

A scenic autumn forest path with vibrant yellow and orange foliage. The path is paved and covered with fallen leaves, leading into a dense forest of trees with colorful foliage. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, elegant script font.

Welcome To Open Bible Hour

Thank you for joining us on this Lord's Day!

Our desire is that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ as we pursue an in-depth study of the book of Hebrews.

If you have a prayer request, for which you would like us to pray, please fill out a prayer sheet at the back table and give to Lyle.

Our website: OpenBibleHour.net

“JESUS CHRIST IS INFINITELY SUPERIOR TO THE ANGELS”

Heb. 1:4-6

September 16, 2012

Heb 1:4-6

... When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

4 having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.

5 For to which of the angels did He ever say,
"YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"?

And again,

"I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL BE A SON TO ME"?

6 And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says,

"AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM."

Angelology 101

“angels” - 108 references in O.T./165 in NT.

25 truths about “angels” -

1. Angels are a part of God’s special creation who were created before the physical universe.

Job 38:4-7

4 "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell Me, if you have understanding,

5 Who set its measurements? Since you know.

Or who stretched the line on it?

6 "On what were its bases sunk?

Or who laid its cornerstone,

7 When the morning stars sang together

And all the sons of God shouted for joy?

2. Angels were created higher than man.

Heb 2:9

9 But we do see Him who was made for a little while lower than the angels, namely,
Jesus,

3. Angels were created either elect (chosen) or non-elect.

1 Tim 5:21

21 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of His chosen angels,

4. Angels who were chosen did not sin and fall from heaven.

Job 1:6

6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord,

Job 2:1

2 Again there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord,

5. Angels who were non-elect fell along with Lucifer (Satan) who led 1/3 of the angels (demons) out of heaven.

Rev 12:4

4 And his tail swept away a third of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth.

6. All non-elect angels including Satan will continue to have access into the 3rd heaven (where God dwells) until the middle of the Tribulation when they are cast out.

Rev 12:7-9

7 And there was war in heaven, Michael and his angels waging war with the dragon. The dragon and his angels waged war,

8 and they were not strong enough, and there was no longer a place found for them in heaven.

9 And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

7. Angels were created in total. There has, is, nor ever will be any more of them or any less of them.

Matt 25:31

31 "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.

8. The number of angels is beyond description.

Dan 7:10

10 "A river of fire was flowing
And coming out from before Him;
Thousands upon thousands were attending Him,
And myriads upon myriads were standing before Him;

Rev 5:11

11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands,

9. Angels do not marry/procreate. They do not increase.

Matt 22:30

30 "For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.

10. Angels do not die. They do not decrease.

Luke 20:34-36

34 Jesus said to them, "The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage,
35 but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and the resurrection from the dead, neither marry nor are given in marriage;
36 for they cannot even die anymore, because they are like angels, and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection.

11. Angels have celestial (heavenly) bodies. They are spirit beings with form.

1 Cor 15:40

40 There are also heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is one, and the glory of the earthly is another.

12. Their appearance is simply amazing.

Matt 28:2-4

2 And behold, a severe earthquake had occurred, for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it.

3 And his appearance was like lightning, and his clothing as white as snow.

4 The guards shook for fear of him and became like dead men.

13. Angels have access to all 3 heavens.

Job 1:6

6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord,

Eph 6:12

12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

14. Angels travel with incredible speed.

Dan 9:20-21

20 Now while I was speaking and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God in behalf of the holy mountain of my God,

21 while I was still speaking in prayer, then the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision previously, came to me in my extreme weariness about the time of the evening offering.

15. Angels speak.

Gal 1:8

8 But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed!

16. Angels are intelligent.

Dan 9:21-23

21 while I was still speaking in prayer, then the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision previously, came to me in my extreme weariness about the time of the evening offering.

22 He gave me instruction and talked with me and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you insight with understanding.

1 Cor 11:10

10 Therefore the woman ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.

Eph 3:10

10 so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.

1 Peter 1:12

12 It was revealed to them that they were not serving themselves, but you, in these things which now have been announced to you through those who preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven — things into which angels long to look.

17. Angels show emotion.

Luke 15:10

10 "In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

18. Angels have names – Lucifer, Legion, Michael, Gabriel.

Jude 9

9 But Michael the archangel, when he disputed with the devil and argued about the body of Moses,

Mark 5:9

9 And He was asking him, "What is your name?" And he said to Him, "My name is Legion; for we are many."

19. Angels have categories – cherubim, seraphim, & living creatures.

Ezek 10:5

5 Moreover, the sound of the wings of the cherubim was heard as far as the outer court, like the voice of God Almighty when He speaks.

Isa 6:2

2 Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

Rev 15:7

7 Then one of the four living creatures gave to the seven angels seven golden bowls full of the wrath of God, who lives forever and ever.

20. Angels have positions, ranks, and organizational structure.

Eph 6:12

12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

1 Peter 3:22

22 who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.

Rom 8:38

38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities,

Eph 1:20-21

20 . . . seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,
21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion,

21. The destiny of angels is set. Angels who have fallen can never be saved or redeemed. Angels who did not fall can never be lost.

2 Peter 2:4

4 For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to pits of darkness, reserved for judgment;

Jude 6

6 And angels who did not keep their own domain, but abandoned their proper abode, He has kept in eternal bonds under darkness for the judgment of the great day,

22. Angels are servants.

Heb 1:14

14 Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?

23. Angels are guardians.

Ps 91:11

11 For He will give His angels charge concerning you,
To guard you in all your ways.

24. Angels may take on human form.

Heb 13:2

2 Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.

25. Angels were the mediators of the old covenant.

Acts 7:52-53

52 "Which one of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who had previously announced the coming of the Righteous One, whose betrayers and murderers you have now become;

53 you who received the law as ordained by angels, and yet did not keep it."

Gal 3:19

19 Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made.

Gnosticism in the 1st Century

Col 2:18-19

- 18 Let no one keep defrauding you of your prize by delighting in self-abasement and the worship of the angels, taking his stand on visions he has seen, inflated without cause by his fleshly mind,
- 19 and not holding fast to the head, from whom the entire body, being supplied and held together by the joints and ligaments, grows with a growth which is from God.

Heb 1:4-6

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The goal of the author or Hebrews is to place a large gulf between Christ and the angels.

5 reasons why Christ is superior to angels:

I. Christ is superior in name. (4,5)

... When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

4 having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.

***When a king was enthroned in the Old Testament, there was an acclamation that now he was formally taking up his title and inheritance which had been his by birth.*

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And again,

"I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL BE A SON TO ME"?

Ps 2:7-8

7 "I will surely tell of the decree of the Lord:

He said to Me, 'You are My Son,

Today I have begotten You.

8 'Ask of Me, and I will surely give the nations as Your inheritance,

And the very ends of the earth as Your possession.

2 Sam 7:13-14

13 "He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

14 "I will be a father to him and he will be a son to Me;

II. Christ is superior in worship. (6)

6 And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says,

"AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM."

Ps 97:7

7 Let all those be ashamed who serve graven images,
Who boast themselves of idols;
Worship Him, all you gods (angels).

Application

1. Though they are in spirit form, angels have a large role in the plan and purpose of God.
2. Angels take a personal interest in your life.
3. There is an entire invisible angelic war that continues to be fought.
4. Does and should it have any impact on you that there are angels in this room right now?
5. The way to approach those in error is with the Word of God.
6. How do you react when someone approaches you to correct something in your life you with the Word?
7. As magnificent as angels are, they are far from the majesty and greatness of the SON.