

## Christian Doctrine Angels (Part 3) What Exactly Do Angels Do?

### Various Activities Angels Perform

We can see from Scriptures that angels have a variety of purposes and perform a number of responsibilities:

- Praise, worship and serve God: This primary role is seen throughout Scripture (Ps. 148:1-2; Is 6:1-3; Heb. 1:6, Rev. 5:8-13; Ps. 103:20).
- Minister to and help believers: They are sent by God to serve and care for God's people (Heb. 1:7, 14; Ps. 91:11-12). Does each believer have a guardian angel? We cannot know for sure, but it could be possible (Matt. 18:10).
- Carry messages from God: Angels told Lot to leave Sodom before its destruction (Gen 19). Angels told Cornelius where he could find Peter (Acts 10).
- Give guidance and instruction: An angel guided Israel in the wilderness (Ex. 23:20; 32:34). An angel guided Philip to the Ethiopian eunuch (Acts 8:26).
- Protect and deliver God's people from danger: An angel was seen with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the furnace (Dan. 3:16-28) and Daniel in the lion's den (Dan. 6:22). During a severe storm, an angel protected Paul on a ship (Acts 27:22-24). An angel opened the prison door for the apostles (Acts 5:17-18; 12:1-7).
- Watch people and learn things from them: Angels have an interest in the things people do (I Cor. 4:9; Eph. 3:10; I Pet. 1:12).
- Carry out judgment: God sometimes uses angels to carry out His judgment (Gen. 19:13; II Sam 24:16; Acts 12:23).

God teaches and guides us today through His Word, so the role angels had in guiding us may have changed somewhat. However, God still chooses to use angels to do various things here on earth. The future greatly involves angels as well. The book of Revelation shows that angels will have roles in events such as the Tribulation and Christ's Second Coming. When and where angels are active today we don't always know, but we can be sure that angels remain very busy accomplishing the tasks God gives them.

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