

MOVIE STUDY GUIDE

DEATH, AFTERLIFE & ARCHANGELS

The poster features a central figure of a young man with long, wavy blonde hair. Below him are four other characters in profile or semi-profile: a man with grey hair, a man with brown hair, a woman with blonde hair and sunglasses, and a man with dark hair. The background is dark with various symbolic elements: a glowing DNA helix on the left, a red snake on the right, a glowing blue figure in the upper left, and a glowing blue figure in the lower left. At the bottom, there is a silver handgun and an open book with a red symbol on its cover. The title 'BEWARE OF ANGELS' is written in large, stylized, golden letters across the middle.

BEWARE OF ANGELS

A DEADLY LIE HAS MANY FACES

SPOILER ALERT - THIS GUIDE WILL GIVE AWAY SOME OF THE PLOT LINES OF STORIES PRESENTED. WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU WATCH THE FILM FIRST - IT WILL HELP YOU UNDERSTAND WHY THESE BIBLICAL TEACHINGS ARE CRUCIAL FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

A DOCUMENTARY FILM BY LIFESTREAMS MEDIA

FROM THE DIRECTOR

While editing *Beware of Angels*, I received a call from a scriptwriter. As we were talking about our film projects, she told me about her son who had died fifteen years ago. She added that “he” paid her a visit recently. One day, he walked through her bedroom doorway, just as he did when he was alive. Sitting down next to her on the bed, he hugged her, and then said: “*Thanks for getting the message out. Everything is love, light and peace on the other side.*” He got up and left, closing the bedroom door behind him. It was a physical body, not a spirit - with the same looks, same voice, same mannerisms as her son. To her, this was undeniable proof that life goes on after death. Soon she began writing a book to share the experience and to teach others how to contact their dead loved ones! Interestingly, she’s a Christian and attends church regularly. She doesn’t consider this experience to be connected to darkness or the occult in any way. But is such an experience proof? What does the Bible say about death and the afterlife? If that “person” wasn’t her son, then who was it? Can angels materialize in physical form as humans?



Some years ago, I was running with my friend, Steve. We had run several miles and were way out on a country road. We heard thunder behind us and then saw dark clouds and lightning. Even though we ran faster, that storm overtook us. Lightning began striking within 10 feet of us. With barbed wire fence on either side of the road and open fields beyond, there was no shelter. We were going to die!

A car suddenly appeared behind us on the road. We ran and jumped inside. The woman was shy and barely could tell us her name as she was driving. About a mile up the road, it was still raining when she dropped us off at Steve’s place. I ran 15 feet toward the front door, then turned around and ran back to the road - looking both directions. It was a straight road with no hills, no side roads and no neighbors. The “woman” and her “car” had disappeared! Can angels materialize in human form? Yes, they can! “*Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares*” (Hebrews 13:2). An angel saved our lives that day (Psalm 34:7). If God’s angels can materialize in human form, then surely Satan and his fallen angels also have that ability. The difference is that God’s angels will NEVER contradict the Bible.

The purpose of *Beware of Angels* is to illustrate the many ways that fallen angels present themselves - angels from heaven, ascended masters, dead ancestors, saints and aliens - via channeling, transcendental meditation, hypnotic regression, dreams or conscious experiences. No matter how many packages they use, the original lie is at the core. In this study guide, we present the Bible as the only trustworthy filter for supernatural encounters. Before all is said and done, every honest heart will learn the Truth. God's reputation (and your life) depends on it.

Thanks for reading and please let us know if this study helped you!
Chris Lang, Director/Producer

CONTENTS

1. [THE GREAT HOPE](#)
2. [DEATH IS A DREAMLESS SLEEP](#)
3. [DO YOU HAVE A SOUL?](#)
4. [CAN YOUR SPIRIT LIVE APART FROM YOUR BODY?](#)
5. [ARE HUMANS IMMORTAL?](#)
6. [THE DEAD CANNOT THINK](#)
7. [PROBLEM TEXTS EXPLAINED AND MORE](#)
8. [IS HEAVEN A REAL PLACE?](#)
9. [SNAPSHOTS OF HEAVEN](#)
10. [HELL - ETERNAL DEATH EXPLAINED](#)
11. [ARCHANGELS - HOW MANY ARE THERE?](#)
12. [DO YOU KNOW HIM?](#)

