

2010 BIBLICAL STUDY FOCUSING ON

DEATH



AFTERLIFE

AND

THE END TIME

Session #4

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BIBLICAL ANSWERS AND
KEY QUESTIONS ABOUT DEATH:

#1 - WHEN CHRISTIANS DIE
DO ANGELS CARRY THEM TO HEAVEN - YES

Heb 1:14 NLT

Therefore, ANGELS ARE ONLY SERVANTS—spirits sent to CARE FOR PEOPLE who will INHERIT SALVATION.

ANGELS CARRY OUT **MANY FUNCTIONS**
AS MINISTERING SPIRITS TO **CHRISTIANS**

HERE ARE SIX OF THE MOST PROMINENT

#1 ANGELS PERFORM A GUIDING FUNCTION

Matt 1:20 NIV **JOSEPH—AT THE CONCEPTION OF JESUS**

But after he had considered this, an ANGEL OF THE LORD appeared to him in a dream and said, "**Joseph** son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

#2 ANGELS PERFORM A PROVIDING FUNCTION

Gen 21:17-21 NLT **HAGAR & ISHMAEL - SARAH & ISAAC**

17 But God heard the boy crying, and THE ANGEL OF GOD called to Hagar from heaven, "Hagar, what's wrong? Do not be afraid! GOD HAS HEARD THE BOY CRYING as he lies there. **18** Go to him and comfort him, for I will make a great nation from his descendants." **19** Then God opened Hagar's eyes, and she saw a well full of water. She quickly filled her water container and gave the boy a drink. **20** And GOD WAS WITH THE BOY AS HE GREW UP IN THE WILDERNESS. He became a skillful archer, **21** and he settled in the wilderness of Paran. His mother arranged for him to marry a woman from the land of Egypt.

#3 ANGELS PERFORM A DELIVERING FUNCTION

Acts 5:17-20 NLT

17 The high priest and his officials, who were Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. 18 They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. 19 But AN ANGEL OF THE LORD CAME AT NIGHT, OPENED THE GATES OF THE JAIL, AND BROUGHT THEM OUT. Then he told them, 20 "Go to the Temple and give the people this message of life!"

#4 ANGELS PERFORM A PROTECTING FUNCTION

THE KING OF ARAM HAD SURROUNDED ISRAEL - TRYING TO CAPTURE THE PROPHET ELISHA

2 Kings 6:15-17 NIV

15 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, my lord, what shall we do?" the servant asked. 16 "Don't be afraid," the prophet answered. "THOSE WHO ARE WITH US ARE MORE THAN THOSE WHO ARE WITH THEM." 17 And Elisha prayed, "O LORD, OPEN HIS EYES SO 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 AROUND ELISHA.

DANIEL IN THE LION'S DEN - KING DARIUS

Dan 6:20-23 NLT

20 When he got there, he called out in anguish, "Daniel, servant of the living God! Was your God, whom you serve so faithfully, able to rescue you from the lions?" 21 Daniel answered, "Long live the king! 22 MY GOD SENT HIS ANGEL to shut the lions' mouths SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT HURT ME, for I have been found innocent in his sight. And I have not wronged you, Your Majesty." 23 The king was overjoyed and ordered that Daniel be lifted from the den. Not a scratch was found on him, for he had trusted in his God.

**#5 ANGELS PERFORM THE FUNCTION OF
ANSWERING PRAYERS**

Dan 9:20-23 MSG

20 "While I was pouring out my heart, baring my sins and the sins of my people Israel, praying my life out before my God, interceding for the holy mountain of my God **21** — while I was absorbed in this praying, the **HUMANLIKE GABRIEL**, the one I had seen in an earlier vision, approached me, flying in like a bird about the time of evening worship. **22** "He stood before me and said, **'DANIEL, I HAVE COME TO MAKE THINGS PLAIN TO YOU. 23 YOU HAD NO SOONER STARTED YOUR PRAYER WHEN THE ANSWER WAS GIVEN. AND NOW I'M HERE TO DELIVER THE ANSWER TO YOU. YOU ARE MUCH LOVED! SO LISTEN CAREFULLY TO THE ANSWER, THE PLAIN MEANING OF WHAT IS REVEALED:**

