

ANGELS



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by

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Apostolic Ministries, Inc.***

Published by Parsons Professionals
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Introduction</u>	5
1 <u>The Ministry of Angels</u>	9
2 <u>Angel Facts</u>	13
3 <u>What Does It Take to Activate the Angels and to Cooperate with Them?</u>	17
<u>Conclusion</u>	27

INTRODUCTION

We are not to worship angels. We worship the Lord. While we thank God for them, we don't worship the pastor, the prophet, the evangelist, the apostle, or the teacher. We don't worship the church building or each other. We are to worship only God Almighty. They are created beings, not "gods." Angels are not "gods." They are servants of God who were created by Him to serve Him.

Just as we need to learn how to cooperate with the fivefold ministry that God has sent to minister to us, we need to learn how to cooperate with the angels He has sent to minister to us. We must learn about angels so that we can open the door to their ministry. There are things that people do all the time that stops the angelic ministry. Many times, we miss out on what God is trying to do for us, simply because we lack the knowledge necessary to receive from angels.

Hebrews 2:1-4: "Therefore we ought to give the more earnest heed to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. For if the word spoken by angels was stedfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just recompence of reward; How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?"

It is important here to understand that this scripture is talking about giving heed to the ministry of angels. Verse 1 is warning us not to let the ministry of angels slip, not to ignore it or forget about it. There is a great salvation that comes from the ministry of angels which we seem to tend to ignore. We need to

Angels

pay attention to the ministry of angels and receive what God has sent them to do for us.

It is also interesting to note, in verse 4, that angels are empowered with the gifts of the Spirit. God bears them witness with signs and wonders and with different miracles.

Many times, when I am ministering in the gifts of the Spirit, angels are seen by somebody in attendance. Angels help us minister. Several people, at different meetings in different places, have told me that they have seen angels on each side of me while I am ministering under the anointing.

It is important for us to understand that there is a ministry of angels and we are not to neglect it. Again, we should not worship angels, but we should not neglect the ministry of angels. We should not worship our Pastor, but we shouldn't neglect him either. Your Pastor was sent by God to perfect you, to help you grow in the Lord. You shouldn't worship your Pastor, but you should pay attention to him and receive from him. It is the same with angels. The angels are sent by God and they have a special ministry that God has given *for* us.

In these last days there will be more manifestations of angels than we have ever seen in the past. We are hearing more and more about angels. There have been more sightings of angels and more signs and wonders that can be attributed to them. These are very prophetic times and God is moving by His Spirit. This is a time of great revival and God is beginning to pour out His Spirit in a very powerful way. We are just entering into that time which we have heard about for years. We no longer have to long for the time that God will begin to pour out His Spirit on all flesh. We don't need to wait for the time when God will perform miracles and signs and wonders. He is doing them now. We are already on the fringes of this latter day outpouring. It is no longer "some sweet day." Everywhere the prophetic ministry is being raised up and everywhere God is moving with miracle working power. And the angels are there, ministering to us, for us, and with us.

I pray that as you read this manual that you will receive the

Introduction

knowledge you need to be able to cooperate with and receive from God's angels.

1

THE MINISTRY OF ANGELS

There are three distinct ways that angels minister to mankind. They minister *to* us, they minister *for* us, and they minister *with* us.

Angels Minister To Us

Matthew 4:11: *"Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him."*

Jesus had just come through the wilderness, a very trying time, at the very beginning of His ministry. He had come against the devil and fought the devil head on. He had won that battle by saying, "It is written ... , " "It is written... , " "It is written. . . "

The angels then came and ministered to Jesus. They strengthened Him. They uplifted and encouraged Him. Perhaps they even brought food to Him.

When you say, "minister unto," you are talking about providing anything that is needed. Ministering means meeting the need, whatever that might be. There are thousands of ways of ministering without being involved in a pulpit type ministry.

So the angels went to Jesus and ministered to Him. They met every need that He had. They strengthened Him, gave Him food, gave Him water. They were there to uplift Him, to be with Him.