1. THE GREAT HOPE

Ask 10 people what happens when you die, and you will probably get 10 different answers. However the Bible gives solid, rational answers revealing not only what happens when you die, but also how to face death with hope and confidence. Jesus Himself holds the keys to Death and Hades (Revelation 1:18). In the film, we show Jesus teaching about two future resurrections (from John 5:28, 29). In Revelation 20:6, He adds: *“Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power.”* The first resurrection is the resurrection of the righteous. The second resurrection is for those who reject God. After they are judged along with the devil and the fallen angels, they experience the second death - a final, eternal death. But to the righteous, Jesus promises: *“There will be no more death”* (Revelation 21:4). God will bring about a final and permanent solution. That’s the great hope Jesus offers to those who accept Him as Savior and Lord. So, what exactly is the nature of death?

2. DEATH IS A DREAMLESS SLEEP

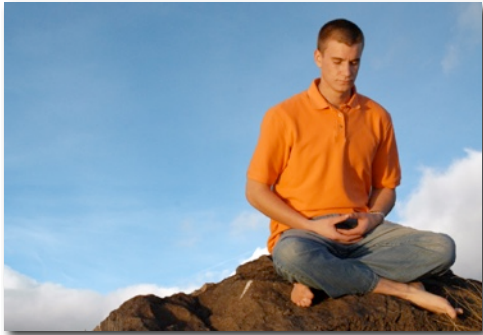
After a stressful day, how comforting is it to know that you can sleep tonight, resting from your labors? Isn’t it strange and beautiful to wake up and not know about the passing of the night? The Bible teaches that death is but a dreamless sleep that lasts until Christ’s second coming. More than 50 times, Bible writers consistently describe death as a sleep. Death is not the end of the road - it’s a dreamless sleep in the arms of Jesus.



➤ *“So David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David.” - 1 Kings 2:10*

➤ *“Consider and hear me, O LORD my God; enlighten my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death.” - Psalm 13:3*

➤ *“...‘Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up.’...Jesus spoke of his death, but they thought that He was speaking of taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, ‘Lazarus is dead.’” - John 11:11-14*



You may think, “OK, but they go somewhere after death, right?” Let’s look at some often misunderstood words and concepts about the nature of man. It really is a crucial issue and unlocks the mystery of the double murder motive (revealed toward the end of the film). The popular belief in the dual nature of man explains why the Halstead sisters could believe that their friends, Lynn and Dave Greene, as well as the ranch hand up in Newberg, were “totalled.” It explains why Mark Cleminson believed he was talking to the spirits of his

dead ancestors during his transcendental meditation. It explains why Adam Hendron believed that he could join his “soul mate” in the afterlife if he committed suicide. It explains why sincere Christians believe that their deceased relatives are alive in heaven with God. But remember the first lie: “...Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die” (Genesis 3:2-4).

3. DO YOU HAVE A SOUL?

The concept of mind-body dualism (soul/spirit separate from the body) is not a biblical teaching, but came from Greek philosophers Plato and Aristotle. The Bible presents a holistic view of a person, beginning at creation: “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being” (Genesis 2:7).

That word “being” comes from the Hebrew word “*nephesh*” and literally means soul, creature, living being, individual, etc. Wherever the word “soul” is used in the Bible, it refers to a person or the life of that person, but they are never separate entities. The New Testament writers carry this same view that a life or a person is the same thing as a soul. In Matthew 16:25, 26, the same Greek word “*Psuche*” is used for a person’s life and soul. Put simply: I don’t have a soul, I am a soul! In this life, souls live and then souls die.

➤ *“The soul [nephesh] who sins shall die. - Ezekiel 18:4 (repeated again for emphasis, vs. 20)*

➤ *“And they struck all the people [nephesh] that were therein with the edge of the sword, utterly destroying them.” - Joshua 11:11*

➤ *“Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. - Acts 2:41*

➤ *"For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" - Matthew 16:25, 26*

Some people say that 1 Thessalonians 5:23 proves that Paul believed in the dual nature of man. What does it say? *"...and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."* Here Paul is no more describing dual (or triple) nature than Jesus is describing quadruple nature: *"And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength"* (Matthew 12:30). Does Jesus mean there are four parts that separate at death? Of course not. Like Paul, He's referring to different facets of the whole person - emotional, spiritual, mental, physical.

