

Angels Are Sent from God to Minister to You
Hebrews 1:13-14

Hebrews chapter one compares the greatness and superiority of Jesus with the angels. Jesus is superior in name, title and rank—and one day all of His enemies will be made His footstool.

I. There is coming a day when everyone will confess Christ is Lord.

This is spoken of in Heb. 1:13: *“Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool.”* What is confessed? *“Being found in appearance as a man, Jesus humbled himself and was obedient to death— even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father”*(Phil. 2:8-11). That confession is either now or later.

II. Those who trust in Christ are elevated to a position far superior to the angels.

“And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show us the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus” (Eph. 2:6-7). **This is all past tense.** These verses give us wonderful insight into living the Christian life. We live like who we are: co-heirs with Christ, raised and seated with Him, focused on what is eternal and heavenly.

III. Angels are ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation.

There are angels who kept their first estate (Mark 8:38) “elect” (I Tim. 5:21) and fallen angels. All angels are controlled by God. Fallen angels (demons) are restrained (2 Sam. 24; Job 1).

A. Angels have special abilities. They have (1). Sagacity (Matt. 28:5) and knowledge (2 Samuel 14:20), (2). Strength – *“his angels excel in strength”* (see Matthew 28), and (3). Swiftness (Luke 16:22) - freedom to appear and disappear in relationship to man.

B. Angels have special properties. They are able to walk, talk and eat (Gen. 18; Luke 24; Heb. 13:2). There is the real possibility that we have entertained them unaware.

C. Angels have a special role. They are “sent forth to minister” (*diakonia*). They serve. *An angel is to a Christian what a deacon is to a church.*

1. *One who serves* - Turn to **Matthew 4:8-11** *“angels came and ministered to Him.”* But that’s Jesus! Turn to **Matthew 18:10** - The face of a father expresses emotion.

2. *One who sees* – Turn to **I Corinthians 4:9** - We are made a spectacle – a theater.

a. Discipline; seeing we are encompassed with so great a cloud of witnesses.

b. Dr. Vance Havner tells of an old preacher who worked late into the night on a sermon for his small congregation. His wife inquired why he spent so much time on a message he would deliver to so few. “You forget, my dear, how large my audience is.” Heb 12:22 cites an innumerable company of angels.

Rev. 5:11 says “ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands.”

c. Determination; when you realize that you are not alone, there is an energy.

3. *One who strengthens* – Turn to **Acts 27:21-24** – *“an angel of God stood before me.”*

This angel strengthened Paul internally, and Paul in turn was able to help others.

“Angels are the dispensers and administrators of divine benevolence towards us” (Calvin).

“Two angels sent from God to execute a divine command, one to conduct an empire and another to sweep a street in it, feel no inclination to change employments” (John Newton).