

THE MINISTRY OF ANGELS

IN RELATION TO GOD

A. MINISTERS OF WORSHIP

1. Praise Is. 6:3, Rev. 4:6-11, Rev. 5:8-13
2. Song Ex. 15, Deut. 32, Job 38:7, Rev. 5:8-9

B. MINISTERS OF SERVICE

1. Priestly Ministers Heb. 1:7, (they serve God as quickly as winds and fervently as fire).
2. Personal Messengers Ps. 103:20, (they carry His message to men) Lk. 1:19 Zacharias, Lk. 1:26-33 Mary, Lk. 2:8 Shepherds.

C. AGENTS OF GOD'S GOVERNMENT

1. In Carrying Out His Work Ps. 103:19-20
2. In Controlling Nature Rev. 7:1, 16:3,8-9
3. In Controlling Nations
Behind the human scene, angels busily exercise influence and engage in battle. Individually or collectively they may guide the governments of the earth. God's angels oppose Satan and his angels (Dan. 10:13, 21, 12:1). Note evil angel activity in Rev. 12:7-9, 13:1-7, 16:13-14. They may influence governments to oppose the gospel and God's people. For our needs we have the armor of God (Eph. 6:10-13) and the angels of God (2 Ki. 6:17 Heb. 1:14).

D. PROTECTORS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

1. They Harass Our Enemies Ps. 35:4-5
2. They Deliver Us From Evil Wicked Works Ps. 34:7, Is. 63:9
3. They Physically Preserve God's Own Heb. 1:14

E. EXECUTORS OF GOD'S JUDGEMENTS

1. Destruction Of Sodom And Gomorrah Gen. 19:1, 12,13
2. Plagues Of Egypt Ps. 78:43,49
3. Executes The Firstborn Ex. 12:13,23
4. Chastised God's people 1 Ch. 21:15-18
5. Destroyed 185,000 Assyrians (in answer to Hezekiah's prayer) 2 Ki. 19:35
6. Future Judgements Rev. 6:1, 8:1-6, 12:7-9, 14:17-18, 15:1, 16:1-21

IN RELATION TO CHRIST

A. AT HIS BIRTH

1. Predicted His Birth Lk. 1:26-28 Mt. 1:18-23
2. Announced His Birth Lk.2:8-15

B. DURING HIS EARLY LIFE

1. Protected Christ Mt. 2:13-15, 19-21
2. Strengthened Christ Mt. 4:11, Lk.22:43
3. Stood ready For Christ's Defense Mt. 26:53

C. AFTER HIS RESURRECTION

1. Announced His Resurrection Mt. 28:1-2,6, Lk.24:5-8
2. Subjected To Him 1 Pet. 3:22, Eph. 1:20-21
3. Intrigued With His Salvation 1 Pet. 1:10-12, Lk.15:10
4. Ministering To The Restored Sovereign Phil. 2:5-8,
Jn. 17:4-5 Rev. 5:11-12

D. ABOUT HIS SECOND COMING

1. Predicted His Return Acts 1:11
2. Accompany His Return Mt. 25:31, Jude 14
3. Worship Him At His Return Heb. 1:6
4. Gather Groups Of Men At His Return Mt. 13:39-43
2 Th. 1:7-10, Mt.24:31

IN RELATION TO EPOCHS

A. AT CREATION

1. Shouted For Joy Job 38:4,6-7 Heb. 3:4, Jn. 1:3, Col. 1:16

B. AT THE GIVING OF THE LAW

1. Law Came Through Angels Gal. 3:19, Acts. 7:38,52-53
Heb. 1,2:2

C. MAJOR EVENTS IN CHRIST'S PROGRAM

1. At His Birth Lk. 2:8-15
2. At His Resurrection Mt. 28:2-7, Mk. 16:5-8 Lk. 24:3-7
3. At Christ Ascension Acts 1:11
4. At Christ's Return Mt. 25:31

