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PT: Ron Adema
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Matthew 18:1-11
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GUARDIAN ANGELS

Request: "I have heard people talk about guardian angels. How do they fit into the Church Age?"

The Hebrew word for angels is malak. The Greek word is aggelos. The basic meaning of both words is messenger (one who brings a message) (Gal.3:19; Acts 7:38, 53; 1 Cor.13:1).

There are few religions in the world which do not teach about angels. However, there was one religious group among the Jews who did not believe in angels. "The Sadducees say there is **no resurrection, nor an angel, nor a spirit**, but the Pharisees acknowledge them all." (Acts 23:8)

There are only five books in the Bible that do not mention angels (Ruth, Esther, Nehemiah, John and James).
What was a common food that both angels and man ate? _____ (Ps.78:25)

Today's lesson deals with just one category of angels in the Bible called **Guardian Angels**. The idea of Guardian Angels was taught by Jesus our lesson text:

(Matt.18:10) "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you, that **their angels in heaven continually behold the face of My Father who is in heaven.**"

A **Guardian Angel** is one appointed by God to look after someone in the angelic conflict according to the plan of God (Ps.103:20-21; Matt.4:6-7, 11).

(Heb.1:14) "Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?"

We will examine our lesson text by the following four homiletical points – "**Truly I say to you**" (Matt.18:2, 10).

- **Worthy** (Matt.18:1-4) Child/ conversion – greatest in kingdom -
- **Welcome** (Matt.18:5) Connection – convert to Christ -
- **Woe** (Matt.18:6-9) Cause of stumbling regarding Christ – authority leadership
- **Worship** (Matt.18:10-11) Christ is object (John 4:20-24; 14:6; Heb.1:6)
Note (Matt.18:11 and Luke19:10; 15:10)

This lesson will study four aspects of Guardian Angels.

1. Jesus taught that guardian angels were assigned to babies and spoke of it in our lesson text.

(Matt.18:10) "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you, that their angels in heaven continually behold the face of My Father who is in heaven."

This means that children are assigned guardian angels through God-consciousness and gospel hearing.

NOTE: "Apparently children have guardian angels (Ps.91:11; Acts 12:15-16), as do all of God's people (Heb.1:14)." (NAS, Ryrie) (Matt.18:10)

2. Old Covenant believers were assigned a guardian angel to escort them into phase III (eternity).

(Luke 16:22-23) “Now it came about that the poor man died and he was carried away by the angels to Abraham’s bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried. And in Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away, and Lazarus in his bosom.”

Did you notice the absence of the angel in the death of the unbeliever?

3. (Ps.91:11-12) teaches that God assigned angels to guard the Incarnation of Jesus Christ. The devil quoted this in the mountain temptation (Matt.4:5-7).

In Gethsemane, Jesus told Peter that He could call into action 12 legions of combat ready angels (Matt.26:53).

At the Tomb of Jesus, two angels were posted inside His tomb (John 20:12). The burial guard was still assigned to Jesus for escort at the time of His ascension (Acts 1:10-11; Eph.4:8; Ps.Ps.68:18).

In Session, Jesus has a special messenger angel assigned to Him (Rev. 1:1; 22:6-8, 16).

4. Every Church Age Believer (CAB) is superior to angels because of union with Jesus Christ (Heb.1-2).

(Heb.1:4) “Having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.”

Jesus Christ is the guardian and bishop of every CAB’s soul (1 Pet.2:25)

Every CAB is indwelt and sealed by The Holy Spirit until the day of redemption (1Cor.6:19-20; John 14:16-17; Eph.1:13-14; 4:30; 1 John 4:4).

The spiritually mature CAB becomes the teacher and judge of angels (Eph.3:6-11; 1 Tim.5:21; 1 Pet.1:10-13; 1 Cor.6:1-3)

(Heb.1:6) “And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, “And **let all the angels of God worship Him.**” (Ps.97:7; 1 Cor.10:19-23)

(Heb.12:23) “To the general assembly and the church of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the Judge of all, and to the spirits of righteous men made perfect.” (Rom.8:29, 38-39)

Angels are part of an invisible war that a believer can only see through spiritual growth maturity (Matt.13:36-43) The Parable of Weeds explained (2 Cor.2:11; Eph.6:10-18).