Angels want to minister *to* you. In some of the meetings I have been in, I have actually seen angels laying hands on sick people. And whenever I see them put their hands on a certain part of someone's body, I go to them, tell them what I saw, and they receive healing. There are things in the supernatural that you need to learn to be able to cooperate with what God is

Angels

doing. There are ways and keys to being able to get into the Spirit of God and to flow with the Spirit. When you learn these things, you will have a very supernatural ministry.

Angels minister *to* us. They want to help us. It is part of what they are commissioned to do, by God.

Angels Minister For Us

Hebrews 1:9-14: "Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore god, even thy god, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. and, thou, lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: they shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; and as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail. but to which of the angels said he at any time, sit on my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool? are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"

There is a big difference between ministering *to* somebody and ministering *for* somebody. This scripture means that the angels will do what needs to be done, but what we cannot do. There are a lot of things we need to do, but we just can't do them. The angels have the ability, through God's power, to do things we cannot do. In other words, when we come to the end of our rope, the end of our abilities, God sends an angel to complete the task.

God will minister through the angels and the angels will minister *for* us.

Angels Minister With Us

We need to learn to cooperate with the angels who are sent to minister *with* us. There is a "together" ministry with angels. When we learn to cooperate *with* angels. There is no limitation

to what they can do. God empowers them with His unlimited power. We should not and must not neglect their ministry.

Revelation 22:8 & 9: *"And I John saw these things, and heard them. And when I had heard and seen, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel which shewed me these things. Then saith he unto me, See thou do it not: for I am thy fellowservant, and of thy brethren the prophets, and of them which keep the sayings of this book: worship God."*

We discover two themes in this scripture. The first is that we are not to worship angels. We are to worship God. The second is that the angel told John that he was a fellow servant of God. He was telling John that he wasn't to be worshiped because he was just a servant who was sent to work *with* John.

Angels are fellow servants, sent to work *with* us. We are working in cooperation with angels, at least, we should be. We should learn to walk with them, to work with them, to cooperate with their ministry.

Many people are not cooperating with angels and they wonder why their ministry is only going so far. They know there should be more, but they can't understand why there isn't. They know that God has some great things for us and that He wants to do some very powerful things in their lives. But because of their lack of knowledge of angels these things are not happening. We need to learn to cooperate with the angels.

2

ANGEL FACTS

The Bible tells us much about angels. Contrary to popular belief, not all angels have wings. Some do have wings and some have up to three pairs of wings. Some have more than one face. The first chapter of Ezekiel describes one type that has the face of a man, the face of an eagle, the face of an ox, and the face of a lion.

How Fast Do They Move?

Ezekiel 1:14: "And the living creatures ran and returned as the appearance of a flash of lightning."

That means that the angels can travel at the speed of 186,000 miles per second. That's how fast a flash of lightning travels. That is quicker than the eye can see. No wonder we don't see them unless they want us to. Illusionists say that the hand is quicker than the eye and that is why they can perform tricks. Angels are much faster than the human hand ever thought of moving!

It takes an act of God for us to be able to see the angels. It is like He opens a window for us when He wants us to see them. He has to enable us, through the eyes of the Spirit, to see them.

How Powerful are the Angels?

Isaiah 37:36: "Then the angel of the Lord went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred and fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses"

One angel slew 185,000 trained, armed soldiers in one night, with one sword. It would be an understatement to say that angels

are pretty strong.

How Many Angels are at Our Disposal at One Time?

Matthew 26:53: *"Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?"*

One legion is somewhere between six and seven thousand. Twelve legions would be somewhere around 84,000 angels. Is that enough for you? Remember that it only takes one to destroy 185,000 trained soldiers. Remember, also, that Jesus told us that the things He did, we shall do also. So, we have the ability to call upon the services of as many angels as we could ever possibly need.

Will Angels Minister to Us?

Genesis 16:7-12: *"And the angel of the Lord found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur. 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. And the angel of the Lord said unto her, Return to thy mistress, and submit thyself under her hands. And the angel of the Lord said unto her, I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for the multitude. 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. 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."*

Hagar had been driven by Sarai, who had gotten very jealous. Sarai messed up in the first place by taking things into her own hands and then she got jealous and upset with Hagar. So Sarai sent Hagar away into the wilderness to die. But that was

not in God's plan, so He sent an angel to minister life to her. The angel told Hagar to return and submit to Sarai and when she did, God took care of her.

