

Part 2 Angels 101

A sermon series by Pastor Byron Chesney Th.D.

† Colossians 1:16

16 For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

In our last message from Angels 101 we looked at different names for angels and different classifications of angels. We covered Cherubim, Seraphim, and Archangels. We also looked at the 3 angels that the Bible specifically tells us the names of; Lucifer, Gabriel, and Michael. Tonight, with the help of the Lord I would like for us to continue looking at what the Bible says about angels.

Angels are referred to in various ways throughout the Scriptures:

1. **The angel of the LORD** (all caps) used in the O.T.
2. **The angel of the Lord** (capital L, lower case ord) used in the N.T.
3. **Angel of God** used in the O.T.
4. And **Angel** singular, and **Angels** plural used in both the O.T. and N.T.
5. **Sons of God** used in the O.T. referring to angels - but used in the N.T. referring to those redeemed in Christ.

First I want us to look at the phrase "Angel of the LORD," as used in the O.T. If you will please turn with me to the Book of Genesis chapter 16 and verses 7-9:

Angel of the LORD – Christophany (appearance of Jesus in the O.T.) Genesis 16:7-9

Here we are dealing with the time in the life of Abraham and Sarah when they took matters in their own hand to have a baby and Abraham took Sarah's handmaid, Hagar. We all know the story, Sarah became jealous of Hagar and caused her to run off. Hagar fled to the wilderness. This is where we find the first appearance of Christ in the Old Testament, this is called a Christophany:

Genesis 16:7-9

7 And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur.
8 And he said, Hagar, Sarai's maid, whence camest thou? and whither wilt thou go? And she said, I flee from the face of my mistress Sarai.
9 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands.

Here, the Bible uses the phrase; "the angel of the LORD."

In our King James Bible anytime you see the word **LORD**, L-O-R-D, in all capital letters, it is being used for the Hebrew word "YHWHY: Yahweh or Jehovah." The Jehovah of the Old Testament is the Jesus of the New Testament. In this instance he is referred to as an angel, it is the Lord Jesus Himself appearing to Hagar in the form of an angel. How can we know this isn't just a simple messenger angel sent by the Lord? Well, look at the next verses in that passage we just read:

Genesis 16:10-13: 10 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, **I will multiply thy seed** exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude. 11 And the angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou art with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction.

12 And he will be a wild man; his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him; and he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren. 13 And she called the name of the LORD that spake unto her, Thou God seest me: for she said, Have I also here looked after him that seeth me?

By using the word "I" in verse 10, it gives authority to the one that is speaking. I find nowhere in the Bible where common angels are given the power to enable someone to be fertile and multiply the number of children they are going to have. But the Lord Jesus has that power and authority.

Also notice that Hagar herself recognizes that the angel is God because she called him "**Thou God seest me.**"

Again we find a Christophany in the account of Abraham taking his son Isaac on the mountain to be sacrificed. Just as Abraham as about to strike his son the Bible says:

Genesis 22:11-18

11 And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.
12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.
13 And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.
14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovahjireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.
15 And the angel of the LORD called unto Abraham out of heaven the second time,
16 And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son:
17 That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;
18 And in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed; because thou hast obeyed my voice.

The all capital letters LORD used here is also representing the word YHWHY or Jehovah.

And of course the angel of the LORD that appears to Moses at the burning bush in **Exodus 3:2**, is another appearance of Jesus in the O.T.

So we have some instances in the O.T. portion of the Bible where the angel of the LORD is a pre-incarnate Christ, a Christophany. It is the Spirit of Jesus manifest in the form of an angel or man.

Things are different when it comes to the N.T. No more will you find a Christophany.

In the N.T. we have angels referred to as the "**angel of the Lord**" but you will notice that Lord is not in all capital letters as we find in the Gospel of Luke when an angel of the Lord appears to Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, to tell him of the miraculous birth that his wife Elizabeth is going to have.

Luke 1:11: And there appeared unto him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense.