IN RELATION TO BELIEVERS

THE BIBLE PRESENTS A WIDE RANGE OF ANGELIC MINISTRY TO MEN. THEY MINISTER TO THOSE WHOM GOD LOVES, FOR THEY ARE INTERESTED IN GOD'S CONCERNS. THIS IS REFLECTED IN THE ANGEL'S ADDRESS: "O DANIEL, A MAN GREATLY BELOVED" (DAN.10:11). THEIR MINISTRY

SHOWS GOD LOVE, FOR THEY ARE "SENT FORTH TO MINISTER FOR THEM WHO SHALL BE HEIRS OF SALVATION" HEB. 1:14 THIS MINISTRY TAKES MANY FORMS.

A. REVEALING

1. God Used Angels To Communicate His Will And Word To Man Kind. Acts. 7:52-53, Gal. 3:19, Zec. 4:1,5:5,6:5, Lk.1:11-20, Mt. 1:20-25, Lk. 1:26-35, Lk. 2:8-12
 - a. Angelic Meditation Dan. 7:15-27,8:13-26
 - b. Through Gabriel Dan. 9:20-27
 - c. Through An Angel Dan. 10:1-12:13, Rev. 1:1,22:6,8

B. GUIDING

1. Joseph Mt. 1:20-21
2. Women At Tomb Mt. 28:1-10
3. Philip Acts 8:26
4. Ethiopian Treasurer Acts 8:29
5. Cornelius Acts 10:1-8,11:13-14
6. Peter Acts 10:19,11:12

C. PROVIDING

1. Hagar Gen. 21:17-20
2. Israel Ps. 78:23-25
3. Elijah 1 Ki. 19:5-7
4. Christ Mt. 4:11

D. PROTECTING

1. Jacob Gen. 32:1-32
2. Daniel Dan. 6:20-23
3. Three Hebrew Youths Dan. 3:24-28
4. Elisha 2 Ki. 6:13-17

E. DELIVERING <FROM PHYSICAL HARM>

1. 144,000 Israelites Rev. 7:1-14
2. Apostles Acts 5:17-20
3. Peter Acts 12:5-10

F. STRENGTHENING AND ENCOURAGING

1. Christ Mt. 4:11, Lk. 22:43
2. Apostles Acts 5:19-20
3. Paul Acts 27:23-25

G. AGENTS IN ANSWERING PRAYER

1. Daniel Dan.9:20-24,10:10-12
2. Early Church Acts 12:1-17
3. John Rev.8:2-4, (Ex.30:1-10)

The angel was given incense to offer with the prayers of the saints. When he placed the incense upon the live coals on the alter, smoke ascended with the prayers of the saints before God. The angel then took coals in his censer and cast them upon the earth, as if in prelude to the coming judgements. It seems that God people were praying for God to judge the wicked world. The prayers were answered as the angel brought them before God and as seven angels then sounded their judgements. Angelic intervention came in answer to the prayer.

H. ATTENDANTS UPON THE RIGHTEOUS DEAD

1. Lazarus' Lk. 16:22
2. Moses Jude 9
3. Israel's Righteous Dead Da. 12:1-3

SUMMARY

The ministry of angels to God, Christ, and believers is wide and varied. They are primarily servants and messengers of God to accomplish His purpose. "Scriptures make it clear that God is in no way dependent upon these His subservient creatures (Job 4:18, 15:15).

Scripture indicates that the ministry of angels to men is primarily external and physical, whereas the ministry of the Holy Spirit is internal and spiritual. Angels minister **for us**; the Holy Spirit ministers **in us** (Jn. 14:16-17, Heb. 1:13-14). They guard our bodies and pathway; He guards our spirits and guides us in the right way. They may be agents to answer prayer, but He is the Prompter and Director of our prayers (Rom. 8:26-27 Jude 20).

Source Angels Elect And Evil C. Fred Dickason Moody Press 1975.