

Angels and Other Celestial Beings

Overview: All angels are celestial beings but not all celestial beings are angels.

A. What are Angels?

1. General.

- Created by God (Psa 148:2-5) before man (Ezek 28:13) for His pleasure (Rev 4:11)
- Spiritual beings (Heb 1:14); do not marry and do not die (Luke 20:34-36)

2. Specific.

- Personal beings, looking like a man (**not a child/woman**). Judges 6:22; Gen 19:1-8
- Superhuman intelligence but not omniscient. Matt 24:36; 1 Pet 1:12
- Stronger than man. 2 Pet 2:11; 2 Thess 1:7
- Vast multitudes. Rev 5:11; Matt 26:53
- Created holy. Gen 1:31; Matt 25:31
- They minister to (serve) the heirs of salvation (mankind). Heb 1:14; Acts 5:19; 12:7
- **Note:** There is no evidence that angels have wings. Zech 5:8-11

B. Other Celestial Beings.

1. Cherubims.

- Celestial beings with winged human-animal form. Ezek 10:20-22
- 2 wings (1Ki 8:7), 2 faces (Ezek 41:18); 4 wings, 4 faces. Ezek 1: 5-10
- Each has four faces: cherub, man, lion, eagle. Ezek 10:14
- They are associated with the Glory of God. Ezek 10:4; Heb 9:5
- They guard the Garden of Eden with a flaming sword. Gen 3:24
- Lucifer was an anointed cherub who covers. Ezek 28:14

2. Seraphims.

- Celestial beings with three pairs of wings. Isa 6:1-2
- They worship God with song in the Throne room. Isa 6:3-4; Rev 4:6-9
- Cleansed Isaiah's lips with a hot coal. Isa 6:5-8
- Possibly. Seraphims are the four beasts in Revelation:
 - Associated with the 24 Elders and worship. Rev 5:8,14
 - They are covered with eyes and have 6 wings. Rev 4:6,8
 - Each beast with a different face (man, lion, calf, eagle). Rev 4:7
 - Associated with the opening of the seals. Rev 6:1
 - Associated with the vials full of the wrath of God. Rev 15:7

C. Classes and Purposes of Angels.

1. Archangel (e.g., Michael).

- Highest rank, oversee angels & do special announcements. Jude 9; 1 Thess 4:16

2. Guardian.

- Angel to guard, protect, lead and care for mankind. Psa 91:11; Matt 18:10

3. Messenger (e.g., Gabriel).

- Angel to send and deliver messages to mankind. Dan 8:16; 9:21; Luke 1:19,26
- Obedient to the heirs of salvation thru the spoken Word Heb 1:14; Psalm 103:20
and thru praying in tongues (language of angels). 1 Cor 13:1

D. Angels: Past, Present and Future.

1. Past: Jesus – Birth (Lk 2:11), Name (Lk 2:21), Ministry (Mt 4:11); - Joseph (Mt 1:20, 2:13)
2. Present: Tongues (1 Cor 13:1); Entertain (Heb 13:2); Obey believers (Heb 1:14)
3. Future: Announce seals (Rev 7:1-2), Trumpets (Rev 8:2-13), Vials (Rev 15:7)

Recommendation: Develop the mind-set that speaking the Word of God gives assignments to angels.