

## Saint Michael and All Angels

September 29

Sermon Road Map  
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Matthew 18:1-10  
September 26, 2021

### Daily delight in the humble service of your guardians - God's faithful angels.

How frequently do you think about angels - God's holy angels & Satan & his evil angels?

- Dr. Becker (*Wizards that Peep*) warned about the evil angels:
  1. Don't deny their existence.
  2. Don't become fascinated with them.
- We're well advised to apply this to God's holy angels too.
  1. Don't forget them!
  2. Don't obsess over them! Examples:
    - ♦ *Out of sight out of mind. All that matters is what I can see.* A material worldview
    - ♦ *I think about my angel all the time. I love angels.* devotion - worship

Seek a Biblical balance knowing God's facts and God's focus.

### Daily delight in the humble service of your guardians - God's faithful angels.

#### ❖ Don't forget them!

- **God's facts** revealed in the Bible
  - ♦ *I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.* Matthew 18:10b
    - Angels (messenger servants) - created spirit beings (no physical body)
    - Created in God's image - tested confirmed in righteousness. Never sinned and never will sin. Who delight in doing God's will alone.
  - ♦ *Are not all angels ministering spirits sent out to serve for the benefit of those who are going to inherit salvation?* Hebrews 1:14
    - God's Servant spirits sent by God to serve/protect believers
    - Not just for children. Notable: for the vulnerable/defenseless/inexperienced
    - Part of God's Kingdom Care promised in his Baptismal Covenant
  - ♦ The term and image of a *Guardian Angel* comes from v. 10
    - Clearly God's angels guard his believing children (of all ages)
    - It does **not** teach: each as a single assigned angel *nor* only for children
  - ♦ These facts are worthy of your daily delight!  
*Suggestion - Luther's Morning and Evening Prayers: Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power (rule or influence) over me.*
- **Focus:** angels are fellow servants privileged to serve him by God's grace
  - ♦ God's loving kindness for them and us has them serve to rescue us
    - Seen in Jacob's *ladder/stairway* - sent out and coming back - Gen. 28
    - Petitioning God in our interest - with direct access to God
      - Sin and Satan see angels as God's tattle tale spies
      - God (omniscient) doesn't need their eyes and reports to know what's going on!
    - They take orders **exclusively** from God and report to him
    - Direct all your comments and petitions to God who sends them.
      - Talking to angels leads to putting your trust/reliance in angels.

❖ **Don't obsess over them!**

- They are impressive! We've never seen anything like them!
  - ◆ Wise, powerful, fast, skilled, experienced, loving, faithful
  - ◆ The Bible reveals all we need to know - for our comfort. **Stop there!**
- Jesus' teaching on greatness in God's kingdom helps.
  - ◆ To obsess over their power and importance misses true kingdom greatness
  - ◆ To demonstrate what God prizes - Jesus presents a believing child
    - What makes such a child great? Ignorance, unskilled, weak, childish? **No!**
    - **Humble** - not impressed with self, eager to learn and serve
    - **You can't be a servant in God's kingdom without a *servant heart*.**
    - **Angels** have pure **servant hearts**.
- Be inspired to humbly serve God along with the angels
  - ◆ When John, filled with awe, began to worship his angel guide, the angel said, ***"Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your fellow prophets and with all who keep the words of this scroll. Worship God!"*** Revelation 22:9
  - ◆ Our knowledge and delight in the angels and their work - calls us to worship their God - our Savior God!
  - ◆ It is holy to have a *servant heart* born from knowing the goodness, wisdom, mercy, and omnipotence of God, our Savior.
    - God saved us from sin's slavery and foolishness to rediscover the pure freedom, goodness, wisdom, joy, delight, fulness, and wholeness of living to serve him!
    - Expose the **deception of Satan** that *freedom is doing what you want*.
      - We're not gods, self-created to serve ourselves. Our joy is serving our Creator.
      - Recognize a lording heart is arrogant death headed away from God to hell.
    - Fix your eyes on Jesus, the Servant of the Lord. Your servant heart will grow.
    - Be encouraged by God's model servants. Delight in their service and to serve.

**Daily delight in the humble service of your guardians -  
God's faithful angels.**

Think about their ministry and give all the glory to God, living to serve in his name!