

Year B #442
The Angel of the Lord
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Hello! This is Dorothy -

We have a book, *Food for Faith*. It helps you to understand as a believer how to get in the Word of God, how to receive each day from the Lord that portion which you especially need as you study in the Word and listen to the voice of the Spirit speaking to you. If you have not received a copy, please write in to the station. They are there for you to read and share with others and they are available as long as supplies last in the Name of the Lord Jesus.

As you read in the Bible, you are going to discover that the Angel of the Lord appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, to Jacob, to Moses, and the children of Israel. Also to the holy prophets of that nation. Jacob, at Bethel, saw, in his dream, the angels of God ascending and descending on a ladder, which was connected between earth and heaven. This is the so-called *Jacob's ladder*, as some people refer to it. In the old Jewish symbol of the Shekinah, it is literally understood to be the pillar of fire in which the Messenger of God came down from Heaven and returned to Heaven. Why do we need to know this? I want to speak a little bit about **the Angel of the Lord**.

Our blessed Lord Jesus Christ identified Himself as being the Ladder -

or, in other words, the connecting way - between earth and Heaven when He addressed Nathanael. In **John 1:51**, He turned to Nathanael and said - . . . **Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven . . . - the Shekinah - . . . open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.** Now if somebody had said that to you, you probably wouldn't have understood what was being said, but Nathanael knew what was being said, because He knew the Old Testament Scriptures. He was only aware that it was the Second Person of the Trinity, the Lord God Himself, the Lord Jesus, that literally was that fire, that ladder, that One, that Shekinah glory - the Angel of the Lord, which is spoken of over and over again. Furthermore, we have this reference to Bethel, which is where the ladder was, when we read about Jacob. That was the place, at Bethel, which bore the name. (My mother named her house, Bethel, — she is now with the Lord.) *Bethel* is more than a house or a name on a house; it speaks of the Angel of God, the radiant Resident of the Shekinah.

In **Genesis 22**, we read -

11 And the angel of the Lord called unto him out of heaven . . .
.heaven and the Shekinah glory cloud are synonymous in the Hebrew Old Testament . . .and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.

12 And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad . . . *the lad is his*

son Isaac. The lad was no little fellow. He was at any age where he could well have overcome his aged father, but, in obedience to the Lord, he was being presented to the Lord. It was at this very point he was laid upon the altar of sacrifice - and Isaac was willing for this- that God intervened and said . . . **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.** *Yahweh-jireh* — The Lord will provide. You see, it was at the point that Abraham, in obedience, was offering his son, which spoke about the Sacrifice, Jesus Christ, who would come and the Father in Heaven would offer His Son to be your sin and my sin, to literally be the only One who could be our Saviour by His own precious Blood, by His own sacrifice. This picture of what Abraham showed through Isaac — in the prophecy of what would happen to his son — showed the provision comes from the Lord. As he did so, it was the Angel of the Lord speaking. Always, it is the Angel of the Lord who brings that message.

It is the Angel of the Lord, for example, in **Exodus 14**.

13 And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which he will show you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

14 The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

19 And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel,

removed and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before their face, and stood behind them:

20 And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these, so that the one came not near . . .

Do you understand that when the Lord Jesus is in our lives, He is light? Yet, to the people around, there is darkness; there is heaviness; they are slaves to Satan. They are missing the whole fact and the difference of the two lives. They cannot understand; they are blind.

It was for that very reason that we realize when the Lord came, He made Himself very clear, such as when He came as the Angel of God unto Manoah. Now Manoah is the father of Samson. When He came, He did wonderously when He proclaimed what would happen.

I want you to understand that when the Lord Jesus comes to us, He always points Himself as being the way, that You receive Him and know Him and allow Him to indwell our individual lives by His Spirit for His glory.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.