4. CAN YOUR SPIRIT LIVE APART FROM YOUR BODY?

When God made Adam, He breathed the spirit or breath of life into his nostrils, and he became a living soul (Genesis 2:7). In Ecclesiastes 12:7, Solomon says the exact opposite occurs at death: *"Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it."* What goes back to God? The spirit or breath. The Bible never says a conscious soul goes back to God. When a man dies, the breath of God (or His power)—that spark of life—returns to Him.

➤ *"As long as my breath is in me, and the breath of God in my nostrils." - Job 27:3*

➤ *"For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead." - James 2:26*

The actual root word in the Greek is *"pneuma,"* a word which means "breath" or "air." We take our English word "pneumonia" from *pneuma* because it is a disease of the lungs, or of breathing. We have pneumatic tires, also derived from *pneuma*, because they have air in them. But that same Greek word *"pneuma"* also has another meaning. It means "spirit." For example, the Greek term for "Holy Spirit" is *"Hagios pneumatos,"* "Holy Breath" or "Holy Spirit."



This brings us to a very interesting conclusion. The words "breath" and "spirit" are often used interchangeably in the Bible. Job said, *"All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils"* (Job 27:3 - KJV). Job was describing the same thing by the words "breath" and "spirit." Man has only breath in his nostrils. In fact, that is what God breathed into man's nostrils at the time of creation. *"And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man BECAME a living soul"* (Genesis 2:7).

5. ARE HUMANS IMMORTAL?

Will Baron believed that his spirit guide, Djwhal Khul, had lived a human life and had never died. Through strenuous practices of meditation and yoga, Khul supposedly had become immortal in his flesh and blood body - an "Ascended Master." As a disciple of Khul, Will was taught that he himself could also avoid death and reincarnation (into a newborn baby).

The Bible offers a very different picture of reality. There is only one reference to the word "immortal" in the Bible, and it refers to God alone (1 Timothy 6:16). Paul does refer to a promise of immortality - as a gift bestowed when Jesus returns. God is immortal - we are mortal, subject to death. We wait for our hope to be revealed on that Great Day! Paul himself looked forward to receiving his reward "on that day" along with every one of us who "loves His appearing." The apostle Peter testified that King David has not ascended to heaven - he is still dead and buried (Acts 2:29, 34). There will be some alive at the time of Jesus' physical return, which is what Paul means by "we shall not all sleep." Finally, the writer of Hebrews testifies that the heroes of the Old Testament did not receive the promise (benefits of salvation - eternal life), and they will not be made perfect before the rest of us believers (Hebrews 11:39, 40).

➤ *"Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed--in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality... 'Death is swallowed up in victory.'"*
- 1 Corinthians 15:51-54

➤ *"I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep... For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first [the first resurrection]. Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord."* - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17

➤ *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day [the second coming of Jesus and the first resurrection], and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing."* - 2 Timothy 4:7, 8

➤ *"For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth; and after my skin is destroyed, this I know, that in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see for myself..."*
- Job 19:25-27

➤ *"And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us."* - Hebrews 11:39, 40

➤ *"And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me [Jesus brings His reward with Him at the second coming], to give to every one according to his work."* - Revelation 22:12

6. THE DEAD CANNOT THINK

The breath or “spirit” referred to in scripture is not a conscious entity that survives at death. Adam’s breath was not conscious before creation. Why would it be after his death? Here are some very clear texts:

- *“Do not put your trust in princes, nor in a son of man, in whom there is no help. His spirit departs, he returns to his earth; in that very day his plans perish.” - Psalm 146:3, 4*
- *“The dead do not praise the LORD, nor any who go down into silence.” - Psalm 115:17*
- *“For in death there is no remembrance of You; In the grave who will give You thanks?” - Psalm 6:5*
- *“For the living know that they will die; but the dead know nothing...Also their love, their hatred, and their envy have now perished...” - Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6*
- *“Surely I will gather you to your fathers, and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace; and your eyes shall not see all the calamity which I will bring on this place and its inhabitants...” - 2 Chronicles 34:28*
- *“Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day...For David did not ascend into the heavens...” - Acts 2:29-34*



