



Angels: January 25, 2018

Verses Covered This Week

Daniel 10:10 – 14

Acts 8:26 – 29

Acts 12:5 – 8

Daniel 6:20 - 22

2 Kings 19:35

Hebrews 13:1 – 2

Matthew 22:29 - 30

Matthew 28:1 – 5

1 Corinthians 11:4 – 10

Daniel 12:1

Psalms 34:7

We're going to look at angels today. We're going to cover a little ground. Go to Daniel 10:10 – 14.

¹⁰Behold, a hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees. ¹¹He said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly loved, understand the words that I speak to you and stand upright, for now I have been sent to you." When he had spoken this word to me, I stood up trembling. ¹²And then he said to me, "Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before you God, your words have been heard, I've come because of your words. ¹³The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me 21 days; but Michael, of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left with the kings of Persia. ¹⁴Now I have come to make you understand what is to happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision is for days yet to come.

So he says, "I came on the first day that you started your prayers." The prince of the kingdom of Persia, remember we looked at that, that's going to be the demon in charge of that kingdom, ruling the other demons. And remember we're dealing with Gabriel here, right. Michael is the head of the forces of God.

So we have Daniel starting a prayer. The minute he starts the prayer, God sends Gabriel. It takes Gabriel 21 days to get there. Part of the reason is, obviously based on what Gabriel told Daniel, is that he's been battling demons. So there's this battle going on between demons and between

angels. And these demons have prevented Gabriel from getting there for three weeks. But then Michael comes, who obviously is the head, his power is beyond any of these demons, because he shows up, ushers Gabriel right into the presence of Daniel. Michael, though, remember can't defeat Satan. Because in the book of Jude it says he disputed with Satan, but wouldn't dare bring an accusation against him. So the only explanation for why it took Michael three weeks to get to Gabriel, to get him home, is because there is a battle that goes on around us that we do not see that is an engagement between demons and angels. So there is this battle going on. Obviously demons fighting against what God wants; angels fighting for us. I'm going to show you in a minute they don't have any bearing for us. So that bear that in mind. So there's an enormous battle. Gabriel's coming because God sent him, not because he wants to bring Daniel anything. He has no interest in Daniel. He has interest in Daniel because God does.

Now let me show you a couple ways, and we're going to fly through some scriptures today. Let me show you a couple ways that angels affect our lives. Go to Acts 8:26 – 29.

²⁶Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Rise, go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza."

²⁹And the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to join this chariot."

So you have two things here. You have an angel and the Holy Spirit, which is interesting, they both speak to him. But it's interesting to me because a lot of people would say, "Well we're in the day of the Holy Spirit. I have the internal witness of the Spirit. I don't need angelic direction." And yet in the very same passage, we have an angel and the Holy Spirit giving direction. The question for me would be: Did Philip know the distinction? That one, I don't know. But clearly the Bible says an angel spoke to him first, then the Holy Spirit later. So one thing they do is they direct us at times. They tell us where to go and where not to go. An angel will always tell you not to go to New Orleans. If you ever go to New Orleans, you've violated angelic direction.

Now look at Acts 12:5 – 8.

⁵So Peter was kept in prison, earnest prayer was made to God by the church. ⁶When Herod was about to bring him out, on that very night, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, sentries before the door guarding the prison. ⁷Behold, an angel of the Lord stood next to him and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter's side and woke him up, saying, "Get up quickly."

You've got to be impressed with a guy that knows he's going to die in the morning; because, James, the other guy that's been captured by Herod has been killed, everybody likes it, so Peter knows he's dead, and he's sound asleep.

So we have angelic rescue. So they can direct us and they can rescue us. Obviously he did that here. Look at Daniel 6:20. Daniel's in the lion's den, the king comes near the den, the king declared to Daniel,

²⁰“Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you constantly serve, been able to deliver you from the lions?” ²¹Then Daniel spoke to the king, “O king, live forever!” ²²My God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths and they have not harmed me, because I was found blameless before Him; and also toward you, O king, I have committed no crime.”

So you have this great rescue or protection. He protects Daniel from the lion. Then in 2 Kings 19:35. Listen to what scripture says. We’ve talked about this.

³⁵That night the angel of the Lord went out and struck down 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians; and when men rose early in the morning, behold, all of them were dead.

Angels can attack on our behalf. Again, their power is beyond amazement. They killed the entire Brazos Valley in one night. I mean that’s staggering. And these guys had nothing they could do to stop them. So you can understand if there are millions of angels, then when the Bible talks about them coming to harvest the earth at the end of time, they will take people up to the judgment day, there will be no repudiation and no attack. They’re going to do exactly what angels say.

Now look at Hebrews 13. This is always the favorite Baptist verse about angels.

¹Let brotherly love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Baptists always love that verse. Obviously angels test us. God send them to test and see whether or not we will, for example, in this instance, show hospitality. I think they’re sent to test our walk in Christ and to see what we will do. Particularly in this case which may have been nobody’s watching. Nobody’s watching you, guy comes along, you don’t do anything. So they obviously have the capacity to test us. Now look at Matthew 22:29.

