

Gloria N. Harris

ANGEL CHASERS

Discover the Truth about Angels

Bristol Publishing Company
Lubbock, TX 79414

PREFACE

This modest work was written for those who are chasing after the truth about angels. Its purpose is *not* to turn people to angels but for the study of angels to turn people to God.

Angel Chasers was also written because many people have questions about the supernatural, invisible world.

- What are angels?
- Where do they come from?
- Why are they here?
- Are they like a man, but just a little more powerful?
- How will I know when I see one?
- If one does appear what's going to happen; what should I expect?
- What is their purpose and agenda?

These questions and more are answered as we discuss God's angels, Satan's fallen angels, and demons. With so much erroneous information circulating on this subject today, let's dive deep into this ocean of confusion and see if we can swim our way into clear waters. Through **Angel Chasers**, our understanding of angels can be clarified as we explore their origins, nature, roles, and functions. Scripture references are woven throughout this book like a golden thread holding each discussion together. The true angel stories provide real-life examples of the facts presented in this book.

This book is designed for people of all ages from eight years old to eighty. **Angel Chasers** was written so that all could learn the truth about these wonderful beings.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER ONE	<i>Angel Basics</i>	9
CHAPTER TWO	<i>The Different Kinds of Angels</i>	15
CHAPTER THREE	<i>Characteristics of God's Angels</i>	48
CHAPTER FOUR	<i>The Role of Angels With God</i>	72
CHAPTER FIVE	<i>The Role of Angels With Mankind</i>	76
CHAPTER SIX	<i>Demonology</i>	97
CHAPTER SEVEN	<i>Angels in End Time Prophecy</i>	132
CHAPTER EIGHT	<i>Angels With Us in Heaven</i>	143
	<i>Works Consulted</i>	150

CHAPTER ONE

Angel Basics

ANGELS

“Take this man to prison”
The man heard Herod say
And then four squads of soldiers
Came and carried him away.

Chained up between two watchmen
Peter tried to sleep
But beyond the walls an endless
Prayer was lifted for his keep.

Then light cut through the darkness
Of a lonely prison cell
And the chains that bound the man of
God opened up and fell

And running to his people
Before the break of day
There was only one thing on his mind
Only one thing to say,
Angels watching over me
Every move I make
Angels watching over me
Every step I take.

God only knows the times my life
Was threatened and today
A reckless car ran out of gas
Before it came my way.

Near misses all around me,
Accidents unknown
Though I never see with human eyes
The hands that lead me home.
God, I know they're all around me
All day and through the night.

When the enemy is closing in
I know sometimes they fight
To keep my feet from falling
I'll never turn away.

If you're asking what's protecting me
Then you're gonna hear me say
Angels watching over me
Every move I make
Angels watching over me
Every step I take
Angels watching over me
Though I never see with human eyes
The hands that lead me home.

Amy Grant, Straight Ahead, 1984

© Copyright 1983 Handrail Music
Meadowgreen Music Co/
Tree Group and Bug & Bear Music/ASCAP
Used by permission. All rights reserved.

The lyrics to this song sum up the essence of angelic relationships with the human race. They guard us, direct us, comfort us, dress us, and lead us home to heaven. “Angels Watching Over Me” has been the theme song of millions since the beginning of man. There has never been a time on the earth when angels weren’t here. God’s flames

ANGEL CHASERS

of fire—his ministering servants—are ready, willing and able to shower the message of God’s love and compassion on us.

Let me share two stories about angels who bring messages of God’s exceedingly great love, and his desire for us to have peace, hope, comfort, and rest. These two things are the “angel basics” for all their workings in our lives. The first story was told by Eva Stealey of Baltimore, Maryland.

Peace be still . . .

Shortly after I had my second baby, I was numb from the epidural and didn’t realize how heavily I was bleeding. A student nurse by the name of Julie came in to check on me. She said, “That’s not normal. I’m calling my instructor to look at you.”

I was frightened after her visit, all alone and bleeding. Julie returned with an older woman and they quickly took control of the situation. As they were leaving they said, “Everything’s fine. Just rest now so you can regain your strength and take care of your beautiful son.”

I drifted off into a peaceful sleep and was awakened a little while later by a nurse who had come in to change my dressing. “Julie just changed it,” I told her. “She’s one of the student nurses. She was here with her instructor.”

She gazed at me as though I had lost my mind. “There’s nobody named Julie on this shift,” she said. “And this isn’t a teaching hospital. We have no students and no instructors.”

