1:19</i>	<u>Gabriel</u>	"man of God"
<i>Isaiah 14:12</i>	<u>Lucifer</u>	"morning star/light bearer"

Are there "guardian" angels? Scripture seems to suggest yes. See *Matthew 18:10*. Even if there are, what is to be our relationship to them (or any angel)? We are not to try to speak to or communicate with them. We are talk to God only. Scripture also teaches that elect angels are guardians of God's people—both the church and Israel. See also *Daniel 12:1*

What is a Seraphim and what is a Cherubim? Both are a special class/rank of angel with specific ministry. Defending the holiness of God seems to be priority. See *Isaiah 6:1-6* & *Genesis 3:24*

Historically and contemporarily, there has existed a belief that people become angels when they die. How do we know this is false? The Scripture (and Jesus) clearly delineate the two separate creatures. We have no scripture that states we become angels.

Why should we NOT believe most non-biblical accounts of people interacting with angels?

1. The angels are not described as the Bible describes them. (same line of discernment we had with people/kids claiming to have seen heaven)
2. The person seeing them does not respond in the same way as those in the biblical accounts. In almost every case, the human was paralyzed by terror.
3. Satan sends out deceptive counterfeits to lie and trick. See *2 Corinthians 11:13-15*
4. God's not revealing genuine, holy angels to the non-elect/lost. (* guards at tomb)
5. We are unaware of most encounters. See *Hebrews 13:2*

Why do we not study them more than we do? 1) the false doctrines of Rome made Protestants avoid the subject altogether. 2) New Age/cults have put a focus on them.