Since David has not ascended to heaven, what did he mean in speaking of the death of his first baby with Bathsheba: *“I will go to him, but he shall not return to me”* (2 Samuel 12:15-23)? David knew he would die some day and would be buried in the same royal cemetery that this baby was buried in. His use of the phrase *“I will go to him...”* had the very same meaning as the above text - *“...you shall be gathered to your grave...”*

7. PROBLEM TEXTS EXPLAINED & MORE

➤ Thief on the Cross (Luke 23:42, 43) -- *“Truly, truly I say to you today, you will be with Me in paradise.”* Did you catch that? By moving the comma from the left of the word “today” to the right side, the meaning completely changes doesn’t it? The Greek language did NOT have punctuation marks, which is why this verse has been twisted and misunderstood for centuries. How do we know that the thief didn’t meet Jesus in heaven later that day after they both died? In John 20, Mary



Magdalene is looking for Jesus' body on Sunday morning at the tomb where He was buried. Jesus appears to her, and after she recognizes Him, He says: "*Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father...*" (vs 17). The thief on the cross obviously did not go to heaven after his death on Friday evening because Jesus Himself did not go to heaven until after His bodily resurrection on Sunday morning!

➤ The "great cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1) -- We know that there are living witnesses in heaven other than Elohim (the Godhead), including angels, representatives from other worlds (Job 1:6) and some humans who have been translated -- Enoch, Moses, Elijah and others resurrected at the time of Jesus' death on the Cross (Matthew 27:50-53). Contrary to what many think, this text does not refer to people who have died and are now living in heaven. Except for the people the Bible tells us were translated, those biblical heroes from Hebrews 11 won't get to heaven before we do (Hebrews 11:39, 40). The "great cloud of witnesses" is figurative language, such as "*Abel's blood still cries out from the ground...he being dead still speaks*" (Genesis 4:10; Hebrews 11:4). It is the witness of their lives that we should aspire to.

Resources for in-depth study:

- [Spirits of the Dead \(Do they speak or hear?\)](#)
- [The Rich Man and Lazarus \(and many other texts explained\)](#)
- [Absent from the Body](#)

8. IS HEAVEN A REAL PLACE?



The daily news testifies that our world is not evolving into something more noble, but something ugly and scary. There is a palpable tension that the world's events are pointing to some climactic ruin. For those who believe in the teachings of the Bible, current events tell us plainly that we are very close to the second coming of Jesus! Before Jesus ascended to heaven from earth (Acts 1:9), He made a promise: "*I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again,*

and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:2, 3). Heaven will be the privilege of being with God Himself (Revelation 21:3). Although this will be our highest joy (Psalm 16:11), God has plans for us that we can't even begin to imagine (1 Corinthians 2:9)! No matter what trials and heartaches we face in this life, we can find great courage and peace in knowing that Jesus is alive and that He's coming back again to make all things new:

- "*For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the*

glory which shall be revealed in us...creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.” - Romans 8:18-21

➤ *“Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.” - 2 Corinthians 4:16–18*

➤ *"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man, the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." - 1 Corinthians 2:9*

➤ *“And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work.” - Revelation 22:12*

If the Bible is true, why hasn't Jesus returned to end all the suffering?

“The Lord is not slack concerning His promise...but is longsuffering [patient] to us, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance” (2 Peter 3:9). The time will soon come, however, when God's mercy will no longer have an effect on the hearts of humanity. Those who disrespect His patience and reject Jesus as the Christ will be lost. God's fairness can be trusted. Those who have never had an opportunity to learn about Jesus and who have lived up to the truth they have known, will not be guilty of rejecting Him (John 9:41; Romans 2:14-16).

