

ANGELS: LUKE 1; MATTHEW 28

What are angels? Where do they come from?

Well, the Bible tells us that God made beautiful angels to live with Him in heaven. There were very many angels. So many we cannot count them, ten thousands and thousands. Some angels are bright like the light. Angels are much stronger than people and can do things men cannot do. They go wherever God sends them. They can fly down from heaven to this earth. These angels love God and are happy. They spend all their time with God loving and praising Him and doing whatever He wants them to do.

One angel, named Michael, is called an archangel because he is much greater than the rest. God has let us know the names of a few others. One of them is the great angel Gabriel who stands in God's holy presence. God sent him down to earth several times with messages from God to people. It was the angel Gabriel who told Mary that God was going to send the baby Jesus to her. We learn about this in Luke chapter 1. Matthew chapter 28 tells us that an angel rolled the stone away from the tomb after Jesus rose from the dead to be our Saviour.

Sometimes God sends angels down to earth to help people who are in trouble. An angel once opened a prison door to let God's servant Peter out. The Bible tells of more than 20 times that God sent angels down to earth with messages for people. Matthew 25 verse 41 tells us that the devil has angels because long ago there were angels in heaven who turned away from being good. Instead of loving God they began to hate Him. They became wicked. The name of the leader of these wicked angels is Satan or the devil.

Many other angels listen to Satan and rebelled against God. God cannot have anything wicked in His beautiful heaven. So God threw the wicked angels out of heaven. Now they are no longer called angels. They are called demons. The demons hate everything that is good. Most of all they hate God. And they do not want us to love God and go to heaven to live with Him after we die. They try all they can to make us hate God as they do. They want us to lie and steal, to be disobedient quarrelsome and cruel. But the demons are afraid of God. God is much stronger than Satan and all his demons. They fear and tremble before God so we do not need to be afraid of them.

We must never pray to angels whether they are good angels or demons. We never worship angels. We must only pray to God and worship Him. We can ask Jesus Christ, the Son of God, to take away our sins and be our Saviour. Then we can love and trust God as the good angels do and try in every way to please God with His help. Let us pray to God always. He will take care of us. He will make us strong to do what is good and right to please Him.

You can read about the angels in Luke chapter 1 or Matthew 28 or in many, many other parts of the Bible.