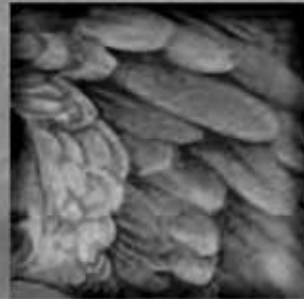


ANGELS

UNDERSTANDING
GOD'S
MESSENGERS



A STUDY GUIDE

BENNY HINN



Clarion Call Marketing



ANGELS

Published by
Clarion Call Marketing, Inc.
Dallas, Texas

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All Scripture quotations are taken from the King James Version of the Bible.

ISBN: 1-59574-014-7

Printed in the United States of America

First Edition 2005

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

www.BennyHinn.org

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INTRODUCTION

The English word *angel* is derived from the Hebrew word *mal'ak* and from the Greek word *angelos*, which both mean “messenger.” According to *Nelson’s Illustrated Bible Dictionary*, an angel is “a member of an order of heavenly beings who are superior to man in power and intelligence.”¹

Hebrews 1:14 teaches us that angels are indeed spiritual beings and that they are sent from God to minister to His children. The verse reads: “Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?” Hebrews 2:7 says that God has made man “a little lower than the angels,” which tells us that angels are superior to human beings. We also know that they are more powerful than humans and that they know more than humans. Nevertheless, they are not all-knowing because that distinction belongs to God alone.

References to angels can be found approximately three hundred times in Scripture, and angels are mentioned in almost every book of the Bible. Only a few books of the Bible do not include angels, books such as Ruth, Nehemiah, Esther, John’s epistles, and James.²

The *New Unger’s Bible Dictionary* notes that “angels appear most frequently and conspicuously in connection with the coming and ministry of our Lord.”³ In fact, angels are mentioned more in the book of Revelation than in any other book of the Bible, and there are more references to angels in the Bible than there are to demons.

Lester Sumrall, in his manual entitled *Angels: The Messengers of God*, writes: “It is the obligation and privilege of modern Christians to understand and use the ministry of angels.”⁴ I wholeheartedly agree with him, and to that end, I am delighted to present this study guide to you.

Within these pages, you will learn what the Bible says about the reality of angels, the five divisions or ranks of angels, the nature and ministry of angels, the fallen angels, angels and prophecy, angels on assignment to individuals or groups, and the eternal qualities and work of angels. I present only biblical information so you might gain a true understanding of God’s heavenly messengers, who are no doubt involved in your life even as you read.

God bless you as you learn more about these mighty spiritual beings who so greatly affect our lives on earth.

—Benny Hinn

Angels Are Real

Much curiosity exists about angels in the world today. In fact, if you were to do a Google Internet search for angels, you would see more than five hundred thousand entries. Indeed, people want to know about angels, but much of the information available is not biblical. Both in the secular world and in the church, there seems to be great ignorance concerning the true nature and function of angels. Where do we look for answers?

God's Word is the only source of spiritual truth available in all the world. It is the only reliable source of accurate information about angels and the angelic hosts, and it contains the words *angel* or *angels* approximately three hundred times.¹ Because we believe God's Word, we must also believe that angels are real and that they minister to the "heirs of salvation." We must believe that although the spirit realm is invisible to the natural eye, it is as real as the physical world. Angels are spiritual beings who exist in the spiritual realm, but the Lord often sends them to earth to accomplish His will, to deliver a message, or to protect or deliver His people.

One of the great privileges of believers is the opportunity to receive help from God's special messengers. Christian history is filled with stories of people who had encounters with angels. Throughout the Scriptures, from Genesis to Revelation, we find accounts of angels visiting people, intervening in their circumstances, advising and informing them, and assisting them in countless ways. Lester Sumrall writes:

The Bible records 104 appearances of angels specifically to help direct the lives of men. More than 1/3 of the 300 references to angels in the Bible show them talking to men, helping them to know their destiny and how to live before God.²

In addition to the angels' ministry on earth, angels are also constantly at work in heaven, praising and worshiping God. Often, people can believe in angels in heaven more easily than they can accept the fact that angels also visit us and help us on earth. The Scriptures record a variety of angelic appearances and activities that confirm the reality of these spiritual beings God sends to minister on earth.

ANGELS APPEARED ON EARTH AS TRAVELERS.

And the Lord appeared unto him in the plains of Mamre: and he sat in the tent door in the heat of the day; and he lift up his eyes and looked, and, lo, three men stood by him: and when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and bowed

himself toward the ground, and said, My Lord, if now I have found favour in thy sight, pass not away, I pray thee, from thy servant: Let a little water, I pray you, be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. (Genesis 18:1-4)

AN ANGEL APPEARED ON EARTH AS A SOLDIER.

And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, Art thou for us, or for our adversaries? And he said, Nay; but as captain of the host of the Lord am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant? And the captain of the Lord host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest is holy. And Joshua did so. (Joshua 5:13-15)

AN ANGEL COOKED A MEAL.

And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree, behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat. And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again. (1 Kings 19:5-6)

ANGELS EAT.

Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full. (Psalm 78:25)

ANGELS HAVE BODIES, FACES, ARMS, FEET, VOICES, DISTINCT CLOTHING, AND FEATURES.

Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz: his body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude. (Daniel 10:5-6)

AN ANGEL LOOKED LIKE A YOUNG MAN.

And entering into the sepulchre, they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a long white garment; and they were affrighted. (Mark 16:5)

ANGELS WEAR CLOTHES.

And seeth two angels in white sitting, the one at the head, and