It took me a minute to realize that what I experienced was a blessed visit by a heavenly spirit from a God who cared enough about my concerns to send me a message of comfort and hope. Thank you, Lord. Thank you, angels.

The second story, entitled “Out and Cold,” was shared by Pamela Medford, who lives in British Columbia, Can-

ada. Although the next story happened twenty-five years ago, the author said she recalled the incident as though it were yesterday. At one of the lowest moments of her life, a compassionate God looked down from heaven, saw her tears, and sent his messenger to give her hope for the future.

Come unto me all who are weary and burdened. . .

My daughter, Jessica, was about a year old. I was a single mom and dirt poor. In order to get some money to pay for food, I had to walk many miles in deep snow. I had a cheap pair of boots on and got a blister as I was walking. I didn't have gloves or a warm coat.

As you can imagine, I was miserable and upset. I cried and the tears froze on my lashes. I couldn't believe this was happening to me.

I made it to my destination, got the money, and was able to take the bus home. The bus stop was out in the open and there wasn't anyone around except an elderly man sitting quietly on the bench, which was very dry when it should have been wet.

I sat down next to him. He smiled at me. His smile was so radiant that I felt warm and at ease. I can't remember much about our conversation except his asking about my daughter. I showed him a photo of her and he said, "She'll be very successful." Then he told me my blister would be better real soon.

"How do you know about that?" I asked.

He just smiled and said, "Everything will be okay."

The bus came around the corner and I called out to him, "The bus is here," but he was gone. There hadn't been time for him to go anywhere since, as I said, the area was wide open with no buildings around. I was shocked. All the way home all I could think of was that I'd been visited by an angel.

When I got home, the blister was gone and my daugh-

ANGEL CHASERS

ter is now doing very well just as he predicted!

What is an angel?

To put it simply, an angel is a heavenly being used by God to bring messages to mankind (*The Basic Bible Dictionary*). The term *angel* comes from the Greek *angelos*, which means messenger. In Persian, *angaros* means courier. In Hebrew, the term is *malakh*, which also means messenger. The name refers to the angels' primary duty to shuttle back and forth between heaven and earth, bringing God's answers to prayers to people on the earth. These answers to prayers may include many things, from a prayer to make a sick child well to a prayer for rescue from harm's way. Angels also have a key role in assisting and protecting on the earth and on our journey to heaven when we die.

Besides answering prayers, angels have their own culture, just as we have many different cultures on the earth. The *American Heritage Dictionary* defines a culture as a behavior pattern, belief system, institution, and all other products of thought, especially as expressed in a particular community or period. The culture of God's angels expresses God's loving, kind, generous behavior and belief system. In other words, God's angels act godly and speak the words they receive from God. God is the focus of their life.

Their number-one priority is God and doing what God wants. God's kids are number two. God affects the way angels do everything. So if we see angels acting or speaking contrary to God's word as written in the Bible, they are not godly angels, but Satan's evil angels.

Why did God create angels?

Why would God create angels when he certainly doesn't need them? John Calvin, in his *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, written in 1536-1559, translated by

Henry Beveridge, 1845-1846, summarizes my thoughts exactly on this matter:

In creating angels, God must have had our interests in mind. God employs angels simply as a help to our weakness, in order to raise our hopes or strengthen our confidence.

Calvin goes on to say if God in his goodness and indulgence chooses to provide angels for our weakness, it would ill-become us to overlook the favor. His conclusions seem to reflect Hebrews 1:14, that says angels are “ministering spirits sent to serve [or minister to] those who will inherit salvation.” In other words, angels are here for us—God’s kids.

Even though they are here for us, they are not under our direct command. This seems to be true, because angels are not mentioned in the creation account in Genesis 1 where God tells man to have dominion over a list of things. This omission might indicate that angels are not under human authority but that they take their orders straight from the throne of God. During creation week God gave man authority over many beings, but not angels. In other words, even though they were created to minister to us or to serve us, we can’t order them to wash our clothes or take out the garbage or find our keys.

Where do angels come from?

First of all, angels are created beings. God made angels. In Colossians 1:16 we read that “all things were created” by Jesus Christ. Christ caused all things to come into being for his purpose and pleasure. Some might say that Paul wasn’t talking about angels. But evidently he was because later on he said, “. . . *things in heaven and on earth*, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities, all things were created by him [by Christ], and for him.” Paul seems to be extra careful to include things in heaven and earth, which certainly seem

ANGEL CHASERS

to include the angels.

