

# 1 Youth Ministry

Grades 7-12

April 29, 2023 Are Angels Real?

### Contact Us

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## Foster Care Teens Personal Care Items

We are always collecting "Personal Care Items" for teens in foster care throughout the year. Items for both male and female teens are being collected in the bin just outside our youth room. These items will be sorted into personal bags and given to DCS to be distributed to teens who may not even have their own tooth brush or comb.

This Week's Bible Verse

1 John 4:1-3

### Sunday



### Are Angels Real?

Last Sunday we discussed if angels are real and answered a few questions about angels, according to the Bible. First off, the Bible, God's Word, mentions angels hundreds of times so they must be real. We looked at the various different names used.

Our first question was, Who or What are angels?

The word angel, in Hebrew and in Greek means "Messenger". As we read through the Bible, we find that angels are Heavenly spirit beings created by God, in the beginning of creation, to serve Him.

All the angels that will ever be were created by God in the beginning when He created the Heavens. Angels do not die and do not marry or procreate. Also, humans do not become angels when they die and go to Heaven.

How many are there? A myriad or an infinitely large number of them. So, what do angels do? Basically, anything that God commands them to do such as ministering to, helping, and protecting humans as well as being God's messenger when needed but most importantly, they fight spiritual battles against evil.



4 Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.<sup>2</sup> This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God,<sup>3</sup> but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the

<u>Visit our</u> website here! We then asked, what do angels look like? We said that technically, since they are spirit beings, they are invisible to our human eyes. However, they can also take the form of virtually anything that they need to, including other humans. You may also feel their presence when they are nearby.

This brought us to our next question, do angels interact with humans? Yes, absolutely. Sometimes they are visible and other times they are not. Sometimes they interact with us in our visions or dreams (without the distractions of the world). When they do visibly appear to us they will usually take whatever form we need them in at the time or whatever form they need to be in to get the job done. We then looked at just a few places in the Bible where angels interacted with humans and said that they still do so today. We talked about several instances where we've seen angels in action.

We then asked, how strong are angels? Angels have the super human power of God to allow them to carry out the will of God, whatever it may be. We looked in 2 Kings 19:35 to see one single angel protected the Israelites by killing 185,000 enemy soldiers in a single night.

We said God also created the angels with free will, just like us. Also, just like us, some angels chose to use their free will to go against God. One of these angels was Lucifer who we now know as Satan. When Lucifer chose to go against God, he was banished to Earth along with the other angels who also chose to go against God. We know these former angels as demons. We looked at the various names used.

We pointed out that God banished Lucifer and his followers to Earth. He did NOT give them authority and dominion over the Earth, that was given to Adam (until he chose to give it away but then Jesus returned it to us through Him). That being the case, Satan and his demons cannot do anything to us or even make us do anything we don't want to do. But, as we've said before, they can lie to us and deceive us to influence our thoughts and our decisions.

So of course we then asked, what do demons do? Basically, anything that goes against God and His creation. John 10:10 tells us that the enemy comes to "steal, kill, and destroy", all of God's creation.

We then looked in Luke 8:26-28 and saw how terrified the demons in a possessed man were when they saw

Jesus. We said that since we also have the same power of God in us, demons and even Satan himself should be just as terrified of us as they are of Jesus. We finished up with the most important question of the day. Since according to God's Word, angels AND demons do exist all around us in any form of their choosing at any time, how do we know if we are encountering an angel or a demon? We found the answer in 1 John 4:1-3 which tells us that any spirit that acknowledges Jesus is from God while those that do not acknowledge Jesus are not from God. Remember: The Holy Spirit within us or any angel sent by God will never go against God's character or His Word and will always glorify God and His creation. Join us Sunday April 30th for Church Family Feud! New Youth Game Room The games have all been moved, along with some great new ones, into the annex (down the hall past Pastor Jeff's office). Come check it out before or after service! 1 Youth: Coffee Q&A With Michelle Coffee Q&A with Michelle after 1st service Sunday! Join us in the Youth Room every Sunday, after 1st service, for refreshments in a casual atmosphere for an opportunity for you and your friends to ask questions and discuss answers to your most pressing questions about God, Jesus, the Bible, other Religions, Christianity, or just about Life in general. Living Word Ahwatukee Email: chris@1youthministry.com Website: www.1youthministry.org

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