

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries 5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

# Filling in the Gaps Lesson 32 Guardian Angels

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We are going to start this lesson in Hebrews 1:5 For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?

The implication of that verse is that God never referred to any angel or all of the angels as His only begotten Son. That designation is reserved for the Lord Jesus Christ. Then the Bible says in Hebrews 1:7 *And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire.* The angels are not enthroned, glorified heirs of all things as is the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. They are rather servants of the true and living God.

The Bible says in Hebrews 1:13-14 But to which of the angels said he at any time, Sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool? Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?

When a minister stands in a Christian pulpit and says "angels," people think of men with long flowing hair, which is in violation of the word of God (1 Corinthians 11:14); with wings, not found anywhere in the Bible; with halos or a glow, who are somehow two to four feet taller than all the other people in their company. It is a shame that those images come into your mind because of TV, movies and pictures. They are not accurate representations according to the Bible.

Angels appear many times in the Bible to men as men. They don't look different from men. God never instructed anyone to pray to an angel for help. Why would you go to those who wait on the Lord when you could enter boldly into His presence? (Hebrews 4:16) We have a real advantage as saved, born again children of God. We can walk right past those who minister to the Lord, right into His presence.

Many were taught growing up that each person is assigned a guardian angel or many guardian angels. Nothing resembling that is taught in the Bible except maybe this verse. Hebrews 1:14 *Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?* They are sent *forth to minister for them*, not to them, who shall be heirs of salvation? It is a false idea to say you have a guardian angel from this verse.

If you are reading these Bible lessons and have never trusted Jesus Christ as your Savior, you are not saved. What does it mean to be "not saved"? It means that you are a condemned person, God's wrath is on you.



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(John 3:36), not His blessings. You need to be saved. And you can be saved. You will <u>not be saved</u> by your good works. You will <u>not be saved</u> by stopping your bad works. You <u>will not be saved</u> by doing something religious. The Bible says, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved." Salvation comes when you stop trying to save yourself and allow the Savior to save you. The moment you make that simple decision, <u>you will be saved.</u> The Bible says you will be saved from hellfire unto God and spiritually put into the presence of God forever. (Ephesians 1:3) Saved from sin unto righteousness. Saved from darkness unto light. The moment you decide to receive Jesus Christ as Savior, the Bible says you are saved. Praise the Lord.

Put a bookmark in Hebrews, there are many great and wonderful promises that accompany this salvation that we receive instantaneously upon our decision to trust Jesus Christ. Romans 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. Look at that capital S. That is a name. The Holy Spirit, of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father," is the mean through which we have a close, intimate, personal relationship with God as His children.

Romans 8:16 *The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:* That is what happens when you get saved.

Romans 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together. Whatever you may suffer emotionally or physically, whatever you may suffer in this life after you are saved, it doesn't change the fact that you are saved. And if you are saved, the Bible says you are an heir of God; you have a promised inheritance. What will that be? You are a joint heir, co-equal in your inheritance with Jesus Christ. Praise God! Look, the angels in heaven were amazed when they found out what we, as children of God, were entitled to because of Jesus' sacrifice (1 Peter 1:12).

Come back to Hebrews 1:3-4 speaking of the Lord Jesus, Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high; Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

Jesus Christ died for the Father, died for your sins. Jesus Christ rose from the dead for the Father, rose from the dead so you and I could be saved from our sin. Having died, been buried, and risen again, Jesus was made by the Father the heir, the inheritor, the eventual possessor of everything in God's creation.

When you trusted Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, God not only saved you, but He made you His child, a part of His family, and everything Jesus Christ will inherit, we will inherit with Him.



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We come to Hebrews 1:14, with the context, *Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?* I am already saved. One day, Jesus Christ is going to be the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the ruler, and possessor, governor of God's entire creation. Because I am saved, when that happens, I will be a full and complete participant in that event. The angels will not. What are the angels doing in our lives now? They are not saving us; we're saved. They are not keeping us saved; we're kept by the power of God. They are not helping us obtain or earn an inheritance; it's already promised to us in Christ. What are they doing? They are serving God in a way that <u>assists Him</u> to enable us in our service for Him. They're not giving us anything; God's given us everything. They're not bettering us or benefiting us spiritually; We're full recipients of all the benefits and blessings that God has to bestow upon His children.

Let us take a real look at angel's, not the incongruous lies coming out of false preachers, card makers, faith bookstores, and Hollywood, lies they are trying to force into your heart.

Acts 1:9 And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. This is the ascension that we read about in Hebrews 1:3. The resurrected Jesus Christ ascending from earth to take his seat at the right hand of God the Father in glory.

Acts 1:10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; These, we know from the context of the passage, are angels. Why does the Bible call them men? That's how they appear.