Finally, when they are worshiping God in Revelation 4, the angels themselves declare that the Lord created them, “They laid their crowns before the throne and said, You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.” Not only does this express the angels’ thought of God having created them, but they also confirm that it is by him that they have continued existence—“have their being.”

The creation of angels

In this section we are not attempting to describe how angels were created, but to provide a biblical account of their arrival on the scene. In general, angels were created at some point before the earth was formed. In Job 38:4 the Lord told Job that the angels had already been created before the earth was formed, and were there celebrating at that event. God asks Job, “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation?” Then he describes still more of what was happening when the earth was created, “The morning stars [angels] sang together, and the sons of God [angels] shouted for joy” (Job 38:7). Therefore, it seems angels were made before the third day of creation when God gathered the waters into seas and the dry land appeared as mentioned in Genesis 1:9-10). If angels were partying and celebrating when the earth was created, they had to be here before the earth and man.

Psalms 104 seems to reflect the same ordering of the angelic creation. It first mentions the light, then the heavens and the gathering of heavenly waters or clouds, angels or flames of fire, then the land, seas, animals, and man. In this Psalm the angels are mentioned right before the mention of earth in verse 5:

Bless the Lord, O my soul. O Lord my God,
thou art very great; thou art clothed with

honor and majesty. Who covers thyself with light as with a garment: who stretches out the heavens like a curtain. Who lays the beams of his chambers in the waters: who maketh the clouds his chariot: who walketh upon the wings of the wind. Who maketh his angels spirits; his ministers a flaming fire. Who laid the foundations of the earth, that it should not be removed forever.

To find the answer to when angels were created and where angels come from, we have to look at the creation account. Here we do not find a specific answer such as God said, “Let us create angels and then they were.” But by looking at the pieces of the puzzle of the creation account found in several parts of the Bible, we see that the angels were created sometime prior to the formation of the earth.

Conclusions

Angels are wonderful creatures of God. They were created to be his servants who do his will, to assist and protect us and to bring answers to our prayers. They are also God’s press agents in that they relay God’s messages to us. They have no messages of their own. The angels sang before the earth became, and because they were created before us and were not in the Genesis 1 list of things for man to have dominion over, we have no authority over them. During the earth’s creation, their role was not to assist God in its formation but to rejoice with him in its creation.

CHAPTER TWO

The Different Kinds of Angels

Angels, archangels, cherubim and seraphim, the living creatures, powers, and principalities—these are just some of the angelic beings mentioned in the Bible. Are there really different kinds of angels, or is this just their job description?

One truck driver on the lonely road home—Paul Spencer of Clinton, Michigan—is given a look into the spirit realm and discovers just how many different kinds of angels there are. He finds some of them exotic to the eye. Here's his story.

And the angels numbered thousands upon thousands . . .

I was on my way home from a week on the road, driving my rig back to Michigan. It was midweek but I had planned to stop at the Hegwish Baptist Church in northwestern Indiana.

Near as I can recall, it was the first week of April 1979. I arrived about an hour before the service began. I parked my truck on the side of the church and was waiting patiently when a big fellow, who turned out to be the pastor, asked if I wanted a tour of the church. It was quite lovely, as far as churches go.

When the service began, I sat in the rear left of the sanctuary about three pews from the back so I could see everything. The congregation sang a few hymns and a few songs of praise. Then Pastor Winn Worley said: “We’re going to call in the angels. They overcame the Devil by the blood of the Lamb, Jesus, by the word of their testimony and loved not their lives even unto death.”

And that’s when it happened. To this very day, it’s the most absolutely incredible thing I have ever witnessed. Waves of loving kindness washed over me. Warm compassionate feelings filled the room, reverberating from the floor to the ceiling.

Glancing from side to side around the room, I sat in utter silence, tears of joy rolling down my cheeks, totally engulfed in a depth of love that I had never believed possible.

There were angels standing shoulder to shoulder down each wall and across the back. There were angels behind the pulpit; mighty men, mature, strong, well built. Some had blonde hair, others brown or sandy colored. Their eyes looked straight through you from kindly calm faces. They were dressed in togas of pure white with large leather belts and high gold or silver buckles and calf-high sandals.

Directly to the pastor’s right and left were two cherubim, with wings that were snow white and fluffy and soft. They hovered in place—as though they were ministering to the pastor.

And then I saw wheels of angels hovering above. They were seraphim. I believe, seven of them comprising a ring. They all had six wings but they didn’t flap. They just sprouted off to each side and the wings of another. For lack of a better term, they looked like a shiny chrome mag wheel. Several of these rings moved around the space between our heads and the ceiling. These angels