

The Ministry of Angels

THE TRUTH ABOUT ANGELS

Fantasy #1:

Angels are human beings who have died.

Fact #1:

Angels are spiritual beings created by God.

Hebrews 1:14 (NIV)

Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?

Colossians 1:16 (NIV)

For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

Fantasy #2:

Angels appear as chubby babies with wings.

Fact #2:

Angels most often appear as ordinary men.

Hebrews 13:2 (NIV)

Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

Fantasy #3:

Angels are sweet creatures who sing and play harps.

Fact #3:

Angels are most often warriors who hold swords.

Joshua 5:13 (NKJV)

And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?"

Fantasy #4:

All angels are good and obey God.

Fact #4:

Some angels are evil and oppose God.

Matthew 25:41 (NIV)

Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.'

Daniel 10:12 (NLT)

Then he said, "Don't be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer.

Daniel 10:13 (NLT)

But for twenty-one days the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the archangels, came to help me, and I left him there with the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia.

Daniel 10:14 (NLT)

Now I am here to explain what will happen to your people in the future, for this vision concerns a time yet to come."

Fantasy #5:

Angels must be seen to be real.

Fact #5:

Angels are usually invisible, and we must be divinely enabled to see them.

2 Kings 6:15 (NIV)

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.

2 Kings 6:16 (NIV)

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

2 Kings 6:17 (NIV)

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.

THE MINISTRY OF ANGELS

Psalms 103:20 (NLT)

Praise the Lord, you angels, you mighty ones who carry out his plans, listening for each of his commands.

Psalm 103:21 (NLT)

Yes, praise the Lord, you armies of angels who serve him and do his will!

John 1:51 (NIV)

He then added, "Very truly I tell you, you will see 'heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.'"

1. Angels pronounce God's message to us.

Acts 27:23 (NIV)

Last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me and said,

Acts 27:24 (NIV)

'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.'

Acts 27:25 (NIV)

So keep up your courage, men, for I have faith in God that it will happen just as he told me.

2. Angels deliver provision for our needs.

1 Kings 19:5 (NKJV)

Then as he lay and slept under a broom tree, suddenly an angel touched him, and said to him, "Arise and eat."

1 Kings 19:6 (NKJV)

Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water. So he ate and drank, and lay down again.

1 Kings 19:7 (NKJV)

And the angel of the Lord came back the second time, and touched him, and said, "Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you."

1 Kings 19:8 (NKJV)

So he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God.

Psalm 78:24-25 (NIV)

He rained down manna for the people to eat,

he gave them the grain of heaven. Human beings ate the bread of angels; he sent them all the food they could eat.

3. Angels protect us from harm.

Psalm 91:9-10 (NLT)

If you make the Lord your refuge, if you make the Most High your shelter, no evil will conquer you; no plague will come near your home.

Psalm 91:11-12 (NLT)

For he will order his angels to protect you wherever you go. They will hold you up with their hands so you won't even hurt your foot on a stone.

Daniel 6:22 (NIV)

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. Angels preside at our death.

Luke 16:22 (NIV)

The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side.

5. Angels praise God with us.

Psalm 148:1 (NLT)

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him from the skies!

Psalm 148:2 (NLT)

Praise him, all his angels! Praise him, all the armies of heaven!

Psalm 148:7 (NLT)

Praise the Lord from the earth...

Psalm 148:11-12 (NLT)

kings of the earth and all people, rulers and judges of the earth, young men and young women, old men and children.

Psalm 148:11-12 (NLT)

Let them all praise the name of the Lord.