

Ministry of Angels

Intro

- Tonight I want to talk about the ministry of angels
- I looked at my records and I was surprised that I'd never preaching this topic specifically before.
- I remembered here and there, I had mentioned about the ministry of angels.

- Now, the point of preaching this topic, is not to have us come to a stage that we are too obsess with angels, and miss out God.
- The point is not to see angels either.
- In fact, in the bible, there are only rare occasions that angels appeared to them.
- So whether we have seen angel or not is not the focus.
- The focus is we must know 1) they exist, 2) their ministry, and 3) how to work with them.

- Of course, the more we understand their working and their ministry, the more we will be aware of them, and the higher chance we could have to see them.

- Personally, I have never seen an angel as in the form of angelic visitation.
- But I have seen them through eyes of faith, and only at special occasions, I interacted with them, and through that I learnt.

- Of course, the ability to see the angels is an advantage, but it is not the goal of our spirituality.
- However, the truth if we are acquitted to the spiritual realm, we should be acquitted to the angels.
- The goal of our teaching tonight is to expose us to their ministry, and in a sense, deepen our experience with God, and becoming more powerful in the ministry, through working with the angels.
- So 1) the truth is angels exist.
- Angels are created beings, that are created for the purpose of serving God.
- In the bible, from the beginning to the end, it is angels all over.
- So we cannot deny the inexistence of angels.
- The problem with the church is just because they have never seen it, they said they never exist.
- This is a foolish thing they did.
- Also, because of unbelief, they will not see or recognize it, even if there is one appearing before them.
- So why this teaching tonight is to break down the doubts.
- Because things that you cannot accept or have doubts are usually the things you would not see.
- E.g. you don't believe in presence of God, it is likely that you will not sense the presence of God.

- Or you don't believe in evil presence, you will not sense evil presence.
- Everything in His creation, whether natural or spiritual has a presence.
- The Father God has a presence, the Son and the HS. We should be familiar with His presence, and respond to the presence.
- Even for angels, there is a presence and anointing we must be acquitted to it.

- You see, the problem with the church is 1) we are either overly careful, or 2) ignorant of the angelic ministry.
- And so, that is the reason there are very few angelic activities in the church today.

- Understand, I am not talking about angelic appearance.
- Whether we see the angel in a visitation or not is not the point I am trying to make.
- It is just like seeing God or hearing His audible voice.
- The key to be able to lead by Him, and sense His presence, and His leading.

- So in a church whereby many people are saying that they see angels here and there could be a problem.
- In a church whereby many people are numb to the activities or workings of angels is another.

- I want us to be exposed to it, and most importantly accept the reality of angels working in our midst.
- **2) So angels are a reality, and the truth they are a common (and no stranger) to the church.**
- Many verses.
- 1) Angels of the Lord encompass around those who fear the Lord. (Ps 34)
- 2) During JC days, angels were with Him all the time.
 - Right at the beginning of His birth, angels were announcing His coming.
 - Angels also ministered to JC after the 40 day fast.
 - And ministered to JC as He was praying in the Garden of Gethsemane the night He was arrested
 - Angels were there at the cross and at the grave when the stone was rolled away.
 - Angels announced His resurrection and later spoke to the disciples after JC ascended to heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father.
- 3) Next is that JC Himself spoke of the angels. He did not make their ministries secret.
 - John 1:50, ‘...you will see angels of God ascending and descending...’
 - Lk 20:35, ‘they are like the angels.’
 - Lk 15, ‘angels rejoicing..’

- Matt 16:27, 'the son of Man is going to come with His angels.'
- Mt 18:10, the angels will see the face of the Father in heaven.'

- JC never overly highlight them, nor deny their presence.
- They are helpers, sent to carry out the work of God.

- So if JC in His ministry or His life experience angels, or receive ministry and help from angels, what about His children, who are supposed to be like Him, who are supposed to do the greater works, and who are to be His body on church?

- ***Mt 26:53, 'Don't you think I cannot call on my Father, and He will at once send me more than 12 legions of His angels.'***

- JC could mobilize the angels of God.
- What about the church, which is His body, and where HS resides?
- Many people have this problem when we tell them about mobilizing angels.
- The reason is because they don't know who they are.
- Of course, in a sense, the angels had a certain level of glory, which we humans cannot take.

- But in the sense of status, we are children.
- We are the temple of the living God.

- That's why angels looked intently with envy.. **1 Peter 1:12.**
- ***Eph 3:10, 'His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms*** (which includes the angels.)
-
- If we have problem with teachings like this, what about verses in the OT, that says ***'Praise the Lord, you His angels (Ps 103:20)***
- Of course, it is not to say we can anyhow command the angels to do things, because the angels first of all would have to comply to the will of God.
- We are given the authority to mobilize the angels, if we are seized by the HS, and do everything in accordance to the will of God.
- E.g. **Ez 37**, why Ezekiel command the 4 winds, which is the HS?
 - 1st, it is the NC era.
 - 2nd, it is the will of God to revive the dry bones.
 - And God is allowing Ezekiel to be His mouth piece.
- So to be the ministry of mobilizing angels, the authority of word, and the words from our mouth is important.

