



Most people are oblivious and uninformed about the reality of the spirit world.

The Greek word “aggelos” (first “g” pronounced as an “n”) may also refer to messenger. The Hebrew “mal’ak” refers to angels as supernatural beings through the Tanakh (Hebrew Bible) and in Jewish liturgy as agents of the God of Israel.

Angels are real, but it would be helpful to not think of them in terms of Hollywood’s version.

Angels are Created Beings

Some view them as only celestial beings with beautiful wings and bowed heads. Don’t believe everything you hear about angels. The interest in the supernatural seems to focus on the occult (evil powers) but in truth angels may also be benevolent agents of good.

Angels were Created

The Bible states that angels, like men, were created by God. At one time no angels existed; indeed there was nothing but the Triune God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Paul, in **Colossians 1:16**, says “*For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible.*” Angels are among the invisible things made by God, for “all things were created by Him and for Him,” This Creator, Jesus, “*is before all things, and by Him all things consist,*” **Colossians 1:17**.

Their Abilities

It seems that angels have the ability to change their appearance and shuttle in a flash from the capital glory of heaven to earth and back again or from the realm of the heavenlies or high places - **Ephesians 6:12** “*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.*” Some interpreters have said that the phrase “sons of God” in **Genesis 6:2** “*..the sons of God saw that the daughters of humans were beautiful,*” married any of them they chose. “ refers to angels, the Bible frequently makes it clear that angels are nonmaterial; **Hebrews 1:14** “*Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?*” calls them ministering “spirits.” Intrinsically, they do not possess physical bodies, although they may take on physical bodies when God appoints them to a special task. Furthermore, God has given them no ability to reproduce and they neither marry nor are given in marriage (**Marks 12:25** “*When the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be like the angels in heaven*”). Nowhere in the Bible are angels depicted as females.

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Empire of Angels

If you believe the Bible, you will believe in their ministry. They criss-cross the Old and New Testaments, being mentioned directly or indirectly nearly 300 times. Some biblical scholars believe that angels can be numbered potentially in the millions since **Hebrews 12:22** speaks of “*an innumerable (a great but indefinite number) company of angels.*” As to their numbers, David recorded 20 000 coursing through the skyways of the stars. Even with his limited vision he impressively notes, “*The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of angels*” **Psalm 68:17**.

Matthew Henry Commentary

Matthew Henry says of this passage, “Angels are “the chariots of God,” His chariots of war, which He makes use of against His enemies, His chariots of conveyance, which He sends for His friends, as He did for Elijah, ... His chariots of state, in the midst of which He shows His glory and power. They are vastly numerous, “Twenty thousand,” even thousands multiplied.

Ten Thousand Angels

Ten thousand angels came down on Mount Sinai to confirm the holy presence of God as He gave the Law to Moses (Deut. 33:2). An earthquake shook the mountain. Furthermore, in the New Testament John tells us of having seen ten thousand times ten thousand angels ministering to the Lamb of God in the throne room of the universe (Revelations 5:11). The book of Revelation also says that armies of angels will appear with Jesus at the Battle of Armageddon when God’s foes gather for their final defeat. Paul, in 2 Thessalonians, says “*the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels.*”.

Multitudes of Angels

Think of it! Multitudes of angels, indescribably mighty performing the commands of heaven! More amazingly, even one angel is indescribably mighty, as though an extension of the arm of God. Singly or corporately, angels are for real. They are better organised than were the armies of Alexander the Great, Napoleon, or Montgomery. From earliest antiquity, when the angel guardians of the gates to the glory of Eden sealed the entrance to the home of Adam and Eve, angels have manifested their presence in the world. God placed angelic sentinels called cherubim at the east of the Garden of Eden. They were commissioned not only to bar man’s return into Eden, but with “*a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life*” **Genesis 3:24**, lest Adam by eating of its fruit should live forever. If Adam had lived in his sin forever, this earth would long ago have been hell. Thus, in one sense death is a blessing to the human race.

Invisible Intelligence

Today some arrogant scientists lend credence to the scientific probability of angels when they admit the likelihood of unseen and invisible intelligences. Increasingly, our world is being made acutely aware of the existence of occult and demonic powers. People pay attention as never before to sensational headlines promoting films and books concerning the occult. News accounts of strange happenings around the world fascinate readers and TV viewers everywhere.

