## **God's Other Angels**

- A. "Angel" in Scripture often refers to the fiery, ministering spirits of God. HEB 1:7.
  - 1. They are God's *chariots of fire*. **PSA 68:17; 2KI 6:16-17**.
  - 2. They are extremely powerful. **PSA 103:20; 2KI 19:35**.
  - 3. They have more power/authority than any earthly dignity. **2PE 2:11**.
  - 4. They are innumerable. **HEB 12:22**.
  - 5. They have no authority to marry. **MAT 22:30**.
  - 6. They are arranged into principalities, powers and legions. COL 1:16; MAT 26:53.
  - 7. They are of a higher order than man. **PSA 8:4-5**.
  - 8. They are under the authority of a Man, Jesus Christ. **1PE 3:22**.
  - 9. They are as accountable to the Holy Spirit's gospel as any man. GAL 1:8-9.
  - 10. They desire to look into the things of the gospel and rejoice in its effectiveness.

## 1PE 1:12; LUK 15:10.

- a. The gospel declares salvation for sinful men. **1TI 1:15**.
- b. The gospel declares no such salvation for angels that sinned. HEB 2:16; 2PE 2:4; JUDE 1:6.
- 11. The world to come is not in subjection to them but to Christ and His brethren for whom they minister. **HEB 1:13 2:5**.
- 12. The saints shall judge angels. **1CO 6:3**.
  - a. There are evil angels. **PSA 78:49**.
  - b. Saints judge evil angels by countering lying spirits in false teachers with gospel truth. 1KI 22:22 c/w 1TI 4:1; 2CO 10:4-5.
  - c. Saints judge evil angels by faith and holy living which are condemnations in the same way that Noah condemned the world. **HEB 11:7**.
  - d. Saints shall judge evil angels by concurring with Christ's judgment against them. **REV 19:1-5**.
  - e. An angel stopped the mouth of a man who doubted gospel/glad tidings (LUK 1:19-20) and gospel preachers have a similar charge. TIT 1:10-13.
  - f. Gospel preachers are a *spectacle* (interesting show or entertainment) to angels (**1CO 4:9; 1:20-24**) but they can turn the world upside down. **ACT 17:6**.
- B. God Himself is called an Angel in GEN 48:15-16; EXO 3:2-6; JDG 6:21-24.
- C. In prophecy, the Lord Jesus Christ is referred to as the "...messenger (angel) of the covenant" (MAL 3:1).
  - 1. The underlying Hebrew word for *messenger* in MAL 3:1 is *malak* (SRN H4397) which is most commonly translated "angel(s)."
  - 2. Jesus Christ declared and instituted a new and better covenant which God had promised. JER 31:31-34 c/w MAT 26:28.
  - 3. Consider MAL 3:1.
    - a. The prophet's name (Malachi) is from the same Hebrew root, *malak*.
    - b. He prophesies of John the Baptist as a *malak*.
    - c. He prophesies of Jesus Christ as a *malak*.
    - d. John and Jesus would excel at what the O.T. *malaks* failed at. MAL 2:7-8.
    - e. The Law was given by heavenly angels (GAL 3:19), entrusted to earthly angels, corrupted by earthly angels, revived by a gospel angel and perfected by THE Angel. MAT 5:17; ROM 10:4.
- D. Church pastors are N.T. angels of God who are authorized to marry and so better minister to God's people. **1CO 9:5**.
  - 1. The Apostle John was instructed by Jesus to write letters to each of the seven angels of the

seven churches in Asia. REV 1:19-20; 2:1, etc.

- 2. It is unlikely that Jesus was instructing John to pen letters to the spirit-beings with whom Jesus directly interfaces in glory. John was an apostle by whose revealed truth other ministers must be measured. **1JO 4:6.**
- 3. The Greek word there translated *angel* is *aggelos* (SRN G32)which means, "a messenger; especially, an 'angel'; by implication a pastor: -- angel, messenger."
  - a. It refers to human messengers in LUK 7:24, 27; 9:52; JAM 2:25.
  - b. God's pastors to the churches are their messengers (**2CO 8:23; PHIL 2:25**), their angels.
  - c. The Galatians had once received Paul "...as an angel of God" (GAL 4:14).
- 4. In **REV 1:16, 20** these are described as the *stars* in Jesus' right hand.
  - a. True and faithful ministers of Jesus Christ will not be stars by the world's standard. **1CO 4:9-13**.
  - b. The world will praise false prophets and pastors (LUK 6:26) who scratch their itching ears, praise its works, etc., but these are little more than "...wandering *stars*, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever" (JUDE 1:13).
- 5. God once rhetorically asked Job whether he could "...bind the **sweet influences** of Pleiades...?" (**JOB 38:31**).
  - a. Pleiades means "the Seven Stars" and obviously Job could not bind them.
  - b. The powers of Satan may bind God's ministers but not their message. **2TI 2:9**.
  - c. The angels of Asia (REV 1:11) had a better message than the devils of Asia (ACT 19:27). The devils had Wonder Woman but the angels had Wonderful, Counseller, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace (ISA 9:6).
- 6. Heaven's angels and faithful pastors have the same charge and spirit. **REV 1:10**.