

The Many Facets of Angels

What are Angels Like?

Angelic Voices



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VOICES

There are many voices in the world, and they can be categorized into two distinct groups. There are those that are of Divine origin and there are those that are of satanic origin. The Divine Viewpoint of life is revealed to us in the Word of God, which is called "the Word of God the Father," and it is called "the mind of Jesus Christ," and it is also called "the voice of the Holy Spirit" who is "our Teacher and our Guide and He will guide us into all Truth."

Elect angels also have a voice, and this is our study now. Their voice is also heard in Scripture, and there is also the voice of the saints who are in the presence of the Lord and their voice still calls out to us. **But Satan has a voice and he has something to say, and many times it sounds JUST GREAT.** His fallen angels and demons have a voice also.

So in this study the emphasis is on "Tongues of Angels," both elect and fallen, and the voice also of our loved ones who have gone on before us and are in the presence of the Lord right now.

We have believers not on this Earth whose voice we also hear and this becomes a source of encouragement to us and a comfort to us, because they, along with the elect angels, always line up with the voice of God the Holy Spirit, the mind of Christ, and the Word of God the Father. That is why it is so imperative to study the Word of God for yourself because as the Lord said, "Man cannot live by bread alone, but by every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Sometimes it is the Bible, sometimes it is angels and sometimes it is saints who are in the Lord's presence right now and their voice is also heard. "Hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches."

Job 38:4, 7, "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the Earth... WHEN THE MORNING STARS SANG TOGETHER,

AND ALL THE SONS OF GOD SHOUTED FOR JOY?" "All ye who owe to Him your birth. To praise your every hour employ. Jehovah reigns, be glad, O Earth. And shout, ye morning stars, for joy."

For those of us who know that man and his prayers are as with stammering lips at best, it is a relief to turn to the eloquent shouts of heaven. It is an interesting and profitable pursuit to hear what the angels are shouting about. **There are times when we all need to get outside of ourselves, and to look at things from another angle, and from a much higher vantage point.** This is always a remedy when our spirits are dry and bogged down. And what better vantage point is there than heaven itself? What better angle than that of angels?

A faint echo of heaven will charm our ears more than a perfect recording of less worthy places. **We will become better off when we know that angels and saints in Heaven are smiling or laughing at us.** We even find ourselves joining in the singing, and desire the purer harmonies. What are the heavens telling us?

"Shout the angel-choirs aloud, Echoing to the trump of God."

Angels are messengers. This is the definition of the word "angels." And as messengers they have a message. **Since they are invisible, then that makes the message MORE IMPORTANT. Sometimes with human messengers we get the messenger mixed up with the message.** The principle of John the baptist was a "voice crying in the wilderness." **But because we cannot see or hear angels, then their message is totally emphasizing the message.** And since we only know about angel-messengers through the Word of God, **then these invisible messengers emphasize the importance of knowledge of the Word of God.**

WHAT ARE ANGELS LIKE?

Well, the Word of God says that angels praise God, and they address Him with joy, and love, and manners, and modesty, and patience, and purity and tranquility. They have radiant faces. They are orators and listeners, comforters, messengers, and reapers. They render voluntary service, but they are not “know-alls,” neither are they responsible for everything.

1. They praise the Lord. “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts, the whole Earth is full of His glory.” This is one Seraph speaking to another Seraph. Isaiah 6:3. “Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace with men to whom God is well pleased,” Luke 2:14.

2. Joy. “Thou didst hear our shout as the planet Earth began its course. Here us rejoice again, for (Buddy Dano) enters a new orbit in the gravitational field of the sun of righteousness.” Luke 15:10, “Likewise, I say unto you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that changes his mind about Jesus Christ.” Job 38:7, “When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy.”

3. Love. “Lord, thou knowest that we love one another, but what wonderful things are we missing, that we cannot know the way of a man with a maid?” Proverbs 30:19, “The way of an eagle in the air; the way of a serpent upon a rock; the way of a ship in the midst of the sea; and the way of a man with a maid.” Matthew 22:30, “For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are as the angels of God in heaven.”

4. Manners. “We righteous beings, O God, have a lot to put up with from men, who pour out scorn on dominions, and scoff at dignities. But we are grateful to the apostles Jude and Peter for pointing out that we do not descend to reviling. Accuse we may, but always with mild dignity. It could even be said that manners maketh the angel.” Jude 8, 9, “Likewise also these filthy dreamers, defile

the flesh, despise dominions, and speak evil of dignities. Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.”

2 Peter 2:10, 11, “But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise governments, presumptuous are they, self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. WHEREAS ANGELS, WHICH ARE GREATER IN POWER AND MIGHT, BRING NOT RAILING ACCUSATION AGAINST THEM BEFORE THE LORD.” **The angels have manners, do you?** Someone said that the language and the attitudes of today are like the fishwives of Billingsgate, and it is such as an archangel would not use to the devil.

5. Modesty. “For this cause ought the woman to have power on her head BECAUSE OF THE ANGELS.” “Thou hast given us the task of upholding the orderly nature of things. This includes the distinction of sex, which in spite of exchanges of dress and occupation, remains fairly clear. Unlike human-kind, we can view this matter with cool detachment. It is not for us to take sides, it is, of course, a mere human convention, not without significance, to use the male pronoun in relation to us.

“We would not, without further guidance from Thy throne, throw ourselves into the current ecclesiastical controversy about woman in the ministry. Still, we confess that we have been extremely interested in their emancipation. We realize that the inferior position of women established in so many societies has distinct advantages to the men. We find the apostle most convincing when he says, “In Christ Jesus... neither male nor female,” Galatians 3:28.

