

HIERARCHY OF ANGELS

THE FIRST TRIAD

Seraphim: The highest order. They have six wings and surround the throne of God. They sing endlessly the words: Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus or vAdq' vAdq' vAdq' There may be only four of these, one for each corner of the earth. They are mentioned only in Isaiah 6. They are angels of love, light, and fire.

Cherubim: They bear the throne of God. They are the living creatures referred to in Revelation 4:7. They are known for their mobility, intelligence and strength. They are the keepers of the gates; guardians of the heavenly host.

Thrones: They are sometimes called Wheels. They are represented in Ezekiel 1:13-19. They are believed to bring God's justice to us. They reside closest to God.

THE SECOND TRIAD

Dominions: They regulate the duties of the angels. They are mentioned in Daniel 7:27 and in Colossians 1:16. The majesty of God is said to be manifested through them.

Virtues: They are said to bring miracles. They are also said to be bestowers of grace and valor.

Powers: They are mentioned in Colossians 1:16 and 1 Peter 3:22. They are said to stop the efforts of evil demons in the world. They live between the first and second heavens. Romans 13:1 is used to define their role.

THE THIRD TRIAD

Principalities: They are the protectors of religion.

Archangels: These are guardians of people and all living things. There are between four and seven archangels: Raphael, Michael, Gabriel, and Uriel. The following may also be archangels as well: Simiel, Oriphiel, and Zachariel.

Angels: The lowest of the heavenly beings. Angels are the beings that reside closest to human beings.

Angel Study Sheet

New Words

Messenger (Hebrew) %a'l.m;

Messenger (Aramaic) ak'a]l.m;

Messenger – one who is sent (Greek) a;ggeloi

Gospel (Greek) – euvagge,lion

eu adverb that means, “well, good, happily, rightly.”

References where God is speaking in the plural sense: Genesis 1:26; 3:5; 11:6, 7.

Ten Functions of Angels in the Old Testament

1. God (Genesis 16:7)
2. Spokesperson (Judges 5:23)
3. Adversary (Numbers 22:23)
4. Comparison (I Samuel 29:9)
5. Destroyer (2 Kings 19:35)
6. Rejoicing beings (Psalm 103:20)
7. Explanation (Isaiah 37:36)
8. Keepers (Psalm 91:11)
9. Mediators (Job 33:23)
10. Protectors (Genesis 32:1)

New Testament References

Nativity: Matt. 1:20; Luke 1:26; Luke 2:13
Resurrection: Matt. 28:2; Luke 22:43
Wilderness: Matt. 4:6; Mark 1:13; Luke 4:10
Apocalyptic: Matt. 13:39-49; Mark 8:38; 13:32
Guardian: Matt. 18:10

Acts: 6:15; 10:3ff; 12:7ff; 27:23

Romans 8:38

1 Corinthians 11:10

2 Corinthians 11:14

Galatians 1:8; 3:19 cf. Deut. 33:2
Colossians 2:18
1 Timothy 5:21
Hebrews 1:13ff; 2:2; 13:2
1 Peter 1:12; 3:22
2 Peter 2:4
Jude 6, 7
Revelation 7:1; 8:2ff; 9:14; 12:7; 20:1; 22:8

Fallen Angels and the Problem of Evil

Bible Background

- Revelation 12:3, 7-9
- Isaiah 14:3-20 – *Morning Star*
 - 2 Peter 1:19 *Same Morning Star?*
- 2 Corinthians 11:3
- 2 Corinthians 11:13-15
- 2 Corinthians 12:2
 - 2 Enoch 8:5

Fall From Heaven

- Life of Adam and Eve *Vita (Latin text)* 12-16
- Genesis 6:1-4
 - 1 Enoch 6
 - 1 Enoch 12

Their Activities on Earth

- *Watchers* – an order of heavenly beings (angels) who are to watch over humanity
- *Nephilim* – the offspring of the union between the Watchers and human women
 - The Nephilim were giants who turned on their human neighbors and began to devour them. They were wiped out during the flood.
 - The Watchers taught the human women things that they were not supposed to know. Things about war, sorcery, etc.
 - There is speculation that the Watchers still exist on earth in the form of evil people. Cf. Gen. 6:4 and Jude 6
- Daniel 4:13-17
 - 1 Enoch 12; 2-3
 - Jubilees 4:15

Angel Bible Study O.T. Scripture References

Genesis

1:26
3:5
6:1-8
11:6, 7
16:7
19:1
21:17 & 19
22:11
24:7
24:40
28:12
31:11
32:1
48:16

Exodus 3:2

Exodus 14:19

Exodus 23:20 & 23

Exodus 32:34

Numbers 22:23

Judges 5:23

6:11

I Samuel 29:9

II Samuel 24:15

I Kings 19:5

II Kings 1:3

II Kings 19:35

I Chronicles 21:11-30

II Chronicles 32:21

Job 4:18

Job 33:23

Psalms 91:11

Psalms 103:20

Psalms 148:2

Isaiah 37:36

Zechariah 1:9-17

Zechariah 3:1-5