- Just like in the OT, when the angel of the Lord speaks, most of the time, they spoke on the behalf of God, and they were to be given the reverence.

- In a sense, when we speak on behalf of God, in the proclamation and declaration of truth, the angels will comply in accordance to the truth.

- The next thing to understand in the mobilizing of angels, is that angels are hierarchical beings.
- They move in high submission to authority.
- And as such, the angels see us operating properly under authority, they will be released to minister to us as the HS wills.
 - Just like evil spirits can tell whether people are working in authority or not. E.g. 7 sons of the Jewish priest in Sceva.
 - So are the angels.
 -

- So these are some of the things we got to know about mobilizing angels.

- The key is to know who we are.
- The key is not to control the angels, or tell the angel to obey things at your will.

- In a sense, they might do it because you are a child of God.
- On another hand, know that they see the face of God all the time, and they may report you.

- **Ex 23:20-23**
- If we abuse the angels out the time, we might face attack.

- **2) So angels are a reality, and the truth they are a common (and no stranger) to the church.**

- **Because we are the church, and once we are the church birthed by HS, approved by God, God will send His elect angels to us.**

- **Few things to know about angels and the church.**
- 1) there are angels specially send to the church, and these are called the angel of the church.
- E.g. **Rev 1-3**, to the angel of the church of Ephesus write.

- 2) these are angels send to do the ministry. In every ministry of the church, there is an angel in charge. E.g. worship angels, healing angels, angels pour out anointing, warfare angels, angels bringing revelation, etc.
- We can expect angelic help.
- Such angels are also called ministering spirits. (Heb 1:14)

- 3) They are those who are guardian angels.

- Guardian angels are sent to every single man on earth from the time we are born, to protect us, even non-believers.
- Depending on approval of God, and ministry God calls you, your guardian angel may have different degrees of power.

- 4) Angels on special assignments.
 - To comfort the servant of God (E.g. Paul)
 - Why? God sends angel, instead of using the HS.
 - Some assignment may be tough.
 - Or the going may be tough, or beyond human logical understand (like go into the desert to preach to the Ethiopian eunuch)

- 5) Angels in the form of strangers. (**Heb 13:2**)
 - Many people like to interpret it symbolically, meaning some nice people.
 - Angels can appear in human form.
 - One thing to know is that angels always has a purpose.
 - They do not come to build relationships with human beings or just socialize.

- 6) Angels as watchers (**Dan 4:13, 17**) – supervisors or agents employed by God in the affairs of the world.

- 7) Cherubim, Serphim, Archangels.
 - Cherubim are never messengers.
 - They are used to protect God's glory and proclaim His grace.

- Seraphim are never messengers,
- Their function seems to be showing forth the holiness and transcendence of God.
- When Isaiah confessed his sinfulness, a seraphim flew with a live coal to touch Isaiah's lips and purge his sin
- Michael, archangel – military leader.

- How do we discern the angel is an angel from God?
- Angels are spirits, so the same rules apply to how we discern the presence of God and evil spirit.

- Another point is the effects of the ministry.
- Does it draw us to God, or draw us to him?
- Angels of God do not command or receive worship; only angels of light do.

- The next thing is to examine the type of life we have.
- Although may appear to non-believers.
- But to claim revelation from angels, we got to examine our motive, purpose, will, whether it is all for God.

- A person who claim angel talking to him all the time, yet not exhibit holy lives, hunger for God, and humility, has no clear calling for ministry.
- We can basically discard his claims.
- Remember angel works in accordance to hierarchy.
- Even Daniel will have to bow down for 21 days, to have God sent him an angel to explain things to him.

- There might be people who can see the spiritual realm, and might converse frequently with angels.
- But that itself is not a proof for authority.

- Of course, we may experience frequently their ministries and their presence.
- But in terms of revelation, we got to be discerning and careful.

- Areas in church whereby activities of angel are great.

- Area of worship and sacrifice.
- Bible records incidents of angelic encounter during the time of sacrifice.
- E.g. Zacharias to announce birth of John the Baptist.
- Abraham sacrificed of Isaac.
- David offering sacrifice to sop the plague.
- Judges 6:21, 13:20, Gideon and Manoah and his wife offered sacrifices, and angels returned to heaven while the sacrifices burned.

- Of course, in areas of prayer as well.
- Abraham's intercession on behalf of Lot and his family activated the angels to rescue them.

- Areas of offering.
- E.g. Cornelius, angel told him his prayers and his alms is accepted.