“As for women at worship, the worship of human congregations is always in our presence, and we are especially interested in all

that takes place. We appreciate due modesty and decorum. We cannot, however, maintain an eternal sense of shock when women show their hair, and we find the absence of mid-twentieth-century hats a distinct relief.

6. Patience. Matthew 10:30, "And the very hairs of your head are numbered." 10,467, 10,464, 10,463, 10,393... (steady man, Anger won't get you anywhere). 10,390... "Lord, counting hairs as they fall out is the dullest of occupations. But if doing this helps one of the anxious children to know his value in Thy sight, I will not begrudge the labour." "By HIS KNOWLEDGE THAT I COUNT, MAY HE KNOW THAT HE COUNTS."

7. Purity. "Lord, I'm no angel, but come to think of it, that is just what I am." Job 25:5, "Behold even to the moon, and it shineth not; yea, the stars are not pure in His sight." No sin, no defect belongs to elect angelic minds. "The stars are not pure in His sight," that is in comparison to Him. The very angels are created and are not pure, but this does not imply that they are not pure in themselves. They are altogether devoted to His will, and perfectly obedient in all things.

8. Tranquility. "Men seemed surprised, Lord, that we should be so completely without anxieties, but then, we are not property owners." Matthew 6:19, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon Earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal."

9. Radiance. "Lord, we have always been purely proud of our appearance. But it is a great compliment that our faces should be said to resemble the face of Thy first martyr Stephen." Acts 6:15, "And all that sat in the council, looking steadfastly on him, SAW HIS FACE AS IT HAD BEEN THE FACE OF AN ANGEL."

10. Orators. "We speak with the tongues of angels. May we love with the love of redeemed men." 1 Corinthians 13:1, "THOUGH I SPEAK WITH THE TONGUES OF MEN AND ANGELS AND HAVE NOT LOVE, I AM BECOME AS SOUNDING BRASS OR A

TINKLING CYMBAL." But not even the golden speech of angels can express the Divine love.

"The depth of all-redeeming love
What angel tongue can tell?
O may I to the utmost prove
The gift unspeakable."

11. Listeners. Matthew 21:1-16, "And the multitude that went before and that followed, cried, saying Hosanna, to the Son of David, blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST." "And when the chief priest and scribes say the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying in the temple saying, HOSANNA TO THE SON OF DAVID, THEY WERE SORE DISPLEASED."

"Hosanna" means SAVE NOW, and comes from Psalm 118:25, "Save now, I beseech Thee, O Lord: O Lord, I beseech Thee, send now prosperity." "Hosanna in the highest," the angels are invoked to shout Hosanna to Jesus Christ.

"Above the Hosanna's of the multitude we in high heaven heard an echo from the future, "If Thou be the Son of God, save thyself." Louder than the sacrificial offerings personally offered for atonement by the temple shopkeepers, at wholesale prices, were the avaricious schemings of their minds (money changers in the temple). Clearer than the formal worship of the chief priests and scribes was their resentment against the Man of authority. Even those who were healed were full of themselves and the miracle of power, though we heard their hearts' thanks. We who saw Thy triumphant ride shouted out "Hosanna in the highest." And from the lips of cheering children there was perfect praise."

12. Comforters. "Jesus, Son of man, you would not let us bear you up. You forbade fire from heaven. You kept idle the 12 waiting legions. Yet we ministered to you in the bitterness of the desert and in the anguish in the Garden. And always upon you,

Jacob's son, the true Israel of God, we ascended and descended. **When your new Israel, the Church, seeks trust rather than demonstration, mercy rather than retribution, obedience rather than deliverance, then will it know the desert and the cross.** But we shall be there to minister and comfort, and the busy traffic between heaven and Earth will make every place the house of God and the gate of heaven."

Matthew 4:6, "And saith unto Him, If thou be the Son of God, cast Thyself down: for it is written, He shall give His angels charge concerning Thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time Thou dash Thy foot against a stone." Luke 9:54, "And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?"

Matthew 26:53, "Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He shall presently give Me more than twelve legions of angels?" Matthew 4:11, "Then the devil leaveth Him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto Him." Luke 22:43, "And there appeared an angel unto Him from heaven, strengthening Him."

Genesis 28:12, "And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the Earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it." John 1:51, "And He saith unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

13. Messengers, angels. "We accept from Your hands, our Lord, sender of angels and men, the task of delivering messages. Moses still has his sandals on, the ass of Balaam plods forward unconcerned, the fiery furnace has seven times heat. Joseph needs warning. Philip has work in the South. Cornelius prays for instruction. Peter must dream. Paul is at sea. John the Divine has time for a revelation.

"Earthly offices need their messenger boys. We are here to help forward the economy of Your business. Regiments need their dispatch-riders. We are here for our part in the conquest of Earth. **LOVERS SEND PERSONAL MESSAGES BY TRUSTED FRIENDS. WE WILL DELIVER YOU LOVE-LETTERS TO YOUR BRIDE-TO-BE.**

"But Lord You also have Your human messengers, who sometimes seem so casual, content and cold. May they too communicate their messages with the efficiency of big business, the urgency of total war, and the intensity of Divine love.

