# **Christian Doctrine Angels (Intro)**

### People's Fascination with Angels

In the recent decades, we have seen a tremendous growth in the interest of angels. This is for several reasons:

- 1. People searching for guidance in life.
- 2. Interest in the supernatural and the unknown.
- 3. Hopes of good-luck and protection.
- 4. Popularity of New Age and mystical religions.

#### Angels and God's Word

Is everything we hear about angels true? There is a lot of confusion concerning angels today. God's Word gives us great insight into the world of angels. They are mentioned in the Bible over <u>250</u> times. <u>34</u> of the 66 books of the Bible make reference to angels. This study will explore God's Word in order to get a better understanding of the existence and purpose of these created beings.

#### Examples of Biblical References to Angels:

- > Angels in the Old Testament
  - Abraham ate and talked with angels (Gen. 18).
  - An angel was used to carry out <u>judgment</u> on Israel after David took a census of the people (II Sam. 24:16).
  - <u>Seraphim</u> (Is. 6:2) and <u>cherubim</u> (Ez. 10:1-3) are mentioned.
  - The angel <u>Gabriel</u> is mentioned (Dan. 9:20-27), as well as the angel <u>Michael</u> (Dan. 10:13; 12:1).
  - The psalms describe angels as <u>servants</u> of God (Ps. 103:20).
- > Angels in the New Testament
  - Angels announced Jesus' <u>birth</u> (Luke 2:13), ministered to Jesus (Mark 1:13), announced Jesus' <u>resurrection</u> (John 20:12) and were present at His ascension (Acts 1:10-11).
  - Angels are seen in the book of Acts opening <u>prison doors</u> for the apostles (Acts 5:19; 12:5-11), <u>guiding Philip</u> and Cornelius in ministry (Acts 8:26; 10:1-7) and <u>encouraging Paul</u> (Acts 27:23-25).
  - The book of Revelation mentions angels at least 65 times.

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