

## Angels (ἄγγελος—Gk.32 [to bring *tidings*] a messenger) (Context: 2 Cor 12:1-7 verses Rev 2:1)

### Appearance:

#### Masculine or Feminine?

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Gen 18:1-2 ...three **men** stood by him...  
 22 ...the **men** turned their faces...  
 19:1 ...there came two **angels** to Sodom...

Dan 8:15-16 ...as the **appearance** of a **man**...Gabriel...  
 9:21 ...even the **man** Gabriel... (Lk 1:19, 26)

Mat 28:3-4 **His** countenance...**his** raiment...for fear of **him**...

Acts 1:10 ...two **men** stood by them in white apparel;..

Jude 9 ...Michael the archangel...

#### Do angels have wings?

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Zech 5:9 ...two women...wind in their wings...like the wings of a stork...

*(This is prophetic language rehearsed to Zechariah by an angel concerning **symbols** of God's judgment, executing **His** wrath on those who opposed the rebuilding of the temple.)*

#### Isa 6

*(Do not literalize a passage, not even part, or you must literalize the whole. Covering of the wings is said to symbolize their submission to **God** and ready willingness to do **His** will.)*

- There is not one descriptive passage of an actual angel having literal wings...only figurative passages.
- Spirit beings do not need wings to fly.

Psa 104:4 Who maketh His angels spirits; His ministers a flaming fire:

Heb 1:7 And of the angels he saith, Who maketh His angels spirits, and His ministers a flame of fire.

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

### Do angels have halos?

Dan 10:6 *...face like the appearance of lightning...*

Mat 28:3 *His countenance was like lightning...*

Lk 2:9 *...angel of the Lord...shone round about them...*  
24:4 *...in shining garments...*

Acts 12:7 *...angel...light shined...*  
(Read Ex 34:29-35 *...the skin of his face shone...*)

Rev 10:1 *...rainbow was upon His head...*  
(*This is not a literal rainbow. It is just a symbol of a divine covenant and message of mercy. Gen 9:12-17; Rev 4:3*)

- The halo *..."adapted from mythology...originally rejected by artists of Christendom because of its pagan origin...not used...until about the fifth century A.D. ...no mention of the halo in scriptural teaching".*
- Angels are *..."invisible, spirit beings without physical bodies unless they assume such."*

2 Kings 6:16-17 *(as horsemen with chariots sent to protect Elisha and his servant from the king of Syria and his armies.)*

Ps 68:17 *...chariots of God...even thousands of angels...*

Ex 3:2 *...the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush...*

### Do angels sing?

Job 38:7 *...morning stars sang...sons of God (1:6; 2:1) shouted for joy...*

The only place in scripture where angels are recorded to be "singing" is in the above passage.

- **Hebrew** word for "sing".

**H7442** נָנַן *raw-nan'*

A primitive root; properly to **creak** (or emit a stridulous sound), that is, to **shout** (usually for joy): - aloud for joy, cry out, be joyful, (greatly, make to) rejoice, (cause to) shout (for joy), (**cause to**) sing (aloud, for joy, out), triumph.

- **Hebrew** word for "shout".

**H7321** רוּאָ *roo-ah'*

A primitive root; to **mar** (especially by breaking); figuratively to **split** the ears (with sound), that is, **shout** (for alarm or joy): - blow an alarm, cry (alarm, aloud, out), destroy, make a joyful noise, smart, shout (for joy), sound an alarm, triumph.

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**Lk 2:13-14** ...praising God and **saying**...

*(Contrary to the popular song "Hark The Herald..." the angels did not sing!)*

- **Greek** word for "saying".

**G3004** λέγω *legō leg'-o*

A primary verb; properly to "lay" forth, that is, (figuratively) **relate (in words)** [usually of systematic or set **discourse**; whereas **G2036** and **G5346** generally refer to an **individual** expression or speech respectively; while **G4483** is properly to **break silence** merely, and **G2980** means an **extended** or random harangue]; by implication to **mean**: - ask, bid, boast, call, describe, give out, name, put forth, **say (-ing, on)**, shew, **speak, tell, utter**.

**Rev 5:8-10** ...and **they** sung...

**Who?** Not angels but the four creatures and the twenty-four elders!

**Rev 5:11-12** ...and the voice of many angels...**Saying** with a loud voice...

- Some modern versions have substituted "*saying*" with "*singing*" erroneously. (NIV/TLB) The Greek word for sing is *ado* (αδο) (Gk.103-*to sing*).

### Do angels play harps?

**Rev 5:8** ...*having every one of them harps... (beasts and elders, again, not the angels who appear in verse 11.)*

- The three groups worshipping in this scene (*elders, creatures and angels*) figuratively represent "*all of God's animate creation...worshipping Him, serving His purposes and praising Him constantly.*"

### Do angels play trumpets?

**1 Thes 4:16** ...*with a shout, with the **voice** of the archangel, and with the **trump** of God... (No angel sounds the trumpet!)*

**G4536** σάλπιγξ *salpigx sal'-pinx*

Perhaps from **G4535** (through the idea of *quavering* or *reverberation*); a *trumpet*: - trump (-et).

The trumpet of the **Old Testament** was to indicate a warning or an announcement. Likewise in the **New**.

**Rev 1:10** ...*heard behind me a great voice, **as of** a trumpet...*

**1 Cor 15:52** ...*the last trump...* equals the last announcement.

With **1 Thes 4:16** in mind then, the **Lord (Jesus)** when **He** returns will bring with **Him**, among other things, the last announcement of **God**.

**Jn 5:28** ...*shall hear His voice...*

In **Rev 8:2, 6; 9:14** we find seven angels with seven trumpets.  
This is apocalyptic language and thus is not to be take as literal.

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