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Ought not Christians, grasping the eternal dimensions of life, become conscious of the angelic powers who are for real, and who associate with God Himself and administer His works on our behalf? After all, references to the holy angels in the Bible far outnumber references to Satan and his subordinate demons.

Demonic Activity

Demonic activity and Satan worship are on the increase in all parts of the world. The devil is alive and more at work than at any other time. The devil is alive and more at work than at any other time. The Bible says that since he realises his time is short, his activity will increase. Through his demonic influences he does succeed in turning many away from true faith, but we can still say that this evil activities are countered for the people of God by His ministering spirits, the holy ones of the angelic order. They are vigorous in delivering the heirs of salvation from the stratagems of evil men. They will not fail.

Believers, look up—take courage

The angels are nearer than you think. For after all (as we have already noted), God has given *“his angels charge of you, to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone” - Psalm 91:11-12.*

Hebrews 1:14 *“Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?”*

QUESTIONS

1. What is the Greek word for angels?
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2. What is the Hebrew word for angels?
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Answer A or B

3. A—We should believe everything we hear about angels.
B—We should test what is said about angels in relation to the Scriptures.
4. A—All angels are good.
B—There are some fallen angels.
5. A—Angels cannot change their appearance.
B—Angels can take on a physical form.
6. A—Angels are mentioned only several times in the Bible.
B—Angels are mentioned almost 300 times in the Bible.
7. A—There are male and female angels.
B—All angels mentioned in the Bible appear as men.

8. A—God created angels before humanity.
B—Humans were made first.
9. A—Angels are immortal.
B—Angels can die.
10. A—Angels are not to be worshipped.
B—Angels are demi-god’s to be worshipped.
11. A—There are no guardian angels.
B—Angels protect us like guardians.
12. A—Angels are subject to Jesus.
B—Angels are omnipotent/all powerful.



Biblical Facts about Angels

Angels were created before humans.

In fact, angels witnessed the creation of the earth (Job 38:4-7). Genesis 2:1 says God created the heavenly beings before the seventh day of creation.

Angels live forever.

According to Luke 20:36 angels are immortal.

Angels do not marry.

Matthew 22:30 states that angels never marry.

Angels have emotions.

Angels can express great Joy (Job 38:7 & Luke 15:10), and we are told that they yearn to know the meaning of all Bible's prophecies—1 Peter 1:12.

Angels are not to be worshipped.

Romans 1:18-19 and Colossians 2:18 warn us about any glorification or worship of angels. The book of Revelation reveals that when the Apostle John tried to worship an angel, he was rebuked and told to worship only God (Revelation 19:10).

Guardians angels really exist.

The book of Daniel portrays the angel Michael as the protector of Israel (Daniel 12:1). In Matthew 18:10 Jesus refers to the guardian angels of children. See also Exodus 23:20, Psalm 34:7 & Psalm 91:11-12.

The Bible mentions some angels by name.

Michael, the Archangel, is mentioned five times (Daniel 10:13, 21 & 12:1, Jude 1:9 & Revelation

12:7). He is a powerful angel who serves as the commander of the heavenly armies. The other named angel is Gabriel who serves as a messenger of God. He is mentioned four times (Daniel 8:16, 9:21, Luke 1:19 & 1:26). The apocryphal book of Tobit mentions an angel named Raphael. Lucifer was once a cherub—angel (Isaiah 14).

There are too many angels to count.

Psalm 68:17 asserts that there are “thousands upon thousands of angels.” Hebrews 12:22 refers to the number of angels as “myriads,” which Merriam-Webster defines as “innumerable.”

Angels can take on human form.

Abraham was visited by three angels who appeared as human beings (Genesis 18:1-22). Two of these men proceeded to visit Lot in Sodom (Genesis 19:1). In the Gospel of Mark we are told that when three women visited the tomb of Jesus, they were confronted by “a young man” who declared to them the resurrection (Mark 16:1-6). Matthew identifies this man as an angel (Matthew 28:1-7). In Hebrews 13:2 we are told that we should “show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.”

Angels are subject to Jesus our Lord.

See Hebrews 1:1-13.

