

## Saint Michael and All Angels

Sermon Road Map  
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Matthew 18:1-6,10  
September 27, 2015

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

How frequently do you think about angels - holy angels & 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.*
    - *I think about my angel all the time. I love angels.*

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

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- ❖ 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 in heaven.*** Matthew 18:10b
    - ♦ Angels (messengers) - created spirit beings (no physical body)
    - ♦ Created in God's image - tested confirmed in righteousness. Never sinned and never will sin. Gladly doing God's will.
  - ***Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?*** Hebrews 1:14
    - ♦ God's Servant Spirits sent by God to serve/protect believers
    - ♦ Not just for children. But notable for the vulnerable/defenseless
    - ♦ Part of God's Kingdom Care promised in Baptism
  - The term and picture of the *Guardian Angel* comes from v. 10
    - ♦ Clearly God's angels guard his believing children (of all ages)
    - ♦ **Not** teach: each as a single assigned angel nor only for children
  - Facts 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 over me.*

- ♦ **Focus:** angels are fellow servants privileged to serve by God's grace
  - Sin and Satan see angels as *God's tattle tale spies*
  - God doesn't need their eyes and reports to know what's going on!
  - 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
    - ♦ They take order **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 kingdom greatness
    - To illustrate what God prizes - Jesus presents a believing child
      - ♦ What makes him 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 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!

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

Think about their ministry and give all the glory to God!