Acts 23:9, "And there arose a great cry, and the scribes that were of the Pharisees part arose, and strove, saying, we find no evil in this Man, BUT IF A SPIRIT OR AN ANGEL HATH SPOKEN TO HIM, LET US NOT FIGHT AGAINST GOD." Numbers 22:23, "AND THE ASS SAW THE ANGEL OF THE LORD STANDING IN THE WAY, AND HIS SWORD DRAWN IN HIS HAND, and the ass turned aside out of the way, and went into the field, and Balaam smote the ass, to turn her into the way." Daniel 3:28, "Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, WHO HATH SENT HIS ANGEL AND DELIVERED HIS SERVANTS THAT TRUSTED IN HIM, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God."

Matthew 1:20, "BUT WHILE HE THOUGHT ON THESE THINGS, BEHOLD THE ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARED UNTO HIM IN A DREAM SAYING, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit." Acts 10:3, "He saw in a vision evidently about the ninth hour of the day, AN ANGEL OF GOD COMING IN TO HIM AND SAYING UNTO HIM, CORNELIUS." Acts 7:35, "This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send to be a ruler and a deliverer BY THE HAND OF THE ANGEL WHICH APPEARED TO HIM IN THE

BUSH. Verse 38, "This is He, that was in the church in the wilderness WITH THE ANGEL WHICH SPAKE TO HIM IN THE MOUNT SINA. AND WITH OUR FATHERS WHO RECEIVED THE LIVELY ORACLES TO GIVE UNTO US."

Revelation 1:1, "The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto His servants things which must come shortly to pass, and He sent and SIGNIFIED IT BY HIS ANGEL UNTO HIS SERVANT JOHN." Revelation 12:7, "And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon fought and his angels."

14. Reapers. "The trumpets are poised at the lips. The mighty ranks are massed for the Word to advance. The reaper-sickles are silver-sharp. 'Is your patience not exhausted yet, Lord?'" Matthew 24:31, "And He shall SEND HIS ANGELS WITH A GREAT SOUND OF A TRUMPET, AND THEY SHALL GATHER TOGETHER HIS ELECT FROM THE FOUR WINDS, from one end of heaven to the other." 2 Thessalonians 1:7, "And to you who are troubled, rest with us, when the Lord Jesus Christ shall be REVEALED FROM HEAVEN WITH HIS MIGHTY ANGELS."

The Second Advent of Christ to the Earth, separating the wheat from the chaff. Revelation 14:15, "AND ANOTHER ANGEL CAME OUT OF THE TEMPLE, CRYING WITH A LOUD VOICE TO HIM THAT SAT ON THE CLOUD, THRUST IN THY SICKLE, AND REAP. FOR THE TIME IS COME FOR THEE TO REAP. FOR THE HARVEST OF THE EARTH IS RIPE." In the play in the theater called "Green Pastures" there is a scene that fits this particular angelic principle which says this, "You look awful pensive, Lawd. Lawd, is de time come for me to blow?"

15. Voluntary service. "Lord, there is no must in our service. We are not creatures of destiny. We are the creatures that men call destiny. But they have a freedom, even as we have. **We serve Thee, not because it is to our advantage, but because Thou alone**

art worthy of our total obedience. Why should angels or men choose any other?"

"Myself and all the angelic host, that stand in sight of God enthroned, our happy state hold, as you yours, while our obedience holds, on other surety none, freely we serve, because we freely love, as in our will to love or not, in this we stand or fall."

Angels have free will. Those chose to stay with God, elect. And those chose to chose for Satan, called fallen angels. Some are in prison, the fallen angels of Genesis 6. And some are operative, known as demons, Jude 6. "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, He hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness into the judgment of the Great Day."

The exercise of negative volition in angels. The five "I will's" of Satan in Isaiah 14 show the free will in Lucifer, THE GREATEST OF ALL FALLEN ANGELS.

Revelation 12:3, 4, Satan draws the third part of the angels with Him. "And there appeared another wonder in heaven; and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the Earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born."

16. Angels are not "know-it-alls". "We thank Thee, Lord, that we are not omniscient. OF THY SECOND GOING WE KNOW "NEITHER THE DAY NOR THE HOUR. Be Thou merciful to all presumptuous human beings who are convinced that they know more than we do on this matter of Thy plan. Matthew 24:36, "BUT OF THAT DAY AND HOUR KNOWETH NO MAN, NO, NOT THE ANGELS OF HEAVEN, BUT MY FATHER ONLY." Man thinks he knows so much, even when it comes to God and God's plan, but the angels who have superior knowledge of God and God's plan are not as presumptuous as man. They do not know the time or the hour of the Second Advent of Christ. To

us as coming, to them as going again. "Where are you going again, Lord?" Again??

17. Angels are not responsible for everything. "We didn't do it, honestly, Lord. Never did we once impose upon the hospitable readers of the Hebrews letter. Perhaps they sometimes wondered if they, like Abraham, were entertaining us without knowing it. Though it was seldom enough that the "strangers" they took in looked or behaved like angels. No, their guests were human all right, travellers, preachers, paupers, impostors. **Yet by entertaining such human-kind, they welcomed, not us, but Thee.**

"Also, Lord, we would hasten to refute the startling suggestion of the apostle Paul that one of us might bring a message to the Galatians contradicting the message he brought. As if we should be capable of such a thing. The thought of Paul cursing an angel of heaven has rather shaken us. But maybe he didn't really mean it.

"It is certainly true that many a lie clothes itself in golden speech. As for the insistence of the Jerusalem Christians that the knocking on the door was caused by angel's knuckles, we can only take this as showing what a state they were in. As if a door makes any difference to an angel's entry. We will not blame them too severely. Few human prayers are offered with the least expectancy.

