

Jesus, the Head of all Principality and Power

Angels are created beings

'For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him'

(Col.1:16)

Angels are a company

***'But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels'
(Heb. 12:22)***

They were present at the creation of the world

***'To what were its foundations fastened?
Or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?'
(Job 38:7)***

- ✓ **Lucifer and one-third of the angels rebelled against God and were cast out of heaven. They are now demons**
- ✓ **The faithful angels were now aware of their possibility of falling. They needed a Saviour, not as we do to save us from sin, but to establish them in their innocence**

**Jesus, in His human/divine natures
was appointed as their Head and ours.
So they co-operated with Him in this
role on earth. They:**

- **Announced His conception**
- **Heralded His birth**
- **Sustained Him in trials and
temptation**
- **Proclaimed His resurrection**
- **Accompanied Him back to heaven**

**This was a period of probation for
them**

**They were loyal to God's revealed
plan of exalting Jesus as the God-man
over all His creation after His
ascension**

**It was then that Jesus became their
Head and ours**

' Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father'

(Phil.2:5-11)

When their probation was over they became established and forever secure in heaven. To them Jesus is the tree of life in the midst of the Paradise of God

'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God'

(Rev.2:7)

The tree of life in Eden was to be eaten only after man was successful during his time of probation there

'Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"'
(Gen.3:22)

Compare

'Men ate angels' food; He sent them food to the full'

(Psa.78:25)

with

'Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, "He gave them bread from heaven to eat." Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven'

(Jn.6:31-32)

The fallen angels oppose the work and people of God. What about God's angels?

- ✓ **They are many** *'But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels'* **(Heb.12:22)**
- ✓ *'Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands'* **(Rev.5:11)**

- ✓ **They are very strong** *'Bless the LORD, you His angels, who excel in strength, who do His word, heeding the voice of His word'* (**Psa. 103:20**)
'...whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord' (**2 Pet.2:11**)
- ✓ **They perform much of God's work** *'Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?'* (**Heb.1:14**)

- ✓ **They are attentive towards God for instruction** *'Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven'* **(Mat.18:10)**
- ✓ **They are eager to fulfil His commands.** **Jacob saw the angels of God 'ascending and descending from heaven'**

- ✓ **Our prayers play a vital role in the activity of angels** *'Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him'* **(Lk.22:43)**

'Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church. And when Herod was about to bring him out, that night Peter was sleeping, bound with two chains between two soldiers; and the guards before the door were keeping the prison. Now behold, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the prison; and he struck Peter on the side and raised him up, saying, "Arise quickly!" And his chains fell off his hands' **(Acts 12:5-7)**

- ✓ **They have an intense interest in salvation** *'...to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places'* **(Eph.3:10)**
'To them it was revealed that, not to themselves, but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you through those who have preached the gospel to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven—things which angels desire to look into'
(1 Pet.1:12)

✓ **They can lead Christians to the unsaved**
'Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza"'

(Acts 8:26)

And the unsaved to Christians *'So Cornelius said, "Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, and said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms are remembered in the sight of God"'*

(Acts 10:30-31)

- ✓ **The angels of God will be employed in gathering together God's elect in the end times**

'And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other' (Mat.24:31)

Application

***None of those visited by angels were seeking a visitation**

***Beware of those who say they have received extra-biblical revelation from angels. Many cults started this way**

- ✓ **Through the headship of Jesus we are now connected to angels** *'But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels'* **(Heb.12:22)**
- ✓ *'For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross'* **(Col.1:19-20)**
- ✓ *'...you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power'* **(Col.2:10)**

- ✓ **Angels are always present but rarely visible**
- ✓ ***'Do not let your mouth cause your flesh to sin, nor say before the messenger of God that it was an error'***
(Ecc.5:6)

- ✓ **They protect us** *'The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him, and delivers them'* **(Psa.34:7)**
- ✓ **They strengthen and encourage** *'For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, saying, 'Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you'* **(Acts 27:23-24)**