In Genesis 22, Abraham was told to sacrifice his only son. When he obeyed, an angel of the Lord spoke to him and told him that he didn't need to do that now, because God now knows that he would not withhold anything from God.

In Genesis 31, an angel spoke to Jacob in a dream. He told Jacob that it was time to leave Laban's household and to take all his possessions with him. If he hadn't obeyed the angel, Jacob would have lost everything.

The angels will give you wisdom from God to spare you from what the devil wants to do against you. They will be there to help you if you will learn to draw upon their ministry.

3

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO ACTIVATE THE ANGELS AND TO COOPERATE WITH THEM?

Jesus actually called for the ministry of angels. It is very important for us to understand that we have the same ability to do that as Jesus did. God has given us this ability.

Angels Respond to the Word of God

Luke 1:26-30: "And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God."

The first thing to notice in this passage is that the angel said twice that Mary had found favour, or was favoured, by God. Angels always move for those who are favoured by God and there are things we can do to become favoured by God.

Luke 1:35: "And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

Yes, angels can answer questions for us.

Luke 1:36-40: *"And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible. And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her. And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; And entered into the house of Zacharias and saluted Elisabeth."*

Notice, here, that Mary immediately told the angel, *"be it unto me according to thy word."* She realized that the words the angel spoke to her were from God. God uses angels to speak to us. They are actually oracles of God, giving us the words of God.

It is also important to notice here that Mary acted upon the word of God. She immediately went to the city of Juda (which means praise) and sought out Elisabeth in order to rejoice with her. So, Mary acted on God's word.

If you will back up in this narrative, to Luke 1:18, notice what Zacharias did when the angel told him that his wife, Elisabeth, was going to have a son. He started to speak against the word of the Lord that the angel brought to him. Because he spoke against the word that the Lord had sent the angel to give him, the angel had to shut Zacharias's mouth.

Your words will either facilitate the ministry of angels, or they can stop the ministry of angels. If you speak against God's word, you stop the angels from operating on your behalf. So many times we want to say, *"It's not happening yet, so I guess it's never going to happen."* Then the angels will just fold their hands because you have just stopped their ability to carry out God's word. Speaking doubt and unbelief is just like slamming on the brakes of a 400-horsepower race car at 200 miles an hour. It is going to stop.

On the other hand, if you will stand up against the outward circumstances and the outward appearance of things and start

What Does It Take to Activate the Angels and to Cooperate with Them?

declaring what God said, you can help bring it to pass. You should say, *"It may not look like it to me, but God said and I believe it. With God nothing is impossible."* When you stand up and speak what God said through the angels, that's when they get busy and bring it to pass. They are activated by the word of God.

Psalm 103:20: *"Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word."*

We need to judge our words before we speak. We need to be sure not to speak contrary to what God has said. Negative words out of our mouths render the angels powerless to bring God's word to pass in our lives. We need to speak God's word instead of our circumstances.

You will get what you speak. You will reap what you sow. What you say is what you get. If you are always speaking what you have, you will always have what you speak. If you are always speaking what you've got, you'll never have a lot.

If you speak what God says you can have, God will send the angels to perform it. Angels only know what you want by what comes out of your mouth. They cannot read your mind. They don't know what is in your heart, only God knows that.

When you begin to speak the word of God, you are giving it a voice and the angels hearken unto the *voice* of the Lord. When you say, *"My God shall supply all of my needs, according to His riches in glory,"* you are activating the angels by the voice of His word. When you speak what God says, you are giving His word a voice and the angels always obey the voice of the Lord. So, to activate the angels, you must put voice to the word of God.

Angels are waiting for a command, and they are waiting for instruction. And they recognize the word of the Lord when it is voiced.