"And finally, Lord, we are deeply awed to think that Thy voice could ever have been mistaken for ours, and pray that our persist-

ent voices may always be recognized as Thine."

Genesis 19:1, "AND THERE CAME TWO ANGELS TO SODOM AT EVEN. AND LOT SAT IN THE GATE OF SODOM. AND LOT SEEING THEM ROSE UP TO MEET THEM. AND HE BOWED HIMSELF WITH HIS FACE TOWARD THE GROUND." Hebrews 13:2, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels un-awares." cf Genesis 19:1.

Galatians 1:8, "BUT THOUGH WE, OR AN ANGEL FROM HEAVEN, PREACH ANY OTHER GOSPEL UNTO YOU, THAN THAT WHICH WE PREACHED UNTO YOU, LET HIM BE ACCURSED." Angels preach, but they don't preach another Gospel. Revelation 14:6, "AND I SAW ANOTHER ANGEL FLY IN THE MIDST OF HEAVEN, HAVING THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL TO PREACH UNTO THEM THAT DWELL ON THE EARTH, AND TO EVERY NATION, AND KINDRED, AND TONGUE, AND PEOPLE." Flying evangelists, angels with the Gospel, angelic evangelists and they won't take up a collection either.

Acts 12:15, "And they said unto her, Thou art mad, but she constantly affirmed that it was even so. THEN THEY SAID, IT IS HIS ANGEL." John 12:29, "THE PEOPLE THEREFORE, THAT STOOD BY, AND HEARD IT, SAID THAT IT THUNDERED: OTHERS SAID, AN ANGEL SPAKE TO HIM."

RELUCTANT ARCHANGELS

The Bible mentions the names of two archangels, Michael and Gabriel.

MICHAEL: Daniel 10:13, "But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days. BUT LO. MICHAEL. ONE OF THE CHIEF PRINCES. CAME TO HELP ME. and I remained there with the kings of Persia." Daniel 10:21, "But I will shew thee that which is noted in the Scripture of Truth. AND THERE IS NONE THAT HOLDETH WITH ME TO THESE THINGS. BUT MICHAEL YOUR PRINCE." Jude 9, "Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee." Revelation 12:7, "AND THERE WAS WAR IN HEAVEN. MICHAEL AND HIS ANGELS FOUGHT AGAINST THE DRAGON, AND THE DRAGON FOUGHT AND HIS ANGELS."

Now these are the references to Michael the archangel and from these we gather that Michael fought over the body of Moses with Satan and fought with Satan over the ministry of Daniel. And also that Michael stood for the Truth alone with Daniel.

GABRIEL IS MENTIONED BY NAME ALSO. Daniel 8:16, "AND I HEARD A MAN'S VOICE BETWEEN THE BANDS OF ULAI, WHICH CALLED, AND SAID, GABRIEL, MAKE THIS MAN TO UNDERSTAND THE VISION."

Angels were used in the previous dispensation as interpreters and teachers of the Word, interpreting angels. Daniel 9:21, "Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man, Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly,

touched me about the time of the evening oblation." Luke 1:19, "AND THE ANGEL ANSWERING SAID UNTO HIM, I AM GABRIEL, THAT STAND IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD: AND AM SENT TO SPEAK UNTO THEE, AND TO SHEW THEE THESE GLAD TIDINGS."

Here is a good commentary on the ministry of Gabriel, in the presence of the Lord, the angel of His presence. And He was sent by God to speak, and to show good news, glad tidings, the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Luke 1:26, "AND IN THE SIXTH MONTH THE ANGEL GABRIEL WAS SENT FROM GOD UNTO A CITY OF GALILEE, NAMED NAZARETH."

"BEHOLD I AM GABRIEL"

Behold the angel of the Lord who stands
reluctant in Thy presence, must Thy Word
impel me to a second earth-ward flight?
Still bleeds my heart for unresponding man.

A minister, dutiful, righteous, incense-
drenched,

importunately praying for a son

Suddenly, right of the altar, Gabriel,

Loud heralded the new Elijah's name.

His eyes, his mouth, and last his voice
spoke doubt:

"Whereby shall I know this, for I am old?"

I left him dumb as a mark of unbelief

Must I go? Women speak Thy power in birth
risking rebuff? Protestingly I go.

She speaks, "Behold the handmaid of the
Lord."

GUARDIANS ALL

1. PROTECTORS OF ISRAEL.

"Israelites, entangled in wars and impressed by military valor, again and again have called upon Thee as the God of battles. They have regarded me, Michael the archangel, as the champion of Israel's cause. My task, as they saw it, was to lead the overground resistance movement against the victorious guardian gods of Persia and Greece. My intervention was needed before the angel of Daniel's vision could break through the enemy lines to strengthen and direct him.

"But Thy HQ dispatches have always shown that the call-up of thy heavenly hosts is for the guardianship, not of nations, not even of Thy chosen nation, **but of righteousness.**

"Generation after generation the peoples of the Earth declare war, calling upon their national god to destroy their enemies. One nation after another rejects its true Shepherd and Guardian, as Israel did. **When will the human race unite behind its common leader, against the common destroyer?**

"The spiritual forces of light are massed against the hatred, the war-making, the defiance of Thy laws, in every man and nation. All my military genius and all my legions of angels are irrevocably joined against one enemy, the great dragon himself, who deceives the whole world."