²⁹But Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures nor the power of God. ³⁰For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

Jesus is talking about us. Now one of the things we don’t have time to look at, you’re going to see angels throughout the Bible, they appear like men many times. But obviously they cannot reproduce. So whatever number they are is a static number. They’re stuck at it. It’s one of the great beauties of what God gave us. They’re not allowed to reproduce because they’re not in the image of God. We will reproduce because we are in the image of God which is why the sex act cannot be taken lightly because you’re actually doing what God gave you the ability to do, and He’s withheld from everything, except the animals, but the other beings. So they can’t reproduce which is why there’s that weird passage in Genesis that talks about the sons of God came down and met with the sons of women and they developed this weird race of people. Obviously it’s not angels because they can’t reproduce.

Look at Matthew 28:1 – 5. We’re changing the pageant based on this passage. Angels, if you run into them, unless you’re being tested in Hebrews 13, are actually quite frightening. You’ve got

Roman guards who are bad to the bone dudes, Navy Seals, Delta Force, Marine Re-Con, listen to this:

¹After the Sabbath, toward the dawn of the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²Behold, there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat on it.

So he doesn't say anything. He's just sitting there. He rolls the stone back and sits there.

³His appearance was like lightening, and his clothing as white as snow. ⁴The guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men.

They fainted and had to change their clothing. Now this is what you have. Angels generally do appear like men and they are tremendously frightening. Tons of times, we don't have time to go into it, tons of times the angels first response is, "Don't be afraid." Which is why we're changing the angels in the pageant this year. We've always made our angels, now I don't mean to be offensive here, we've always made our angels feminine. Our angels are always cute, with little wings and glitter, and I don't know anyone who's scared of a glitter-faced angel. I'm sorry, but that just doesn't bother me. So we're going to make them much more frightening and I think much more Biblical in that sense. They are a being that if you run into them and you're not in a test, you're probably going to be terrified.

Here's an unusual verse: 1 Corinthians 11:4 - 10. You women who are not submissive are not going to like this verse. We do know that they are emotional. They have an emotional response to what you do. Now he gives directions here in worship to the church at Corinth. Now look in verse 4. He says:

⁴Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered, dishonors his head. ⁵But every wife who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, for she is one and the same as the woman whose head is shaved. ⁶For if a wife will not cover her head, then she should cut her hair short, but since it is disgraceful for a wife to cut off her hair or shave her head, let her cover her head. ⁷For a man ought not to cover his head since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man. ⁸Man was not made from woman, but woman from man; ⁹neither was man created from woman, but woman from man. ¹⁰This is why a wife ought to have a symbol of authority on her head because of the angels.

Go to Matthew 18:10. Keep in mind what we just read. I want to correlate it with this statement. Matthew 18:10. He says:

¹⁰See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.

Now obviously then we really do have a guardian angel given to us on assignment. There is some angel that is assigned to you that has a guardianship over you. Now they attend worship. They obviously go where you go. There's a relationship with the Father. The reason being, and I'll

show you in a minute, you're not the issue, the Father is. This is the only way I know to say this, we're going to look at marriage in a few weeks and what the roles are. Submission is a role that you've got to live with. You can't live with that; you shouldn't get married. It kills the angels when they look down and see women that are worshipping Christ who are exhibiting the quality that caused their brothers to fall from heaven. The reason their brothers became demons is because Satan came and said, "We can overthrow God. We can usurp His authority. We can step out from under His authority. We can overrule Him." And they lost their friends. So when they come to worship with you because they're assigned to you, so wherever you go they go, and they show up in worship and you reflect, in the worship of Christ, the very attitude that caused their friends to be lost forever. They have no redemption. Redemption is never offered to the demons. It is an emotional response for them and it bothers them. And so Paul actually pulls them into the argument and says, "Let me tell you something. You ought to wear a sign of submission in worship because of their response and what you're doing to them emotionally." Now obviously that's a cultural phenomenon. I think, for me, the best modern day illustration of this is a wedding ring. It's a sign, a symbol, I think as a lady you take your husband's last name, you're writing a check that's got your last name and you don't have a ring, then I think you make those that are assigned to you distraught because you reflect an attitude and a demeanor that caused their friends to be lost.

Again, we won't go there, but Daniel 12:1 talks again about angelic assignment over the area. So the angels have various issues in your life. They can direct you, they can protect you, they can attack on your behalf, they can test you, they will appear like men sometimes, they can't reproduce, they're frightening, and there is an emotional component to their existence that what you do affects them.

Now what causes them to act on our behalf? What causes them to test us or protect us or direct us. What is it? I want you to look at two verses with me. I want you to first look at Psalm 34:7 and then we're going to look at Joshua 5:13 – 14. First go to Psalm 34:7.

⁷The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and rescues them.

So we have a promise of deliverance if we fear God. Now the clear assumption would be if I don't fear God, I'm not delivered. Now turn to Joshua 5. They're right about to go into Canaan.

¹³Now it came about when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man was standing opposite him with his sword drawn in his hand, and Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us or for our adversaries?" ¹⁴He said, "No; rather I indeed come now as captain of the host of the Lord." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and bowed down, and said to him, "What has my lord to say to his servant?"