Acts 1:11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. This is not deep, but it's important. Jesus Christ said repeatedly, "I am going to die, rise again, return to my Father, and then come back to this earth to set up my kingdom." What is the first thing angels do following the resurrection and ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ? They remind people who watched Him leave that He is coming again. They don't invent a new doctrine; they don't start a new teaching. They encourage believers to believe what Jesus already told them.

If you had an angel, your own personal angel, and if that angel appeared to you, he would remind you to live in anticipation of the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. If angels minister to God's people, they encourage us to believe what Jesus promised.

In the fourth chapter of Acts verse 18, the believers were told to stop preaching about Jesus, or the authorities would make their lives very difficult. When they were released, they prayed and asked the Lord to give them power and boldness to keep preaching in spite of these threats. And God



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granted that, so they kept preaching. (God shook the building with the power of the Holy Spirit)

In Acts 5:17-20 Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, And laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison. But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life. Here we see another visitation of angels. They didn't release them from prison just to free them from suffering, but to encourage them to continue preaching the word of God despite persecution.

The first-time angels appear in Acts, they said, "Believe what Jesus promised." The second time, they encouraged believers who were facing persecution to keep going. If you had a guardian angel, he would encourage you to continue despite hardship, telling you to keep spreading the gospel.

Acts chapter eight is our next stop. Philip is preaching in Samaria.

Acts 8:5-6 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. Wouldn't that be great? Revival is breaking out, and then in Acts 8:26 "And the angel of the Lord spake unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert."

This seems unusual. Why would an angel direct Philip away from a city where multitudes are being converted to a desert?

Acts 8:27 " And he arose and went: and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship,"

The angel directed Philip away from a crowd to one man. Philip preached Christ to him, and he was saved. The angel was guiding Philip to witness to someone who hadn't yet heard the gospel. If you had a personal guardian angel, he would encourage you to witness and help direct you to those ready to receive the gospel.

Acts 10:1-2 There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God alway.

Cornelius saw in a vision an angel who told him to send for Peter. The angel didn't preach to Cornelius himself but directed him to a believer who would tell him how to be saved. Angels facilitate the preaching of the gospel, always pointing people to God's message, not their own.

Peter is in prison again in Acts 12:5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him. That night, an



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angel of the Lord came, a light shined in the prison, and Peter's chains fell off. The angel told him to get up and follow him. After Peter was led safely out, the angel departed. Here we see God's supernatural intervention through an angel to free Peter so that he could continue his ministry. This wasn't to show power for its own sake but to further the work of the gospel. Again, in Acts chapter twelve, we see another angelic intervention. Herod, the persecutor of the church, was struck down by an angel because he did not give glory to God. In a dramatic event, in verse 23, Herod died, which removed a significant barrier to the spread of the gospel. Angels act under God's direction to clear obstacles for believers' ministries.

Finally, we look at Acts chapter twenty-seven. Paul is on a ship headed to Rome during a dangerous storm. In Verses 23-24 For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar... The angel didn't calm the storm or free Paul from prison; rather, he encouraged him that he would reach Rome to bear witness before Caesar. This angel reminded Paul that God's mission for him was secure despite his circumstances.

The ministry of angels in Acts consistently supports the gospel's advance, not through spectacle but through directing and encouraging believers. Whether by freeing someone from prison, guiding them to someone who needs to hear the gospel, or removing obstacles, angels are servants facilitating God's work.

In summary, angels serve by helping believers fulfill their mission, not by drawing attention to themselves or performing acts for a spectacle. Hebrews chapter one reminds us that Christ is superior to angels. As heirs with Christ, we are called to proclaim His gospel, and any angelic assistance would simply support that mission.

**Notes** 



# Filling in the Gaps Lesson 32 Guardian Angels

	Name
Note:	(*) An asterisk indicates must include scripture with your answers.
1.	What are angels' primary job? *
2.	Where in the Bible do angels have wings?
3.	How do we know that angels are not on the same spiritual plane as Jesus Christ? *
4.	What do angels look like?
5.	How do we know that angels are not glorified or enthroned?
6.	Does the Bible teach it is a shame for a man to have long flowing hair?
7.	If each person was given a guardian angel (of which the Bible makes no mention), what would his task be on behalf of you? *
8.	How are you saved? * (use separate piece of paper if needed)

- 9. What are the benefits of being saved? \*
- 10. What does it mean when you hear that you are a full recipient of all benefits from God?
- 11. Why are the false preachers, so called Christian bookstores and movies trying to change the images of angels? Explain using Acts 12:20-23 \*
- 12. In Acts 1:9-11 what were the angels doing?
- 13. In Acts 5:17 what were the angels doing?
- 14. The first time angels appear in Acts, what are they telling people?
- 15. What is the purpose of this lesson? \*

## True/false

- There are some women angels.
- Angels help the Lord.
- Angels are sent forth to minister for them, not to them who are heirs of salvation.



Scripture memorization Hebrews 1:3-4; Romans 8:15-16

Write out these verses on the back on this page: (must be in KJV)

any questions?