Daniel 10:13, "But the prince of the kingdom of Persia, withstood me one and twenty days, but lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, and I remained there with the kings of Persia." Revelation 12:7, "And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon fought and his angels."

2. GUARDIAN OF A SADDUCEE.

"Lord, Thou rememberest that I was once guardian angel of a Sadducee, and what a time I had of it. Of course, he did not believe

in me, that was no surprise to me. He professed to believe in Thee, but his life was a pure expression of practical atheism. The fact is that he did not believe in anything, except the exploitation of all things for his own advantage, and, to be just, that of his class and nation. Parties, of a social and political and ecclesiastical kind, were his sole horizon. He was earth-bound in all his thoughts and ways. I could get nowhere."

3. GUARDIAN ANGEL OF A SCIENTIST, MY PRESENT CHARGE.

"I am glad to report there is more progress here. It is true that he reckons himself an agnostic, and is as skeptical as the Sadducee about my existence. But he is not bothered about his own advantage. He has a mind open to Truth. He is coming more and more to see the possibility of Thy reality behind the world he studies.

"He has seen both the opportunities and the limitations of his methods and measurements. He eliminates the human factor in his laboratory, but exalts it outside. He is delivering men from prejudice, pettiness, superstition, and blind assurance. Presently he will understand that he is Thy minister, as I am. The scientists may be some of God's heralds, but they are messengers of flaming fire."

4. BREATHLESS GUARDIAN TO A JET PILOT.

"Lord, at speeds greater than 500 miles per hour you will have to take full responsibility Yourself. I just cannot keep up."

5. GUARDIAN OF A SIX-WEEK OLD BABY.

"I am glad he sees me hovering round, even if his clever parents insist it is only wind that makes him appear to smile."

6. FOUR ANGELS AT MY BED.

"Thou, Lord, who keepest Israel, doth neither slumber nor sleep." Yet sleep was a thought in Thy mind, a gift in Thy hand to animals and men. Lord Incarnate, how good it was for Thee to learn, for the first time from the inside, the preciousness of sleep. The laying down of burdens, the passive surrender to a friendly hand, the letting go, the sinking into safety.

"So let this little one sleep. We will watch, for we can neither sleep nor wake. But I tell you, says God, that I know of nothing so beautiful in the whole world as a little child going to sleep while he is saying his prayers. Under the wing of his guardian angel, and laughs happily as he watches the angels and begins to go to sleep. And is already mixing his prayers together and no longer knows what they are all about.

7. GUARDIAN ANGEL TO A CHILD ATTENDING CHURCH FOR THE FIRST TIME.

"Here drop the silent heavenly dews,
Hushing the gossips in pitch-pine pews,
Here children stamp with excited feet,
While angels claim every empty seat.
Distracted stewards rush out and in,
And quiet people confess their sin.
The blue wall-text is faded and feeling,
It whispers the prayer we all are feeling.
Round clock, too ancient to count the hours,
Sniffs at the vase ablaze with flowers.
The memorial window is beautiful-bright,
BUT WHAT IS THAT STRANGE WINGED
FIGURE IN WHITE?
The organ waltzes a trifle lame,
BUT OUR HEARTS ALL DANCE AT THE
SOUND OF HIS NAME.
The preacher looks stern and learned and
wrinkled,
Reading the Book his dark eyes twinkled.
Above him, in variegated attire,

Fidgets and mutters and sings the choir.

People look solemn all Sunday-clad,
But they're on their toes and their tongues
are glad.

Offering worship with humble might,
Singing with simple high delight.

Hardly room for a bended knee,
But prayers like incense rise up to Thee.
Why the women wear hats I wouldn't be
knowing,

Is it to stop their haloes showing?

Why are the heads of the men all bare,
Because they've thrown their caps in the air?

And do they stand so straight and tall,
To stretch to heaven above them all?
And are their backs so strangely bent,
To see where the last quick angel went?

And do they shout Amen, Amen,

To cheer on the preacher to say it again?

And do they listen and hush their voice,

TO HEAR THY WORD AND IN HEART RE-
JOICE?

And can they know in their earthly days,
That Thou delightest in human praise?

8. ANGEL OF A YOUNG BELIEVER.

"In all the height of heaven what blessedness is higher than the steady vision of Thy face, radiant with the pure flame of holy love? To gaze without respite is perfect privilege and joy. To what do I owe this supreme favor? Not to my own Divinely endowed nature, made for Thy pleasure, but to the invisible chains that bind me to one of these little ones who believe in Thee.

"How young she is, how wayward sometimes, unimportant to the busy life of the world, soaring high in no talent, humble and trusting, wide open to callous and careless influences, a frail beginner in the school of faith. Yet Thy unceasing care and justifying love go out to her, as to all believers, who have become as little children. Through the

Christ who set a child in the midst, she and I
together catch Thy glance, and are satisfied.

Matthew 18:1-14. WHO IS GREATEST
IN THE KINGDOM? HE CALLED A LITTLE
CHILD.

I know a boy who lives in heaven;

A Seraph rascal, swift and light

And beautiful as a bird in flight.

He greets creation with a nod,

And laughs into the face of God.

BETTER THAN ANGELS

Hebrews 1 and Hebrews 2

Hebrews 1:4, “Being made so much better than the angels, as He hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent Name than they.”

1. “A MORE EXCELLENT NAME.”

Thou, O Lord, hast given us little to call our own, our greatest inheritance is a sphere of service, with the strength to serve. Our very selves are Thy possession. Thou dost direct and control us at will. If there is one thing that is truly our own, it is a good name.