One time I was in a church by myself and I was praying and worshipping the Lord, and, all of a sudden, the Lord drew back

the curtain in the spirit realm. I looked and that whole church was filled with angels. But, the angels were just kind of standing around, like they had nothing to do. They were just watching me and I was wanting to say, *"What are you looking at?"* One particular angel I saw was really dressed up nice. So I asked the Lord, *"What angel is that one back there?"* And He told me that was the angel of wisdom of finances. And I asked, *"Well then, why hasn't he been helping me?"* The Lord said, *"You never told him to do anything. You've been talking about your bills, how high they are. You've been saying you didn't know how you were going to make it. You've been speaking about how the church is starving you to death. You've been talking about how you are going to lose your car because you just can't make the payments. You've been speaking about how your children are always sick and about all the awful things that are always happening to you. So the angels can't help you, only the demons can act on those words."*

Your words are so important. For years we used to get down on these *"confession"* people. Finally we understood that the angels are listening, just waiting to act. And so are the demons. The angels act on the voice of God's word. The demons act on the voices of negativity, doubt and unbelief.

As soon as your words get in line with the word of God, the angels will get busy to bring them to pass. But, don't expect an immediate change because there is also a battle in the heavenlies. Daniel faced that. He had been fasting and praying and it took twenty one days until the angel came through for him. And the angel told him that the prince of Persia had withstood him until Michael the archangel came to help. The angel told him that Michael did battle with the prince of Persia because Daniel had been consistently praying and believing.

One night, in Wellington, Texas, while I was preaching a service, the Lord opened up the roof of the church, in the Spirit. I could see angels fighting with demon spirits. The swords were clashing in the heavenlies during the service. The Lord told me, *"You must do stronger warfare tomorrow than you did today."*

What Does It Take to Activate the Angels and to Cooperate with Them?

You must pray and bind. You must also loose." He began to speak to me about how to do it.

When the service was over, a man in the church told me that when I walked into the church, he saw, up in the sky above the church, a battle was going on.

It was manifesting in the natural realm because some folks were actually getting mad at me. The whole town was upset with me because the gifts of the Spirit were in operation. Some were upset because I was speaking in tongues and some were upset because of the supernatural. And many were especially getting upset over the offerings. Those are all the things the devil hates the most. Especially the offerings, because he knows that if he can stop the finances, he can stop the spread of the Gospel. I once had a Pastor who told me, *"I'm not here for the money, but if I don't have the money, I can't be here."* Churches cannot get established without finances and the devil knows it. That's why he gets people so upset about giving, if he can.

But, those who know how to do warfare can stop what the enemy is trying to do.

Warfare—Binding & Loosing

Jesus was rebuking satan during His wilderness experience. He was coming against the devil with the word of God. It is time that God's people rise up and attack satan with the word and bind him and rebuke him and break his hold. It is time to break the strongholds of the enemy and to tear his kingdom down.

When you do warfare with the devil, you will begin to energize and release an open way for the angels to come and do battle and conquer. But when you do not intercede, you are not releasing the angels. Prayers and intercession energize the ministry of angels. Otherwise, they are hindered greatly. When God's people begin to rise up, to rebuke the devil, to come against him, the angels of the Lord rise up with greater strength and greater liberty and they begin to come against the powers and the princes of the air. What we bind on earth begins to be

Angels

bound in heaven. When we bind the enemy on earth, we are giving the angels the ability to bind the enemy in the heavenlies.

If you don't like what the devil is doing, bind him on earth. Then, and only then can the angels be released to bind him in the heavenlies.

We must realize that there are no demilitarized zones in the kingdom of God. There are no civilians in God's ranks, and there is no place for civilians. You are either in the army of God, or you're not. And, God does not reward lazy soldiers. Lazy soldiers get their pay and benefits cut and they lose rank.

Prayer

We need to have a constant prayer life. If you have never read the books, "This Present Darkness" or "Piercing the Darkness," you need to. They give a clear understanding of what happens in the spiritual realm. The stories of these books are fictitious, but they are based on God's word and will help you understand the spiritual realm.

In Acts 12:1-10, we learn that Peter was locked up in prison. God's people got into prayer because they could see that they were about to lose a powerful man of God. They had already lost one and couldn't afford to lose another. They had made the mistake of not praying and they saw the results. The enemy took out James, a great man of God.

