

III. ANGELS MINISTRY IN RELATION TO BELIEVERS (8 Characteristics)

A. They reveal _____

1. God used angels to communicate His will and Word to men (Zechariah 4:1; 5:5; 6:5)
2. An angel predicted the birth of John the Baptist (Luke 1: 11-20)
3. Gabriel explained the meaning of a vision given to Daniel (Dan 9: 20-27) and the entire prophecy of Daniel 10:1-12:13 came through an angel regarding Israel's future.

B. They provide _____

1. An angel guided Joseph to take Mary as his wife and the virgin-born Jesus as his own Son (Matt. 1:20-21)
2. Women who came to Jesus' empty tomb were guided by angels (Lk. 24: 4-7)
3. An angel guided Phillip to the Ethiopian while the Holy Spirit pointed him to the exact person (Acts 8:29)
4. An angel delivered Cornelius to send for Peter to tell him how to be saved (Acts 10:1-8; 11: 13-14)

C. They serve _____

1. They minister to man's physical needs. They gave water to Hagar (Gen. 21: 17-20)
2. An angel provided the worn-out Elijah "a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water" (1 Kin 19:5-7)

D. They give _____

1. God sent His angel to shut the lions' mouths while Daniel was in the lions' den (Dan. 6: 20-23)
2. An angel kept three Hebrew youths from harm in the fiery furnace (Dan. 3: 24-28)
3. An angelic army protected Elisha and his servant at Dothan (2 Kin. 6: 13-17)

E. They _____ from danger.

1. The 144,000 Israelites sealed by God during the Tribulation period will be delivered by angels from physical harm. (Rev. 7:1-14)
2. An angel opened the doors of the prison for the apostles (Acts 5:17-20)
3. An angel caused Peter's chains to fall off and the prison doors to open (Acts 12:5-10)

F. They _____ and encourage.

1. They strengthened Christ (Matt. 4:11; Lk 22:43)
2. An angel encouraged the apostles to continue preaching after they were freed from prison (Acts 5: 19-20)
3. Paul was encouraged by an angel who predicted his safety at sea for his ministry in Rome (Acts 27:25)

G. They are God's agents in answering _____.

1. Daniel's prayer for Israel's restoration resulted in Gabriel's swift flight to instruct him of the future (Dan. 9: 20-24)
2. An angel gave Daniel strength after he fasted and prayed (Dan. 10:10-12)
3. An angel was sent to release Peter from prison (Acts 12: 1-17)

H. They attend at the _____ of the righteous.

1. Jesus Christ spoke of angels carrying Lazarus' spirit to Abraham's bosom. (Lk 16:22)
2. Michael the archangel was disputing with Satan over Moses' body (Jude 9)

QUESTION #5: WHAT ARE THE LIMITATIONS OF ANGELS?

Angels are called upon to w_____ Jesus (Heb. 2:5-6)...but they are not to be worshiped. Also, angels are "ministering spirits", servants. They are not to be ministered to or served.

QUESTION #6: WHAT ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF ANGELIC REVELATION TODAY?

- a. First, there are _____ Bible passages which clearly rule out the possibility of special revelation today.
- b. Second, the history of the church demonstrates that God's special revelatory acts were at the very least significantly curtailed after the time of the apostles.
 - Hebrews 1:1-2 implies that the special revelatory process which continued throughout the time of the prophets has come to a close, having been consummated in Christ.
- c. Therefore, we should NOT expect special revelation of the "biblical type" today through angelic messengers. In fact, we should be s_____ of any claims to such revelation in light of the fact that "Satan disguises himself as an angel of light" (2 Cor. 11:14) and in the last days "many false prophets arise, and will mislead many" (Matt 24:11)
- d. We should, however, realize that angelic activity is very much real in today's world, just not in the same manner as the revelatory acts recorded in the Scripture.

QUESTION #7: WHAT CAN WE SAY ABOUT THE NATURE OF ANGELS?

1. Angels are _____ beings.

Matt 18: 10 They understand and think.

1 Pet 1: 12 They are curious, especially about salvation.

Psalm 148:2 They worship and speak..intelligence is required for these activities.

2. Angels are _____ beings.

Lk 2: 13-14 They offer praise.

Lk. 15:10 They rejoice.

Rev. 12 They can express anger.

3. Angels are _____ beings.

2 Pet. 2:4 Some chose to sin.

Jude 9 They make plans.

4. Angels are _____ beings.

Jude 6

Matthew 25:41

5. Angels are _____ - - but they are not the Creator.

They are not to be worshipped.

Colossians 2:18-19; Revelation 19:10; Revelation 22: 8-9.

6. Angels are _____ beings with some type of spiritual body.

Heb 1:14

7. Angels are continually _____

They will not cease to exist. In this regard, they are similar to us. (Lk 20:36)

8. Angels do _____ marry.

They are always referred to in the masculine gender.

Mark 12:25

The following resources were used in preparation for this lesson.

1. *Unseen, but Certain* by Dr. Danny Akin
2. *Angels* by David Jermiah
3. *Christian Beliefs* by Wayne Grudem.