

# ANGELS MINISTERING SPIRITS

(PART 2)



(Hebrews 1:5-14)

For to which of the angels did [God] say, You are My Son, today I have begotten You? And again, I will be to Him a Father, and He will be to Me a Son?

As we learned earlier, angels are powerful creatures, but they are created beings. Their power does not go beyond God's Who is their Creator. They are messengers and are ministers to perform God's will. An example of a messenger is the angel Gabriel. His name carries the meaning of God is mighty. He was entrusted to deliver God's message to several people. The prophet Daniel was one of them. More than one time he appeared to Daniel. In chapter 8: 15-17, Daniel relates his experience with the angel Gabriel: and I heard a man's voice between the banks of the [river] Ulai which called and said, Gabriel, make this man understand the

vision. So he came near where I stood and when he came, I was frightened and fell on my face. But he said to me, Understand, O son of man, for the vision belongs to the time of the end... behold I will make you know what will be in the latter time of the indignation [of God upon the ungodly], for it has to do with the time of the end (vs.16,18). The angel Gabriel came to Daniel again in chapter 9:21-27 of Daniel: Yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the former vision, being caused to fly swiftly, came near to me and touched me about the time of the evening sacrifice. He instructed me and made me understand; he talked with me and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give you skill and wisdom and understanding (vs. 21-22). He had come to Daniel with the message from God concerning the end time specifically affecting the Jewish nation.

He has been busy in the New Testament also. He appeared to the priest Zachariah and to Mary, the mother to be of YAHSHUA with an answer to prayer and a message of hope. It was an amazing message for both of them. Zachariah was to have a son in his old age, who was to be the precursor of the Messiah. Mary was to give birth supernaturally to the Son of God- Messiah. (Luke 1 10-20; 26-38). When Zachariah doubted him, he then replied to him: I am Gabriel. I stand in the very presence of God, and I have been sent to talk to you and to bring you this good news (Luke 1:19). He came to Mary six months later, to announce the birth of the Lord, the Savior of the world. Perplexed with the message, he asked him how it was to happen. He answered her and said, The Holy spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you [like a shining cloud]; and so the holy Thing which shall be born of you will be called the Son of God (Luke 1:34-35). The Bible does not mention that the angel Gabriel was in the rank of an archangel, but we understand that he was a very high ranked and important angel, a messenger who delivered God's very special and prophetic messages.

Another high ranking angel is the seraph. The word seraphim is the plural form of the name seraph. The name means burning ones, or nobles. They fly above the throne of God; their primary duty it is to praise and glorify God. Isaiah describes a vision he had after the death of king Uzziah, which included seraphim in Isaiah six: I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and the skirts of His train filled the temple. Above Him stood the seraphim; each had six wings; with two [each] covered his [own] face, and with two [each] covered his feet, and with two [each] flew. And one cried to another and said, Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of

hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory! And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who cried, and the house was filled with smoke.... Then flew one of the seraphim to me, having a live coal in his hand which he had taken with tongs from off the altar; with it he touched my mouth and said, Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity and guilt are taken away, and your sin is completely atone for and forgiven (Isaiah 6: 1-4,6). The seraphim's song Holy, Holy, Holy mentioned above has echoed throughout the ages. We sing a version of it, remembering them in their worship to God.

The cherubim are the first angels mentioned in the Bible. They were the ones who guarded the Garden of Eden, specifically the way to the tree of life, when Adam and Eve were driven out from the garden, as the Word of God says, So God drove out the man; and He placed at the east of the Garden of Eden the cherubim and a flaming sword which turned every way, to keep and guard the way to the tree of life (Gen. 3: 24). Had man eaten the fruit of life he would have been lost forever. Cherubim are always at the throne of God. Psalm 80: 1 says, ...You Who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth. Ezekiel, in his vision saw them and described them: And out of the midst of it came the likeness of four living creatures [or cherubim]. And this was their appearance: they had the likeness of man, but each one had four faces and each one had four wings; their legs were straight legs and the sole of their feet was like the sole of a calf's foot, and they sparkled like burnished bronze. They had the hands of a man under their wings on their four sides, and four of them had their faces and their wings thus: their wings touched one another; they turned not when they went but went every one straight forward (Ezekiel 1: 5-9). This description seems scary and hard to understand for a human being. However, they are known as the throne angels, powerful guardians of God.