We must not neglect so great a salvation, the ministry of angels, by not praying. We cannot blame God when destruction comes to our households when we haven't been praying. Don't ask, *"God, why did you let this happen?"* He will say, *"Why did you let this happen? I gave you power on this earth to bind devils, but, you didn't get into prayer. You must do your part so that I can do mine. I had legions of angels ready to fight for you, but you were too lazy to activate them."*

Peter was miraculously released from prison due to the prayers that went out for him. God sent an angel who released the chains and led him out. James didn't make it because nobody

prayed.

And we should notice that the prayer meeting for Peter wasn't just a little, short, ritualistic, religious type prayer. The word tells us that this prayer meeting lasted all night long. In the natural, you can fire a pellet rifle and the enemy and go home, or you can bombard him with heavy artillery until he is completely defeated. Sometimes we need to pray for hours, even days, before we have the victory.

Psalm 34:10: *"The young lions do lack, and suffer hunger: but they that seek the Lord shall not want any good thing."*

Lack of prayer does not only bring lack of power, but it brings lack of protection. Which also means lack of provision. The more you pray, the more provision you will have because the angels will have more freedom to bring it to you. The more you pray, the more the angels will be released to protect your provision from being stolen by the enemy.

Praise & Worship

Remember that when the angel came to Zachariah, he was in the temple where the incense was. He was lighting the candles of incense which was a type of worship. He was there, in the temple, worshiping the Lord, when the angel appeared to him. The angel appeared because of the worship.

When you begin to worship, you open the door for angels to appear and minister to you. Angels have more ability to appear to you during worship than any other time. That is when most people see the angels. Praise and worship enables us to experience the fullness of the supernatural and to see the ministering angels. I think God does that to encourage us to keep it up.

2 Chronicles 20:22: *"And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments against (their enemies)."*

Angels

Warring angels are activated by praise and worship. When you begin to praise God, the warring angels draw their swords and begin to fight.

If you will begin to activate the angels, you will not have to struggle so much in the natural. If you will begin to operate in the Spirit, you will not have to wear yourself out trying to get everything done in the physical realm. Adam didn't have to work several jobs to support Eve because they operated in the Spirit. They had a close communion with God. That doesn't mean that you don't need to have a job, but you don't need to work 23.5 hours a day. God has the power to provide you with one good job with plenty of time off to serve Him and to enjoy life.

Respecting & Obeying God

Psalm 34:7: "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them."

The word, "*fear*" means to respect, to hold at awe, to hold in a place of such esteem that you would do anything to not hurt, upset, hinder or offend. That is what it takes for the angels to surround you. Not just one, but they will camp out, prepared for battle, all around you. Thousands of them. Legions of angels all around you.

If you fear God, you will obey His word. You will attend the House of the Lord. You will be faithful to serve Him. You will give of your time, your finances and everything that you are. If you fear God, you will have a consistent prayer life. You will hungrily study His word and you will act upon it. You will do what He tells you to do. You will back His ministers and you will minister to others. You will keep his commandments if you fear Him.

I used to pastor a farmer in Lockney, Texas, who raised cotton. He decided that he didn't need to use any insecticides that year. Instead, he took the money that the insecticides would have cost and he gave that money to the church. He was faithful to the House of God and he had a consistent prayer life. He

What Does It Take to Activate the Angels and to Cooperate with Them?

respected God.

One day, he asked me, *"Would you come out and speak over my land?"* So, I went out there and we spoke blessings over his land. We commanded the devil to loose his hold on the land. We began to speak the blessings found in Deuteronomy and we rebuked the curses.

Things began to happen for that God fearing farmer. Later that year, he brought me a shriveled up little ball of cotton and a big beautiful cotton ball. He said, *"This little, shriveled up one came from across the road from my place, where they have used insecticides. This big one came from my place."* He had the purest, cleanest cotton in the whole region and there wasn't one bug in his whole farm. Tornados came that year and wiped out fence rows and barns and crops on other farms, but they didn't touch his property. He would get needed rain when his neighbors didn't. You can call it coincidence if you want to, but that farmer said that he knew he had angels encamped round about him and his property.

CONCLUSION

Psalm 91:1-16: "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shall thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation."

I pray that this teaching and the word of God contained herein will take root and change your life. I pray that you will learn to cooperate with angels and be blessed.

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