

First Bible Church
S.P. - 1/24/82

ANGELS (Psa. 104:4; Heb. 1:7)

- 1) There are angels -- the Word of God makes this very clear.
None of us has seen them in their normal state. We believe that there are angels because of the Word.
- 2) They are created beings } Cf. Psa. 104:4;
3) They are spirit beings } Heb. 1:7.
They do not reproduce } Matt. 22:30.
- 4) They are messengers, ministers, of God. This is indicated by the word angels as well as by the teaching of Scripture. Cf. Heb. 1:14; Psa. 103:20, 21; 91:11.
- 5) They are glorious and powerful, greater than men. They are of a higher order than men. Cf. Psa. 104:4; Eph. 1:21; 3:10.
- 6) They praise and worship God.
- 7) By deduction we can infer from Scripture that their place is the second heaven. Cf. Gen. 1:6-8, 14-19; 2 Cor. 12:2.
- 8) We are not to worship them. Cf. Col. 2:18.

But we must also add:

- 9) There are angels who have sinned as well as angels who have not sinned. They are called "angels that sinned" (2 Pet. 2:4; cf. Jude 16) and "elect angels" (1 Tim. 5:21).

Angels are involved in the doctrine of sin.

It seems clear from Scripture that

Angels' (2)

- The angels who are now unfallen will not sin because they are elect.
- 10) There is no salvation for the angels who have sinned.
 - 11) Hell has been "prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matt. 25:41). This in the study of angels we come ^{not only} to the doctrine of sin, but to the doctrines of Satan, demons, and Hell.
 - 12) The Devil sinned before man. In the hierarchy of evil ones he is the Prince (Mt. 2:24; Eph. 2:2; John 14:30). He is a god (2 Cor. 4:3,4). He is the inveterate enemy of God, of the people of God, and of all that is godly.
 - 13) He is greater than we are, but not greater than God.
 - 14) His doom was sealed at the Cross (John ~~12:31~~^{12:31}; 16:11).
 - 15) However, he is permitted by God to exercise his power among men.
Cf. 1 Pet. 5:8
Sometimes he appears in an entirely different role altogether. Cf. 2 Cor. 11:14. But he himself is always the Devil (accuser, slanderer), always Satan (adversary).
He will tempt us to sin, He will discourage us. He will oppose us. He will seek to get us to doubt God and His Word, or to rebel against God. We need to be like Paul who said,

Angels (3)

- "We are not ignorant of his devices" (2 Cor. 2:11 -- αὐτοῦ τὰ σχέδια). "His devices" are his plans, his purposes. He cannot take away our salvation, but he seeks to cripple us.
- a) What are we to do about Satan?
 - a) We are to be vigilant.
 - b) We are to resist him -- not run from him.
 - c) We are to resist him through Christ, by the Spirit, with the Word and with prayer. Cf. Rev 12:9-11; Eph. 6:10-20.