**#6 - THE MOST OVERLOOKED FUNCTION OF ANGELS
IS THEIR MINISTRY TO BELIEVERS
AT THE TIME OF THEIR DEATH**

LUKE 16:19-31

THE STORY OF A BEGGAR NAMED LAZARUS

Luke 16:22 NIV

"The time came when the beggar died and the **ANGELS CARRIED HIM TO ABRAHAM'S SIDE.** The rich man also died and was buried.

**WHY WOULD THERE BE A NEED FOR ANGELS
TO ESCORT THE CHRISTIAN TO HEAVEN?**

THERE IS A TRUTH ABOUT THE SPIRITUAL WORLD
THAT IS OFTEN OVERLOOKED BY CHRISTIANS

THE SPIRITUAL WORLD IS WHERE
OUR GREATEST EVILS ORIGINATED

PRIDE - BE-TRAIL - WAR

Rev 12:7-9 NLT

7 Then there was WAR IN HEAVEN. Michael and HIS ANGELS fought against the DRAGON and HIS ANGELS. 8 And THE DRAGON LOST THE BATTLE, and he and his angels were FORCED out of heaven. 9 This GREAT DRAGON—the ANCIENT SERPENT called the DEVIL, or SATAN, the ONE deceiving the whole world—was thrown down to the earth with ALL HIS ANGELS.

OUR WAR IS A SPIRITUAL WAR
FOUGHT IN THE UNSEEN WORLD

Eph 6:12 NLT

For we* are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against EVIL RULERS and AUTHORITIES of THE UNSEEN WORLD, against MIGHTY POWERS IN THIS DARK WORLD, and AGAINST EVIL SPIRITS IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES.

SATAN = IS THE PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR

THE AIR = IS DEFINED AS THE ATMOSPHERE BETWEEN
HEAVEN AND EARTH

Eph 2:1-2 NASV

And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, 2 in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR, of the SPIRIT that is now working in the SONS OF DISOBEDIENCE.

In his famous book
"Angels: God's Secret Agents,"
Billy Graham shares the same insight:

"Death is robbed of much of its terror for the true believer, but we still need God's protection as we take that last journey. At the moment of death the spirit departs from the body and moves through the atmosphere. But the Scripture teaches us that the devil lurks there. He is "the prince of the power of the air" (Ephesians 2:2). If the eyes of our understanding were opened, we would probably see the air filled with demons, the enemies of Christ. If Satan could hinder the angel of Daniel 10 for three weeks on his mission to earth, we can imagine the opposition a Christian may encounter at death. But Christ at Calvary cleared a road through Satan's kingdom. When Christ came to earth, He had to pass through the devil's territory and open up a beachhead here. This is one reason He was accompanied by a host of angels when He came (Luke 2:8-14). And this is why angels will accompany Him when He comes again (Matthew 16:27). Till then, the moment of death is Satan's final opportunity to attack the true believer, but God has sent His angels to guard us at that time."

**THIS SPIRITUAL BATTLE IN THE AIR CAN BE WITNESSED
WITH GABRIEL'S STATEMENT TO DANIEL
CONCERNING WHY HE TOOK 21 DAYS
TO BRING GOD'S ANSWER - TO HIS PRAYER**

Dan 10:12-14 NLT

12 Then he said, "Don't be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in ANSWER TO YOUR PRAYER.
13 But for TWENTY-ONE DAYS the SPIRIT PRINCE of the kingdom of Persia BLOCKED MY WAY. Then MICHAEL, one of the ARCHANGELS, CAME TO HELP ME, and I left him there with the SPIRIT PRINCE of the kingdom of Persia. **14** NOW I AM HERE to explain what will happen to your people in the future, for this vision concerns a time yet to come."