Here “Lord” is translated from the Greek word “**Kurios**,” which according to **Thayer’s Greek Dictionary means:** 1) he to whom a person or thing belongs, about which he has power of deciding; master, lord. That means this angel belongs to God and is being a spokesperson for Him. We talked about Gabriel, the messenger angel in our last message and we find that he is this particular “angel of the Lord,” because he identifies himself on down in verse 19: **Luke 1:19: And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings.**

Sons of God

Now, I want to cover another phrase used for angels and that is “**sons of God**.” I need you to pay close attention on this and I’m going to try and make this as clear as possible. There is sometimes some confusion on this term and some bad teaching as well.

Let’s first establish who the Bible is speaking of when it says “**sons of God**.” Look with me in the Book of **Job 1:6-7: Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan came also among them. 7 And the LORD said unto Satan, Whence comest thou? Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it.** (you will find nearly the identical passages in the next chapter of Job 2:1-2) Also, in Job the Bible speaks of Creation and says this: **Job 38:6-7: Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; 7 When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?**

The Book of Job is the oldest book in the Bible. Here Job writes this account of these “sons of God,” presenting themselves before the Lord and Satan was also there with them. While the Bible does not state these are “angels,” we know that Satan was an angel. To be able to go before God and present yourself before him you would have to be able to access Heaven. Even though Satan, who was an angel, was cast out of heaven along with a 1/3 of the angels that he took with him, he still can access Heaven as we see in this passage and he has to answer to the Lord....So I believe we can establish that in the O.T. “sons of God” are angels.

Now I want you to turn to **Genesis 6:1-7**

**1 And it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born unto them,
2 That the sons of God saw the daughters of men that they were fair; and they took them wives of all which they chose.
3 And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years.
4 There were giants in the earth in those days; and also after that, when the sons of God came in unto the daughters of men, and they bare children to them, the same became mighty men which were of old, men of renown.
5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.
6 And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.
7 And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them.**

Alright, here is where I want us to pay very close attention. Just as we established that “sons of God” in the Book of Job was referring to angels, we must also carry that over to the Book of Genesis and see that “sons of God” is also referring to angels.

First school of thought:

Some have come up with the theory that “sons of God” being used here is referring to the godly line of Seth. Since Cain killed Able and ended his line of descendants, the Godly line continued in the line of Seth, so some believe that the “sons of God” are descendants of Seth, and that the “daughters of men” is referring to the ungodly line of Cain. I think that is a pretty far stretch considering nowhere else in Scripture do we find anything like that.

Second school of thought (and the one I subscribe to):

Just as we have already proved from the Bible in other portions of Scripture, “sons of God” refers to angels. So why make it mean something else in these verses in Genesis? Sons of God is still referring to angels, however, these would not be the good angels but rather the fallen angels that were cast out of heaven along with Satan. Fallen angels are no longer referred to as angels but rather demons, just as Satan is a demon and not an angel anymore.

Some people say, “well, how could it be angels because it says that they “took wives,” but in Matthew 22:30 it says that angels do not marry or are given in marriage?” Well, let me tell you how it is possible:

Most likely, these fallen angel/demons lusted after the human daughters of man and they entered into the bodies of human men. We read all through the Bible of men that are possessed by demons and devils which causes them to do all kinds of strange things, such as the Demoniac of Gadara. So, it is obvious to me that these fallen angels/demons inhabited bodies of rough men and used them to have their way with the daughters of man, and the results were what the Bible calls, “**mighty men of renown**.” The word renown means they had a reputation – so men with a reputation of being mighty, not necessarily in a good way but in a bad way they were mighty, much like the Bible speaks of the giant Goliath that David slew, the Bible said that he was a “Champion.” So, the offspring of these demon possessed men with the daughters of men had a tainted blood line and were famous for being “men of renown.”

Now before you want to blame everything that happened entirely upon the fallen angels, please keep in mind what the Bible says: **5 And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.** Man was totally depraved. They their imaginations and thoughts were continually evil. In other words there was absolutely NO good in them anymore. So, yes, the fallen angels/demons lusted after the daughters of man but the daughters of man were willing vessels.

You look around you today and see what is going on. We are not quite given over to complete wickedness yet like they were then but we are mighty close. We’ve got women today that would be very willing vessels to have relationships with demons, and if demons could take over men’s bodies then, what would keep them from doing it now? I’ll tell you what... NOTHING!

† All Scripture from the Authorized King James Version