

SHOULD ONE PRAY TO OR WORSHIP ANGELS?

PURPOSE: The OT Hebrew word for angels is “malak”. The NT Greek word for angels is “angelos”. Both words mean the same thing- “messenger”. Therefore, angels are: Those sent out as messengers of God to carry out the will of God.

The Psalmist writes: “Bless the Lord, you His angels, mighty in strength, who perform His word, obeying the voice of His Word...” Psalm 103:20

Angels are guardians of God’s law. Galatians 3:19 states “The law was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels...” Angels punish those who transgress the law. “For if the word spoken through angels proved unalterable, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense...” Hebrews 2:2

We read in Scripture that: It was an angel that would keep man out of the garden with a “flaming sword” (Genesis 3:24). Angels would come to destroy Sodom & Gomorrah (Genesis 19). An angel would destroy the Egyptian first born (Exodus 12). An Angel was sent to destroy Jerusalem (2 Samuel 24:16, 17). An angel was sent to destroy the Assyrian army (as well as other enemies of God) (2 Chronicles 32:21). Angels will be sent to pour out God’s wrath upon the earth (Revelation 16).

However, angels would also be sent to rescue (Genesis 19:15, 16), to refresh (1 Kings 19:5), to inform (Luke 1:11-20), and to celebrate (Luke 2:13).

PASSION: Angels WORSHIP God! (Isaiah 6, Revelation 4) Because their focus is God, angels take their cues and orders from God alone, and not man! Hebrews 1:6 & 7, makes it clear that the angels of God worship the Son of God & seek to do His bidding! Any worship, praise or adoration to any being other than God would be a gross offense to the angels as it would demean the One they adore. Therefore it is strictly forbidden to worship angels by God Himself (Exodus 20:3,5) by angels (Revelation 19:20; 22:8,9), by Paul (Colossians 2:16-19).

POSITION: Though angels are greater in power over man (2 Peter 2:10, 11; Jude 1:8-10), they have not the greater position (Hebrews 1:5, 14; 1 John 3:1 & 2). Note the comparison & contrast between angels and son. Hebrews 1:1-14 states that angels are messenger of Christ ... sent out to render service for the sake of those who will “inherit salvation (vs. 14).” Those who put their complete faith & trust in Christ become, Scripture says, children of God (John 1:12) and will ultimately reign with Christ (Revelation 3:21, 22). *Note: Angels cannot be our source of trust... only Christ is trustworthy (Job 4:18, Galatians 1:6-8).* Therefore, Paul will declare that believers will someday “judge the angels” (1 Corinthians 6:3)

PRAYER: Since Christ alone delivers us.... Christ alone reigns over all... Christ alone controls all... and holds all things together.... (Colossians 1:13-20), Who should we come to? Scriptures says we are to come to the Father asking in “Jesus Name” (John 14:13, 14; 15:16;

16:23, 26) as we have a better and more direct way of talking to God... for now we come as sons! (Matthew 6:5-13; Galatians 4:6, 7; Hebrews 4:14-16; Romans 8:15, 16)