

The Ministry of Angels

A. Who They Are

1. Mentioned > 250 times in Scriptures
2. Invisible, heavenly spiritual beings (Heb 13:2 TNIV)
2 Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.
3. Different kinds of angels, with different functions
4. Heb 1:14 (TNIV) – Assigned by God to serve us
14 Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

B. What They Do

1. Proclaim God's message
 - 'Malik'; 'Angelos' → Messenger, agent, envoy
 - Matt 2:13, 19-20 (TNIV) → Birth of Christ
13 When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

19 After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt 20 and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead."

- Acts 10:1-8 (TNIV) → Cornelius

1 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment. 2 He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly. 3 One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!"

4 Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked.

The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God. 5 Now send men to Joppa to bring back a man named Simon who is called Peter. 6 He is staying with Simon the tanner, whose house is by the sea."

7 When the angel who spoke to him had gone, Cornelius called two of his servants and a devout soldier who was one of his attendants. 8 He told them everything that had happened and sent them to Joppa.

- Acts 27:21-25 (TNIV) → Apostle Paul

21 After they had gone a long time without food, Paul stood up before them and said: "Men, you should have taken my advice not to sail from Crete; then you would have spared yourselves this damage and loss. 22 But now I urge you to keep up your courage, because not one of you will be lost; only the ship will be destroyed. 23 Last night an angel of the God whose I am and whom I serve stood beside me 24 and said, 'Do not be afraid, Paul. You must stand trial before Caesar; and God has graciously given you the lives of all who sail with you.' 25 So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me.

2. Provide for our needs

- 1 Kings 19:1-8 (TNIV) → Elijah

1 Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. 2 So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them."

3 Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, 4 while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, LORD," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." 5 Then he lay down under the tree and fell asleep.

All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." 6 He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again.

7 The angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you." 8 So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.

- John 5:2-4 (NKJV) → Healing

2 Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, which is called in Hebrew, Bethesda, having five porches. 3 In these lay a great multitude of sick people, blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water. 4 For an angel went down at a certain time into the pool and stirred up the water; then whoever stepped in first, after the stirring of the water, was made well of whatever disease he had.

- Luke 22:41-43 (TNIV) → Jesus

41 He withdrew about a stone's throw beyond them, knelt down and prayed, 42 "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done." 43 An angel from heaven appeared to him and strengthened him.

3. Protect us from harm

- Psa 91:9-13 (TNIV)

*9 If you say, "The LORD is my refuge,"
and you make the Most High your dwelling,*

*10 no harm will overtake you,
no disaster will come near your tent.*

*11 For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways;*

*12 they will lift you up in their hands,
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.*

*13 You will tread on the lion and the cobra;
you will trample the great lion and the serpent.*

- 2 Kings 6:15-18 (TNIV) → Elisha

15 When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. "Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?" the servant asked.

16 "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "Those who are with us are more than those who are with them."

17 *And Elisha prayed, "Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see."
Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the
hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.*

18 *As the enemy came down toward him, Elisha prayed to the LORD,
"Strike this army with blindness." So he struck them with blindness,
as Elisha had asked.*

- Dan 6:22 (TNIV) → Daniel

22 *My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They
have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have
I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty."*

4. Praise God with us

- Rev 5:11-12 (TNIV) → Heavenly Worship

11 *Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering
thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand.
They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders.*

12 *In a loud voice they were saying:*

*"Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain,
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength
and honor and glory and praise!"*