Resources for in-depth study:

➤ [Heaven: Is it For Real?](#)

9. SNAPSHOTS OF HEAVEN

Heaven is not some ghostly, unreal idea. The righteous will not sit on clouds out there in space, playing harps and singing hallelujah choruses all during eternity. This is a very false and unbiblical picture of heaven. Popular myths have made heaven seem dull and uninteresting. So what does the Bible teach about heaven?

- John 14:1-3 -- Heaven is a real place—we can take Christ's word for it!
- 2 Peter 3:10-13 -- Our Lord has promised to create a new heavens and a new earth.
- Micah 4:8 -- The first or original dominion will be restored to the human race.
- 1 Corinthians 13:12; Job 19:25-27; Luke 24:36-43 -- God will give us glorious immortal (physical) bodies - not spirits floating around. Job believed this, and Jesus demonstrated it. After His resurrection, Jesus presented His glorified body as having flesh and bones.

- Revelation 22:3, 4 -- We will lovingly serve our God forever and enjoy the closest fellowship with Him...face to face.
- Matthew 8:11 -- We will fellowship forever with the early heroes of our faith (Abraham, Isaac and Jacob) and with the greatest minds of the ages.
- Revelation 21:16, 17 -- God's capital city is 12,000 furlongs (1,500 miles) square! Its great wall is 144 cubits (216 feet) high. Its glories will far exceed the fondest imagination.
- Revelation 21:18-21 -- This spectacular city has walls whose foundations are gems with streets of pure gold and twelve gates of pearl (each gate a single pearl). Some have scoffed at the notion of "pure gold" as it is not hard enough to be walked on. Pearls could never become that big! With the limitations of human expression, it's impossible to describe (much less to understand) the technical realities of that superior realm.
- Revelation 21:1; 23-25 -- There will be "no more sea" and "no night there."
- Isaiah 65:21-25 -- We will build houses and plant vineyards. It is also a place of tranquil peace where wolves and lions will be vegetarians.
- Revelation 21:2, 10; Matthew 5:5 -- the Holy City (New Jerusalem) will descend from God out of heaven. The meek will inherit the earth.
- Revelation 22:2, 14 -- Just as it was in the Garden of Eden, the tree of life will be in the capital city, bearing 12 fruits (one for each month) to bring eternal vitality to God's redeemed.

10. HELL - ETERNAL DEATH EXPLAINED



God's nature cannot coexist with sin. To sin itself, God's presence is a "consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:29). Before the holy city touches down on earth, God will reveal Himself, and all unrepentant sinners will be completely consumed along with the devil. When everything tainted with sin is destroyed, God will recreate this planet (Revelation 21:1). It will be again as pure and beautiful as it was in the time of Eden before Adam and Eve sinned. Then God will wipe away all

tears from our eyes (Revelation 21:4). How could He do that if sinners are suffering eternally? They won't be. The doctrine of eternal hell fire is not taught in the Bible!

Remember the previous study on death? Death is simply the absence of life. When the Bible mentions the "second death," it means eternal-permanent death (Revelation 2:11; 20:6, 14; 21:8). In other words, people who reject Jesus will die twice - they are resurrected for "judgment day" (2 Peter 3:7; Revelation 20:11-15; John 5:28, 29). Believers will only die once. This is

why Jesus called it a sleep (John 11:11) and said: “...*whoever lives and believes in Me will never die*” (John 11:26). He was talking about the first-natural death that we all die. When anyone dies with faith in Him, it’s a dreamless sleep until Jesus wakes him up at the second coming (the first resurrection)! As we showed in the film, the raising of Lazarus from the dead was just a foretaste of that glorious promise to all of Jesus’ faithful followers (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17).

➤ *"Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth--those who have done good, to the resurrection of life [first resurrection], and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation [second resurrection]."*
- John 5:28, 29

➤ *"Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death [eternal death of sin, death and the wicked] has no power..."* - Revelation 20:6 (also vs. 13-15)

➤ *"But the heavens and the earth...are reserved for fire until the day of judgment...the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up."*
- 2 Peter 3:7-10

➤ *"All the proud, yea, all that do wickedly shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up."* - Malachi 4:1

➤ *"...fire came down from God out of heaven and devoured them."* - Revelation 20:9

➤ *"'You shall trample [walk on] the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I do this,' says the LORD of hosts."* - Malachi 4:3

