

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

### Angels & Christ:

#### His Birth

Luk 1:26 And in the sixth month the **angel** Gabriel was **sent from God** unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, 27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name *was* Mary. 28 And the **angel** came in unto her, and said, Hail, *thou that art* highly favoured, the Lord *is* with thee: blessed *art* thou among women. 29 And when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. 30 And the **angel** said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call His name JESUS.

#### His Childhood

Mat 2:11 And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary His mother, and fell down, and worshipped Him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto Him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. 12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way. 13 And when they were departed, behold, the **angel** of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and His mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy Him.

Mat 2:19 But when Herod was dead, behold, an **angel** of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 Saying, Arise, and take the young child and His mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life. 21 And he arose, and took the young child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel.

#### His Temptation

Mat 4:11 Then the devil leaveth Him, and, behold, **angels** came and ministered unto Him.

#### His Teachings

- **Christ's reapers:** (separate the good from the bad)

Mat 13:39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the **reapers are the angels**. 40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. 41 The Son of man shall **send forth His angels**, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

Mat 13:49 So shall it be at the end of the world: the **angels** shall come forth, and **sever the wicked from among the just**,

- With **Christ at His coming**:

**Mat 16:27** For the Son of man shall come in the glory of His Father **with His angels**; and then He shall reward every man according to his works.

- Concerned with "little ones":

**Mat 18:10** Take heed that ye despise not one of **these little ones**; for I say unto you, That in heaven their **angels** do always behold the face of My Father which is in heaven. (See "**Angels: Their Works**" for more information.)

- Saints will be "as angels":

**Mat 22:30** For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are **as the angels** of God in heaven.

- Gather **Christ's elect**: (see notes on [Matthew 24](#))

- Do not know when **Christ** will return:

**Mat 24:36** But of that day and hour knoweth no *man*, no, **not the angels** of heaven, but My Father only.

- Will accompany **Christ at His coming**:

**Mat 25:31** When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy **angels with Him**, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory:

- **Satan** has angels:

**Mat 25:41** Then shall He say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from Me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the **devil and his angels**:

**Jud 1:6** And the **angels which kept not their first estate**, but left their own habitation, He hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day.

- Could have called twelve legions:

**Mat 26:53** Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He shall presently give Me more than twelve legions of angels?

- Will confess the faithful before them and deny those who denied **Him** before them:

Luk 12:8 Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess Me before men, him shall the Son of man also **confess before the angels** of God: 9 But he that denieth Me before men shall be **denied before the angels** of God.

- **Apostles** would see angels ascending and descending upon **Him**:

Joh 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.**

### His Death

Luk 22:41 And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, 42 Saying, **Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from Me: nevertheless not My will, but Thine, be done.** 43 And there appeared an **angel** unto Him **from heaven, strengthening Him** (*Gk.1765-to invigorate*). 44 And being in an agony He prayed more earnestly: and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

- **an agony-** *This term is only used here in Luke.*

**G74** ἀγωνία agōnia ag-o-nee'-ah

From **G73**; a *struggle* (properly the state), that is, (figuratively) *anguish*: - agony.

*"Used by medical writers". "The fact that death followed very quickly after such a blood-sweat suggested the necessity of the angel's mission to strengthen Jesus..."*

Mat 26:38 Then saith He unto them, **My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with Me.**

### His Resurrection

Mat 28:1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first *day* of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre. 2 And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for **the angel** of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and **rolled back the stone** from the door, and sat upon it. 3 His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: 4 And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead *men*.

- *"The stone was not rolled away for Jesus to get out but for man to get in."* **Charles B. Hodge**

Mar 16:3 And they said among themselves, Who shall roll us away the stone from the door of the sepulchre? 4 And when they looked, they saw that the stone

was rolled away: for it was very great. **5** And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a **young man** sitting on the right side, **clothed in a long white garment**; and they were affrighted. **6** And he saith unto them, Be not affrighted: Ye seek Jesus of Nazareth, which was crucified: He is risen; He is not here: behold the place where they laid Him.

