

THE PLACE AND PURPOSE OF ANGELS

In our lesson this week we want to look at the place and purpose of angels. We can boil them down to 5. Theologian Wayne Grudem helps our thoughts here.

1. Angels Show the Greatness of God's Love and Plan for Us.

When we think of God's creation, one can deduce that human beings and angels are the only moral, intelligent creatures that God has made. And because of this we can compare and contrast angels to human beings.

Let us think about this for a moment. Angels are never said to be made "in the image of God," while human beings are several times said to be in God's image (Genesis 1:26-27; 9:6). And since being made in the image of God means to some capacity to be like God, it seems fair to conclude that when we compare Humans to angels, man is more like God than the angels.

Now this is supported by the fact that one day God will give man authority over angels, to judge them.

Let us look up the following Scriptures:

- 1 Corinthians 6:3—
- Hebrews 2:7—
- Hebrews 1:14—

--Angels are also inferior to Humans in that they have the inability to procreate. Look up Matthew 22:30 and Luke 20:34-36 and note what they say.

--Also think about this, God shows His great love for us when we understand that though both angels and humans have sinned, it is only humans who have the ability to be saved. There will be no saved angels once they sinned. Look up the following verses and note what they say.

- 2 Peter 2:4:

- Jude 6:
- Hebrews 2:16:

2. Angels Remind Us That the Unseen World Is Real.

Angels help understand that what we can't see with our physical eyes is a reality. They help understand that there is a spiritual world. Look up the following verses and grasp this concept.

- 2 Kings 6:8-18—
- Psalm 148:2—
- Hebrews 12:22—

3. Angels Are Examples for Us.

In both of their obedience and their worship angels provide helpful examples for us to imitate. They help us understand how to worship God.

- Isaiah 6:3—
- Revelation 5:11-12—

As angels find it their highest joy to praise God continuously, should we not also delight each day to sing God's praise, counting this as the highest and most worthy use of our time and our greatest joy?

4. Angels Carry Out Some of God's Plans.

We see angels used for God's plans. Notice this effort in the following verses.

- Luke 1:11-19—
- Acts 8:26—
- 2 Samuel 24:16-17—
- Revelation 16:1—
- Daniel 10:13—
- Revelation 20:1-3—

5. Angels Directly Glorify God.

Angels also serve another function: they minister directly to God by glorifying Him.

- Psalm 103:20—
- Revelation 4:8—
- Luke 2:14—
- Luke 15:10—

As you can see we can learn a lot from angels and how they interact with God. Next week we are going to see how they interact with humans.`