➤ *"Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwells righteousness."* - 2 Peter 3:13

Resources for in-depth study:

➤ [Hell-Fire: A Twisted Truth Untangled](#)

11. ARCHANGELS - HOW MANY ARE THERE?

The film contends that “Michael” is the only Archangel, identifying Him as God the Son, who is Jesus Christ. Several references were shown from Jude (1:9), Daniel (12:1) and Revelation (12:7). But there’s so much more! The teaching is clear if you take the Bible as a whole.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW: Most scholars agree that the concept of multiple archangels in Jewish literature arose after the exile in Babylon (the period between the Old and New Testaments). It is not surprising then, that the books known as Apocryphal writings (written during this period) include references to multiple archangels. This is just one of several reasons why Protestants didn’t include such writings in their Bible. The concept is not biblical - it’s



pagan. Since Jesus can't be erased from history, Satan tries to reduce Him to just one of many teachers, prophets -- or in this case -- archangels. The meaning of "archangel" is "chief (or ruler) of the angels." Based on this alone, the very concept of multiple archangels (such as Raphael, Uriel and others) doesn't even make logical sense.

BIBLICAL VIEW: Because God is infinite and unsearchable (Isaiah 40:28; Romans 11:33), He can only be known if He reveals Himself. Even angels (created beings) could not comprehend God unless He came to their level. The One who came to reveal God's character to angels was Michael. As the saying goes, "Familiarity breeds contempt." In the heavenly realms, before the creation of the world, Lucifer became

prideful, jealous and rebelled against Michael (Revelation 12:7; Ezekiel 28:14-17) which led to the expulsion of Lucifer/Satan and his angels from heaven. This episode is the source of the term "Great Controversy," the battle between Christ and Satan. This cosmic war provides context for Jude 1:9, the battle of Michael and the devil over the body of Moses. Jesus claimed to be the "I AM" (John 8:58; Exodus 3:14), the One whom Moses talked with "*face to face, as a man speaks to his friend*" (Ex 33:11). They were close friends! So it's no wonder that Michael/Christ would rebuke the devil, resurrect Moses and take him to heaven. Later, the Bible records that Moses came down from heaven to encourage Jesus on the mount of transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-5; Mark 9:2-7).

1 Thessalonians 4:16 says: "*For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven, with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.*" Here we see a clear connection between Jesus and THE archangel, not one of several. Daniel 12:1 says, "*At that time, Michael shall stand up, the great Prince who stands for the children of your people...*" The Bible reveals that Jesus is the Judge and the Advocate for the saints. Jesus is the One who stands up for His people and protects them, especially in this context of a global time of trouble at the end of time.

Now let's consider a few of the many references to the "Angel of the Lord" in the Old Testament. In the New King James Version (NKJV), you'll note that the translators capitalized the word "Angel" where the text indicates the angel is actually Deity. The first time we see the phrase is Genesis 16:7 where the "Angel of the Lord" talks to Hagar in the wilderness. In verse 13, we learn that this Being was the Lord. My favorite is Exodus 3:1-15 where the "Angel of the Lord" appears to Moses. The text declares that the angel in the burning bush was actually God, who told Moses to take his sandals off because the ground where he stood was holy (verse 5). An angel from heaven would never tell a human being to take his shoes off because only God's presence makes the ground holy. Later this Being



famously called Himself "*I AM*" (vs. 14). What does this text have to do with Jesus and Michael? Everything. In John 8:58, Jesus declared that He was that Angel who appeared to Moses in the burning bush saying: "*Most assuredly I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.*" Of all people, the Jews understood the historical context of that Name. That's why they tried to stone Him right then for blasphemy.

Jesus also appeared to Joshua in the form of a man (Joshua 5:13-15). We know this Person is God (and specifically Jesus) because He explains (vs. 14), "*as Captain of the host [or army] of the Lord have I now come.*" Then, the Man directs Joshua to remove his shoes because the ground is holy (vs. 15). The Hebrew word here (Sar) translated "captain" is the exact same word translated as "prince" in Daniel 10:13, 21 and Daniel 12:1 (referring to Michael)!