**Luk 24:4** And it came to pass, as they were much perplexed thereabout, behold, **two men** stood by them **in shining garments**:

### His Ascension

**Act 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. **10** And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, **two men** stood by them **in white apparel**; **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.

### His Coronation

**Dan 7:13** I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and **they brought Him near before Him**. **14** And there was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve Him: His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed.

**Act 2:33** Therefore **being by the right hand of God** exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, He hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

**Rev 12:5** And she brought forth a man child, Who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was **caught up unto God**, and **to His throne**.

## Angels & Christ's Second Coming:

### Angels Prophesied It

**Act 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. **10** And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; **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.

**Mat 24:36** **But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but My Father only.**

**Mar 13:32** **But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.**

### Archangels Will Announce It

1Th 4:16 For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, **with the voice of the archangel**, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

### Angels Will Accompany Christ

Mat 16:27 For the Son of man shall **come in the glory of His Father with His angels**; and then He shall reward every man according to his works.

Mar 8:38 Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when He cometh in the glory of His Father **with the holy angels**.

2Th 1:7 And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be **revealed from heaven with His mighty angels**,

Jud 1:14 And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the **Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints**,

### His Reapers & Harvesters *(will enforce His judgment)*

Mat 13:37 He answered and said unto them, **He that soweth the good seed is the Son of man; 38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; 39 The enemy that sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; and the reapers are the angels. 40** As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. **41 The Son of man shall send forth His angels**, and they shall gather **out of His kingdom** all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; **42** And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. **43** Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Mat 13:47 Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a net, that was cast into the sea, and gathered of every kind: **48** Which, when it was full, they drew to shore, and sat down, and gathered the good into vessels, but cast the bad away. **49** So shall it be **at the end of the world: the angels shall come forth**, and sever the wicked from among the just, **50** And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

*(Note: Rev 14:14-20 concerns Rome's satellite nations and not the end of time.)*

### Matthew 24

Mat 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.

- When reading **Mat 24:1-34** a good Bible student will note that verse **34** gives us the time frame in which the previous verses

would happen ("*...this generation...*"). Therefore, the event of verse 31 would have already been fulfilled within the time span of the generation of those Jesus was speaking to. So what does verse 31 refer to?

**First:** Jesus gave His disciples some vivid details concerning the fall of Jerusalem. He even gave them a focal point (v. 14) at which time the practice of the Mosaic law would "*vanish away*" (Heb 8:13). Verse 29 tells of the disruption of power in the Jewish system of government at which time He visits judgment on those who denied Him.

**Then:** Verse 31. Once again the word "angel" must fit the context of the passage (Gk.32-messenger [2 Cor 12:7; Rev 2:12]). Jesus foretold the preaching of the gospel was to be "*in Jerusalem...Judaea...Samaria, and...the uttermost part of the earth.*" (Acts 1:8) Because of the persecution of Saul, the church was "*...scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria...*" (Acts 8:1) Later Saul, now the apostle Paul, when writing to the Colossians (1:23) states concerning the gospel "*...which ye have heard...preached to every creature which is under heaven; wherefore I Paul am made a minister;*"

**So:** To put Mat 24:31 in context it would read like this: Once the Jews were no longer the main threat to the church, Christ's ministers would rally the faithful, via the gospel message, and the church universal would experience a brief respite from persecution until Satan "*...was cast down into the earth...having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.*" (Rev 12:9-12) With Christ's judgment on the Jewish nation now finished (Mat 24:30) Satan begins manipulating the Roman Empire into doing his bidding against God's elect.

- The angels of Mat 24:31 are to be understood as ministers of the gospel, mere mortals, "*earthen vessels*" (2 Cor 4:7) in the same category as those "angels" of the seven churches of Asia.