

What are Angels?

By

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Facts about Angels

- The term angel (Hebrew word “mal’ak” and Greek word “angelos”) means “one dispatched or one sent to deliver a message”
- Mentioned 300 times in the Bible
- Pictured as spirit beings residing in heaven praising and obeying God
- Sometimes they return to earth as men to do their work

In the series, we'll study:

- Their origin
- Their nature
- Their work in Bible times
- Their work today Do work they?
- Popular questions: Guardian angels, etc?

Their Origin

Their origin

- **Created by God**

- Colossians 1:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. *All things were created through Him and for Him.*

Their origin

- **Created a little higher than man**

- Psalm 8:4–5 (NKJV)

⁴What is man that You are mindful of him,
And the son of man that You visit him? ⁵For
*You have made him a little lower than the
angels,* And You have crowned him with
glory and honor.

Their origin

- **Created, but will not suffer death**
 - They are not eternal, but will not suffer death *because they have no physical body*

Nature of Angels

Nature of Angels

- **Angels are spirit beings**
 - Hebrews 1:7 (NKJV)
7 And of the angels He says: "*Who makes His angels spirits* And His ministers a flame of fire."
 - Hebrews 1:14 (NKJV)
14 Are they not all *ministering spirits* sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

Nature of Angels

- **Angels are not deity**

- Hebrews 1:13 (NKJV)

¹³But to which of the angels has He ever said: “Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool”?

Nature of Angels

- **Angels are not human**
 - **Matthew 22:30 (NKJV)**
30 For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, *but are like angels of God in heaven.*

Nature of Angels

- **Angels are innumerable**
 - **Hebrews 12:22 (NKJV)**

²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to *an innumerable company of angels*

Appearance of angels

Appearance of angels

- **Spirits are invisible, unless they reveal themselves to man (Col. 1:16).**
 - Visited Abraham and Lot and appeared as men (Gen. 18-19).
 - Revealed to Balaam's donkey and then to Balaam (Num. 22:21-37).
 - Revealed as chariots of fire (2 Kings 6:17).
 - Appearance like lightening and brilliant white clothing (Matt. 28:3).

Appearance of angels

- **Sometimes appear as large and ominous beings**

- Revelation 10:1 (NKJV)

I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow was on his head, *his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire.*

Appearance of angels

- Sometimes frightening in appearance

- **Luke 2:9 (NKJV)**

⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the *glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.*

Appearance of angels

- **Powerful**

- **They have supernatural power, they are “mighty”**

- **2 Thessalonians 1:7 (NKJV)**

⁷ and to *give* you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with ***His mighty angels***

Angels Experience Emotions

Angels experience emotions.

- **Joy**

- **Luke 15:10 (NKJV)**

¹⁰ Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the *angels of God over one sinner who repents.*"

Appearance of angels

- **Pride**

- **1 Timothy 3:6 (NKJV)**

- ⁶ not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he *fall into the same condemnation as the devil.*

- **2 Peter 2:4 (NKJV)**

- ⁴ *For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment*

Categories of Angels

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- Archangel “chief angel” (Jude 9).
 - Michael “*who is like unto God*” in Jude 9
 - Jude 1:9 (NKJV)
 - ⁹ Yet *Michael the archangel*, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

Categories of Angels

- **Cherubim, or Cherub (possibly “*to till*” or enforcer of God’s judgment)**
 - Placed at the entrance of Eden (Gen. 3:24).
 - David’s song spoke of Cherubim (2 Sam. 22, Psalm 18).
 - Statues of them in the Holy of Holies (1 Kings 6:24-27, 2 Chron. 3:10-13).
 - Ezekiel’s vision included Cherub (Ezekiel 1:40-26, Ezekiel 10:1-22).

Categories of Angels

- **Seraphim (“*burning ones*” God’s messenger of purification).**
 - Seraphim described by Isaiah (Isa. 6:2-6).
 - Only reference in the Bible.

Categories of Angels

- **Watchers**
 - In Nebuchadnezzar's vision included "a watcher, a holy one, coming down from heaven" (Dan. 4:13, 17, 23).

Categories of Angels

- Gabriel “*the strength of God*”
 - Dan. 8:15-19, Dan. 9:20- 27, Luke 1:5-19,
Luke 1:26-38