The text in Daniel 10:13 seems to contradict the other verses: "...*Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me...*" Upon closer examination (you can check for yourself at BlueLetterBible.com), the Hebrew word here (Sar) translated "princes" is singular masculine. It literally means prince, ruler, captain, general, commander. The verse could be translated as "*Michael, the One primary (or foremost) Prince,...*" This alternative translation makes more sense when you compare it with verse 21 (same chapter), "...*there is no one who stands firmly with me against these forces, except Michael your prince.*" By saying "your prince" (Gabriel is speaking to Daniel), the message is clear. This "prince" is the Prince of humanity, the Son of God, the Messiah that would come to destroy the devil (Hebrews 2:14). Compare with Daniel 9:25 where the Messianic prophecy refers to "Messiah the Prince."

The Bible declares that Jesus created the universe and everything in it (John 1, Colossians 1 and Hebrews 1). The essence of the Bible is a story about Jesus and His love -- the many ways He interacted with mankind before His incarnation, death and resurrection. Now, in His glorified body, He is flesh and blood forever -- the soon-coming Savior, King, High Priest and Brother of the human race (Hebrews 2:10, 11; John 20:17; Luke 24:36-43, Acts 1:9-11; Hebrews 7:24-26; Revelation 19:11-16). According to the Bible, Jesus has been the PR department of the Godhead. In every form needed, whether angelic (Michael) or human (Son of Man), He is the One who reveals the heart of God to the universe!

12. DO YOU KNOW HIM?

Today's world is full of people who use a cafeteria of beliefs to pick and choose the components of their own worldview. They say that Truth is relative and God -- if He does exist -- is simply a force. They say: "My truth is not your truth. I'm OK. You're OK." That's a lie! We're not OK. If we need proof, we can observe the increasing numbers of wealthy, accomplished celebrities

choosing suicide over life. We need a Savior to save us from ourselves! Freedom is not being able to do whatever we want. Freedom is having self-control to make wise and healthy choices. Holly's experience illustrates how knowing and practicing a menagerie of religious concepts only leaves a person cold...especially the belief that YOU are God! If you've struggled with addictions, depression, anxiety in your life, many would say that psychology and medication can help. We're not saying that the mental health field is worthless, but we are saying that it's not enough. The problems are complex, and no matter how much success we may find in this life, there is no one who can fix our brokenness.

What if this Jesus we talked about in *Beware of Angels* is real? This Jesus who delivered Adam from being choked by unseen hands. This Jesus who brought companionship to Holly's lonely heart. This Jesus who gave Will clarity about the deception of the New Age. This Jesus who delivered Mark from a band of would-be killers. This Jesus, who through His angels, delivered my friend Steve and me from a lightning storm. Do you know Him? Jesus declares, *"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me"* (John 10:27). And He says, *"...they will by no means follow a stranger, but will flee from them, for they do not know the voice of strangers"* (verse 5).

We don't have to go through life wondering, "What voice was speaking to me?" The Halstead murder case and other accounts illustrate the crucial point: in the end, it doesn't matter how much you know, but Who you know. If you don't know the "Good Shepherd," we invite you to ask Him to reveal Himself to you. If you pick up a Bible and start reading the book of John, you'll find that Jesus invested in personal connections. He met Nicodemus, the Samaritan woman, the paralytic by the pool, Mary Magdalene and many more -- individually. He engaged them in their life questions, their mistakes, their fears. He showed them that Truth is real and revealed a wisdom not of this world. Was He a prophet? A teacher? Yes. But He was more than that. Much more. Jesus revealed that He was the Christ (meaning *Messiah, Anointed One*; John 4:25, 26; Daniel 9:24-27). He fulfilled hundreds of ancient prophecies - right on time - to die a cruel death in order to save us from ourselves, from fallen angels and from worldly influences.

You can know Him. He already knows your name. He created you and knows everything about you (Jeremiah 1:5; Psalm 139). No matter where you've been or what you've done, He loves you, friend. If you place your life in His hands, there's no demon or power that can snatch you away from the freedom that He offers (John 10:28, 29). *"He who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. And you will know the truth and the truth will make you free"* (John 8:12, 32).



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