All heaven acknowledges our helping wings. On planet Earth men have their own simple ways of recognizing our splendor and service. A man says of the most charming woman he knows that she is an angel. Puppies, babies, and helpful school chums are all “angels.” Those who give counseling and consoling attention are “ministering angels.” Even in post-Christian Europe, men proudly affirm that they are on the side of the angels.

Throughout the turning pages of time, our name has been consistently good. Men may ignore us, or deny us, but they never speak ill of us. THE SAME CANNOT BE SAID OF THEE, LORD. **Thy Name is beyond comparison, more excellent than ours, but to profess it on Earth can bring shame and torture and death.**

“Why is this?” Can it be that Thou didst become too involved with human affairs, too intimately tangled in the skein of human society? Men welcome a vague benevolence, but cannot tolerate the pure purpose of a dying God.

Hebrews 1:14, “As He hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent Name.”

2. Hebrews 1:6, “And let all the angels of God worship Him.”

Why is it that so many good servants of the human race are idolatrously substituted

for Thee? Wealth, power, comfort, knowledge, sex, support, and a thousand other charmers are given an attention and a devotion that comes very near to worship. So, too, men idolize a dictator, a reformer, a social figure, an explorer, a scientist, a philosopher, or (much less often) a saint, by giving him absolute allegiance, the steering-wheel of conscience, and unquestioning loyalty in life and death.

We, too, being shining creatures that we are, have known the embarrassment of being offered worship. This was in days when men thought that each angel had his own private star to shine from. Even today, men turn to what the stars foretell, as though we ruled the destinies of men from heavenly spaceships. But now the bowing and the swooning, the detailed interest and the compliment of imitation, are directed not to the star, but to the film star, to crooner movements rather than lunar ones.

“Worship Him, all ye gods...” Revelation 22:8, 9, “And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this Book: worship God.” Psalm 97:7, “Confounded be all they that serve graven images, that boast themselves of idols. worship Him, all ye gods.”

Colossians 2:18, “Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and WORSHIPPING OF ANGELS, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind.” Nehemiah 9:6, “Thou, even Thou, art Lord alone: Thou hast made heaven, and the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the Earth, and all things that are therein, the

seas, and all that is therein, and Thou preservest them all: AND THE HOST OF HEAVEN WORSHIPPETH THEE."

3. Hebrews 1:7, "And of the angels, He saith, who maketh His angels winds."

"Lord, wherever we turn, our value seems very limited. The sharpest minds of the scientific age investigate the world brought to them by their senses. They investigate their universe with precise, long-tested methods. They analyze wind and fire, measuring waves and radiations, Many among them think that what they handle is the real, the permanent, the indestructible world. True, they speak not of solids, but of energy, but still the world of equations and relations is all.

"For such as these, it is the realm of spirit that is transient and insecure and doomed to disappear as human minds are delivered from the 'superstition,' which is religion. We celestial angels are part of the things of heaven, and perish with them. They do not find us in their test tubes, neither do their geiger counters indicate our presence. They have no need of us in their hypotheses. Let them do without us, if that will make it easier for them to see Thee under and behind all created things."

Hebrews 1:10-12, "AND, THOU, LORD, IN BEGINNING HAST LAID THE FOUNDATION OF THE EARTH: AND THE HEAVENS ARE THE WORKS OF THINE HANDS: THEY SHALL PERISH: BUT THOU REMAINEST: AND THEY ALL SHALL WAX OLD AS DOTH A GARMENT: AND AS A VESTURE SHALT THOU FOLD THEM UP, AND THEY SHALL BE CHANGED: BUT THOU ART THE SAME, AND THY YEARS SHALL NOT FAIL."

"There was a period of time when the tables were quite turned. The world of senses was seen as a changing, insubstantial shadow. Overarching it was the invisible, permanent reality. That view of things might have preserved our self-respect, except that when the Scriptures speak of these two worlds, they class us with the inferior things that are passing away. Apparently our essen-

tial selves are so ill-defined that we very easily slip into winds and flames, if these things serve Thy purposes better. ARE WE SO TIED TO THE THINGS OF EARTH THAT WE PERISH WITH THEM? Have we at times been part of man's tragic materialism? If so, let them do without us. Only of Thee is it said that "Thou remainest the same, and Thy years fail not." What matter our fleeting existence, in comparison with Thy eternal solidarity."

4. Hebrews 1:14, "ARE THEY NOT ALL MINISTERING SPIRITS?"

"Thou knowest, O Lord, that this is in no way a complaint, but simply an expression of sanctified bewilderment. We fail to understand why such fuss is being made on behalf of these never-satisfied children of men. They take up such a lot of our eternity. They are always needing help, always getting into trouble, always crying out for attention. IT MAY BE THY GOOD PURPOSE TO MAKE THEM HEIRS OF SALVATION, BUT ARE THEY REALLY WORTH ALL THIS TROUBLE AND TRAVEL?"

"They seem to have little enough regard for us, except to amuse and delight the children. **Much more important, they seem very casual in their approach to Thee, the Unsearchable, whom angels dimly see.**

"**Can it be right that these presumptuous ones should set all heaven into frantic activity by their prayers? Why is it that Thou who needest nothing, are forever at their beck and call?"**

Hebrews 1:14, "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"

Angels our servants are,
And keep in all our ways,
And in their watchful hands they bear,
The sacred sons of GRACE.

5. "The Word spoken through angels."

Hebrews 2:1-4, "For if the Word spoken of angels was steadfast..."

