

Angels all around us

The authentic and the spurious







Ezekiel 10:20-22

These were the living creatures that I saw underneath the God of Israel by the Chebar canal; and I knew that they were cherubim. **Each had four faces, and each four wings, and underneath their wings the likeness of human hands.** And as for the likeness of their faces, they were the same faces whose appearance I had seen by the Chebar canal.

Ezekiel 1:10-14

Their faces looked like this: **each of the four had the face of a human being, and on the right side each had the face of a lion, and on the left the face of an ox; each also had the face of an eagle.** Such were their faces. They each had two wings spreading out upwards, each wing touching that of the creature on either side; and each had two other wings covering its body. Each one went straight ahead. Wherever the spirit would go, they would go, without turning as they went. **The appearance of the living creatures was like burning coals of fire or like torches. Fire moved back and forth among the creatures; it was bright, and lightning flashed out of it.** The creatures sped back and forth like flashes of lightning.



Guardian Angels

- For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; Psalm 91:11
- The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. Psalm 34:7
- See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven. Matthew 18:10

What are angels?

*‘Are not all angels **ministering spirits** sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?’ Hebrews 1:14*

- They are spirit beings
- They are God’s servants – administering God’s kingdom
- They are sent by God on assignment
- They serve God’s children – those who inherit salvation
 - In our times of need eg Jesus, Elijah, Fran
 - Co-labouring with us in our service to God
 - Leading us into our destiny Exodus 23:20
 - Helping us against satan and his angels. Revelation 12:7-9

God's angels vs Satan's angels

- Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and **the dragon and his angels** fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down – that ancient snake called the devil, or **Satan, who leads the whole world astray**. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him. Rev 12:7-9
- And no wonder, for **Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light**. It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. 2 Corinthians 11:14,15

Popular misconceptions (deceptions)

- Angels are cute, baby faced cherubs
- That we become angels when we die
- That angels can speak to us through fortune tellers or angel cards
- That if we pray to our guardian angel it affects the outcome of a situation
- That angels mediate between us and God

That we become angels when we die

- *‘When the dead rise, they will neither marry nor be given in marriage; they will be **like the angels** in heaven.’* Mark 12:25
- You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to **the spirits of the righteous made perfect**, to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. Hebrews 12:22-24
- The time came when the beggar died and **the angels carried him** to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried. **In Hades, where he was in torment**, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ So he called to him, “Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.” Luke 16:22-24

That if we pray to our guardian angel it effects the outcome of a situation.

- Nowhere in the Bible are we taught to pray to an angel.
- Prayer is only to be directed to God our Father: *But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Matthew 6:6*
- God's angels don't want worship or prayer from humans. *'At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, 'Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God!' Rev 19:10*
- Satan's angels do crave worship and want to be elevated to the status of being able to answer prayer to lead us astray.

That angels can speak to us through fortune tellers or angel cards

- Consulting fortune tellers and the like is strictly forbidden in Scripture to protect us from satanic deception. *When someone tells you to consult mediums and spiritists, who whisper and mutter, should not a people enquire of their God? Why consult the dead on behalf of the living? Consult God's instruction and the testimony of warning. If anyone does not speak according to this word, they have no light of dawn. Isaiah 8:19,20*
- Fortune tellers have a 'spirit of divination' *Acts 16:16-18*. They need to be set free themselves rather than lead people into deception.

That Angels mediate between us and God

- *'For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all people.'* 1 Tim 2:5
- Angels do connect the realms of heaven and earth. eg Jacob's ladder. They bring messages from God to man but not vice versa. We pray to God directly.
- They particularly want to bring mankind into contact with the message of salvation. Eg Cornelius and Peter. Acts 10
- Authentic angel visitations
- Terrifying visitations.

Spiritual perception

- When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city. ‘Oh no, my lord! What shall we do?’ the servant asked.

‘Don’t be afraid,’ the prophet answered. ‘Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.’

And Elisha prayed, ‘**Open his eyes, LORD, so that he may see.**’ Then the LORD opened the servant’s eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all round Elisha. 2 Kings 6:16-18