## 1 • Angels are Created Spirit Servants

What can we know about angels? Is that a good question? Notice how Acts 23:8 describes certain Jewish authorities known as Sadducees and what they believed in the first century.



For the Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, <u>nor angel</u>, nor spirit...

Were they right? Are angels just make-believe, like a fairy tale? No. Jesus himself interacted with some Sadducees in Matthew 22 and told them, "You are wrong" (22:29). Angels are real. **Angels are created spirit servants of God**. Let's listen carefully to the way they are described in both Old and New Testaments:

Bless the LORD, O you <u>his</u> angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word!

Bless the LORD, all <u>his</u> hosts, <u>his</u> ministers, who do his will!

Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion.

Bless the LORD, O my soul! (Psa 103:20-22)

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

Praise him, all his <u>angels</u>;

praise him, all his hosts!

(Psa 148:1-2)

Angels are not God. They belong to God. They were created by God as more powerful than human beings (2 Pet 2:9-11). In Psalm 8, man is described as being made by God "a little <u>lower</u> than the heavenly beings" (8:5). In Hebrews 1, angels are described as spirits.

And to which of the angels has he ever said,

"Sit at my right hand

until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet"?

Are they not all <u>ministering</u> spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation? (Heb 1:13-14)

Angels are created spirit servants of God and there are many, many, many of them. Just listen to Revelation 5:11-12:

Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and <u>thousands</u> of thousands, saying with a loud voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

Clearly, we have a whole lot to talk about. Have your Bible open and ready? Let's dive in...

## For Class & Family Discussion:

	or viass & ramily viscussium.
	In Psalm 103:20-22 and 148:1-2 we heard angels described as God's angels, God's hosts, and God's ministers. Why is this a good place to start as we're trying to figure out what we can know about angels? How do these two passages lay a good foundation for everything else?
•	In Psalm 8:5 we heard human beings described as "a little lower than the heavenly beings." What can we learn from this? About God? About angels? About ourselves? Going back to 2 Peter 2:9-11 might be helpful here too
•	Let's go back and notice carefully how angels are described in Hebrews 1:14. In your own words, what is a "ministering spirit"? Who are they sent by? What are they sent to do?
•	In Luke 16:19-31, Jesus gave us the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. What did angels do in 16:22? What can we learn from this?
•	So, are angels more powerful than God? Can they somehow defeat God or his purposes? What does Paul teach us in Romans 8:38-39?
•	So, should we worship angels since they are higher than we are? What can we learn from Colossians 2:18-19, Revelation 19:9-10 and 22:8-9?
•	Finally, what about Hebrews 13:1-2? What can we learn about angels from that passage?

▶ What are angels? **Angels are created spirit servants of God.** More to come next week...