Satan was a cherub, an anointed guardian. Ezekiel 28: 11-19; and Isaiah 14: 12-14 describe the beauty and power that surrendered him. But he became proud and was thrown out of heaven. The Bible says, You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created until iniquity and guilt were found in you... your heart was proud and lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom of the sake of your splendor. I cast you to the ground, (vs. 15,17). So God used cherubim to overpower Satan's power who was a cherub himself.

Angels are very much involved in God's final judgement on the earth. In Revelation 7: 1 we read about the four angels who will restrain the winds of

judgement. In Revelation 8:2 seven angels will sound the trumpets of judgement. The archangel Michael will lead his angels in a war in heaven (Rev. 12: 7-10) In Revelation 14:6 we see angels preaching the gospel, a last chance God will give people to repent. Angels will pour out the bowls of judgement upon the earth (Rev. 15: and 16). An angel will descend from heaven, holding the key of the Abyss and a great chain in his hand. He will grip and overpower the dragon, that old serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years (Rev. 20:1-3). YAHSHUA, explaining the parable of wheat and the darnel, said, He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed means the children of the kingdom; the darnel is the children of the evil one, and the darnel who sowed it is the devil. The harvest is the close and the consummation of the age, and the reapers are angels... the son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all causes of offense and all who do iniquity and act wickedly, and will cast them into the furnace of fire; there will be weeping and wailing and grinding of teeth (Matt.13). Angels will be the ones to separate the wicked from the righteous; they will cast the wicked into the furnace of fire... (Matt. 13:49).

Angels are ministering spirits, each with different purpose to serve God. Some types of angels are given orders to minister to all those who are to be saved. The Word of God describes how His angels will minister to His people: they shall bear them up on their hands, lest they dash their feet against a stone; they are ever so ready to serve God's people who have "made the Lord their refuge and the Most High their dwelling place." We see the confirmation in the life of Daniel and of his friends, when God sent His angels to deliver Daniel's friends from the burning fiery furnace, because they refused to worship the image of gold (Dan. 3); God again sent His angels to deliver Daniel from the mouths' of the lions, when Daniel remained faithful praying only to His God, the only true God (Dan. 6). God sent an angel to deliver Peter from the chains of Herod. Acts 12: 7: And suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the place where he was. And the angel gently smote Peter on the side and awakened him, saying, Get up quickly! And the chains fell off his hands.

There are many people living today who have experienced deliverance from angels. The writer to the letter to the Hebrews encourages us to be hospitable, sharing the comfort of our home, for through it some have entertained angels without knowing it (Heb. 13:2). So, angels come in many forms and ranks. Some

will look like a human being, without wings, others look powerful and others scary and strange. But they all were created to fulfill God's purpose in heaven and on earth. If you are a child of God, you will never walk alone, for His angels are walking with you to deliver, protect, to defend you. Just believe the Word of God, and the work of His Son YAHSHUA on Calvary and you will be set free from the chains of Satan to enjoy freedom in YAHSHUA.

There are evil angels also. They are those who fell from heaven with Satan. These are Satan's demons and his servants. They live to tempt, to torment and destroy the human race. Often people have statuettes of angels of all kinds. Although, they do not worship them, they are for the purpose of protection for some, or for other reasons. Any image, or statue that has to do with angels, one must be careful not to have in their home, especially if you are a believer, because, first God has prohibited and second because, they can be of evil origin. Their evil influence will be part of your life, as long as you have them in your domain. Trust in God alone, He is the only source of your salvation and protection.