"Whereas it became firmly established in the traditions of Judaism, the beliefs of the early Christian community, the case of Stephen vs. the Sanhedrin, and the writings of Josephus, that we angels were entrusted with the transmission of the Law of Moses. Whereas our intensive efforts in this direction were obviously regarded by Thy people, the Jews, as a symbol of the dignity and glory attendant upon the giving of Thy Law. Whereas our importance as Thy winged messengers had been minimized by Thy legal-minded apostle who argues that while we made effective the law-giving of Sinai, the promise in which all human blessedness lay was the direct unmediated gift of Thy Divine hand.

"Whereas the writer of Hebrews, to all the Hebrews, whose identity is still a matter of controversy among speculating human commentators, but which is, of course, known to us, gives earnest attention to our position in the celestial realm, only to show that **the Law which we gave, though steadfast, has been overtaken by something far superior, given by the Divine Son Himself.** Whereas the human species appears to be incapable of seeing the relevance of the Gospel of great salvation, unless its proclamation follows clear reference to the just demands and retributions of the Law.

"Whereas the Divine and human rights of the Ten Commandments, however much enshrined in charters and universal declarations, are flouted with unregarding rapidity and unlimited liability. May it be that we still have a job to do in getting the law across to drifting humanity??"

Hebrews 2:1-4, "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the Word spoken by angels was steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompense of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard Him; God also bearing them witness, both

with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?"

Galatians 3:18, 19, 24, "For if the inheritance be of the Law, it is no more of promise; but God gave it to Abraham by promise. Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a Mediator." "Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith."

Acts 7:38, 53, "This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sinai, and with our fathers: who received the lively oracles to give unto us." "Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept it."

6. Hebrews 2:5-11, "FOR UNTO ANGELS HATH HE NOT PUT IN SUBJECTION THE WORLD TO COME."

"NOT UNTO ANGELS." "Our good influence is over all things. We have accepted the authority which Thou didst give us. We have devoted our spirit-energies to Thy will. And have kept our place in Thy vast design. We exercise our power for Thy glory. Men are not so.

"Thou gavest man a status only a little lower than ours. **Thou crownedst him with glory and honour. This peculiar child of nature Thou didst endow with special gifts and unique responsibilities among Thy creatures. It was for him to peer into the secret vastness of Earth and heaven, to plunge into Thy deep thoughts, to explore the powers of the universe and use them to exercise a thousand-fold his well-being and prosperity and usefulness. ALL CREATED THINGS WERE TO BE HIS TOOLS AND TOYS.**

"He had made a mess of it. We do not see all things under his control. We see him conquering floods and drought, searching the corners of the universe, digging in the foundations of matter and life, darting through the

sound barrier and chasing the light, releasing and taming the basic nuclear energies. Yet still his feet are cold. He suffers discomfort and disease. He is beaten by green-fly and bacteria. He is in deadly danger of blowing himself to atoms and fouling his own water supply. He is a slave to his nuclear energies.

"BUT WHEN WE SPEAK OF MEN, WE SPEAK OF THEE. Thou too, art man, made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour. Thou art obedient man, victorious man. **Adam's race finds its obedience and its victory in Thee.**

"SO THE FUTURE IS NOT OURS, BUT MAN'S. The new world coming into being is under man's lordship. In Thy dawning kingdom, men are the kings and priests, our judges and our lords. When in submission we bow to Thee, we bow to men also, for He that sanctifieth, and those that are sanctified are all one."

Hebrews 2:5-11. Psalm 8:1, "What is man that Thou art mindful of him, and the Son of man that Thou hast visitest Him?" 1 Corinthians 6:3, "Know ye not that we shall judge angels? How much more things that pertain to this life?" Revelation 1:6, "And hath made us kings and priests unto God and His

Father: to Him be glory and dominion for ever and even. Amen."

7. Hebrews 2:16, 17, "NOT OF ANGELS DOTH HE TAKE HOLD."

"Lord, we are Thy free, fulfilled creatures. We have never known want or suffering. We have never feared death. We have never been enslaved to anything. We are immune from the power of darkness, with a single eye and a pure heart. 'YET NOT OF ANGELS DIDST THOU TAKE HOLD, BUT THE SEED OF ABRAHAM.' FOR EVERY MAN THOU DIDST DRAIN THE CUP TO THE DREGS. THOU HAST NEVER CALLED US BRETHREN."

"For verily He took not on Him the nature of angels: but He took on Him the seed of Abraham. Wherefore in all things it behooved Him to be made like unto His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people."

Jesus Christ became a little lower than the angels and took on the flesh of man, in order to save mankind. Now we are higher than angels positionally and then in the future we will be experientially in a resurrection body.

HEAVEN TO HELL IN ONE MOMENT!

ANGELS STARTED IN PERFECT ENVIRONMENT AND FELL, JUST LIKE ADAM

The number "6" is regarded in sacred writings as the symbol of imperfection and evil. It falls short of "7," the perfect number, and is a reminder that the worst condition is to fall short of the best. Even in the heavenly places, there are those who have fallen from perfect angelic bliss, the fallen angels, though their disruptive influence is felt, it will not last forever.

The lesson for men is the principle of these fallen angels. "Then I saw that there was a way to hell even from the gates of heaven," or the principle of how the mighty have fallen or, "SPIRITUAL WICKEDNESS IN HIGH PLACES." Ephesians 6:12, "For we wrestle not against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

1. Principalities and powers.

Colossians 2:15, "And having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it."

"Christ, the Lord of hosts, Head of all principalities and powers, our rebellious independence has frustrated Thy will, especially on planet Earth, where our influence is mainly felt."

Colossians 1:16, 17, "For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in Earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: And He is before all things, and by Him all things consist."

"All over the world, our princely powers have dominated the affairs of men. We acknowledge that thrones, dominions, principalities, powers, all were created through Thee for good ends, all are still dependent upon Thee. Men need never think, in great dismay, that we have taken over the universe."

Colossians 2:18, "Let no man beguile you of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels, intruding into those things which he hath not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind."

"Yet they have felt our penetrating rays, and have devised endless means to conciliate us. They have walked in deadly fear of us. Christians should have known better, but there are many Colosses.

John 12:31, "Now is the judgment of this world, and now shall the prince of this world be cast out." "Howbeit we speak wisdom and among them that are perfect, yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought."

"Thy sudden appearance in human flesh was a great shock to us, and there was nothing we could do but assert all our influence upon weak and willing human minds, and compass Thy death. Only so, we thought, was there a worth-while future, but we lacked Thy wisdom and did great folly."

1 Corinthians 2:6, Colossians 2:15, "And having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it." Colossians 1:20, "And, having made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself; by Him, I say, whether they be things in Earth, or things in heaven." "It is Thy purpose through the cross to reconcile all things in heaven."

"By Thy perfect Divine sacrifice on Earth, Thou didst mightily engage us in combat, beat us down, and spoil us of our armour and weapons, making a public spectacle of us as captive enemies."

"Thy resurrection and ascension to the right hand of glory has made all angels and authorities subordinate, and has left Thee far above all principality and power and might

and dominion and every name that is named. Now before Thee bows every knee of things in heaven. Our only hope of wisdom is to watch with trembling awe what Thou are doing in Thy church.”

“Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God, ANGELS AND AUTHORITIES AND POWER BEING MADE SUBJECT UNTO HIM,” 1 Peter 3:22. “When He raised Him from the dead, and set Him at His own right hand in HEAVENLY PLACES, FAR ABOVE ALL PRINCIPALITY AND POWER, AND MIGHT, AND DOMINION, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come,” Ephesians 1:20, 21.

“That at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow, OF THINGS IN HEAVEN, and things in Earth, and things under the Earth,” Philippians 2:10.

“TO THE INTENT THAT NOW UNTO THE PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS IN HEAVENLY PLACES MIGHT BE KNOWN BY THE CHURCH THE MANIFOLD WISDOM OF GOD,” Ephesians 3:10.

“Still we are not all wise enough to come willingly beneath Thy authority in heaven. Still we make determined stories, and carry men captive. Twentieth century western man refused to acknowledge our personal existence. By now believing in us, his consciousness is freed from our power. Witchcraft, exerting the power of death in parts of Earth, has little hold in Europe. But there is plenty of evidence of dark psychic powers and there are no instruments to determine their origin.”

Matthew 28:18, “And Jesus came and spoke unto them, saying, All power is given unto Me in heaven and in Earth.”

“Spiritual pride and national self-righteousness, concentration camps, and death chambers, race suicide, bombs and germs, and the sway of physical and mental illness, all indicate the power of the darkness and its prince. The men who deny us our being feel enslaved to laws and circumstances and pressures beyond their control.

“But in spite of appearances to men without faith, the sting of our attack is pulled. We

have no chance. We have lost heart, and so sometimes behave more violently than ever.”

2 Corinthians 12:7, “And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.”

“No longer need men to walk according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, or the spirit that now worketh in the sons of disobedience.”

“Wherein in times past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.”

“But men still wrestle against principalities, and against powers, and against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places, but the Gospel armour is entirely sufficient for their protection and triumph.” Ephesians 6:12.

“Even while our power still operates, the church of pardoned sinners can shout that nothing, neither angels nor principalities, nor powers, can separate it from Thy love.”

Romans 8:39, “Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

“Men in present tribulation look towards the day, when Thou shalt have put down, finally, and for ever, all rule and authority and power. THAT WILL BE THE DEATH OF US AS WE ARE.”

John 16:33, “These things I have spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer: I have overcome the world.”

1 Corinthians 15:24, “Then cometh the end, when He shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father: when He shall have put down all rule and all authority and power.”

But for man, freedom. When cometh the end?

SATAN IN DISGUISE

JUST AN ANGEL IN DISGUISE

- I desire the good of all men, but never their ultimate good.
- May they have good deeds to rely on, and rely on them.
- May their goodness be the substitute for faith, not the result of faith.
- May they mean well and be sincere.
- May they worry conscientiously when they should work, work indefatigably.
- When they should think, and think extensively when they should pray.
- May they communicate their message with the utmost zeal, in words no one else can understand.
- May they talk of service, not consecration, and of doing Thy works rather than Thy will.
- May they prefer dead tradition to living uncertainty, inhibition to expression and respectability to purity.
- May they attend church regularly, but without enjoyment.
- May they boast of their Christian fellowship, and keep it warm and superficial.
- May they get on well together, but never quite trust one another.
- May they uphold the self-respect which harbors resentment.
- May they recognize that charity begins at home and let it end there.
- May they greatly value the Bible, and keep it shut.
- May they walk by sight, and not by faith.
- May science deliver them from superstition, while giving them an undefined suspicion that new knowledge has undermined the Christian revelation.
- May they have all they need for a comfortable, happy life, and successfully stifle the voice of unrest.
- May they gain the whole world, and lose their own soul.