

Angels

I have included all scriptures which describe angels and also verses from Enoch, 2Esdras and Tobit. It is clear that angels perform various tasks on behalf of Father God, Christ Jesus and Man. They are firstly divine messengers; they may appear to people in dreams or visions, in varied physical forms: in bushes, as chariots, as men or as themselves; but they are not normally visible to Man. There is also a group of angels who rebelled against God, called wicked angels (The Devil and satans) and they will be destroyed with fire on Judgement Day. Enoch temporarily became the messenger of God, for communication with these wicked angels, to convey His Judgements regarding their sinning, banishment and punishment. I have listed the references from the Bible by task.

<u>Task</u>	<u>References</u>
Announce conception	Gen 16:11 Jud 13:3 Mat 1:20 Luk 1:11-20,26-38
Ascend / descend	Gen 28:12 Joh 1:51
Asking God for mercy	Zec 1:12
Chariots of fire	2Ki 2:11-12 Psa 68:17 Zec 6:1-8 2Ki 13:14
Deliver death	2Sa 24:15 & 1Ch 21:14 2Ki 19:35 & 2Ch 32:21 & I sa 37:36 Exo 12:29 Act 12:21-23
Do not	Gen 22:11-13
Fear not	Gen 21:17 Luk 2:9-10 Dan 10:4-21
Feed	1Ki 19:5,7
Go	Gen 19:15 Gen 31:11 Num 22:35 Jud 6:14 2Ki 1:15 Mat 2:13,19 Act 8:26
Healing	Joh 5:2-4
In fire	Exo 3:2 Jud 13:20 Dan 3:25, 28 Psa 104:4
Inform	Zec 1:7-6:15 Mat 28:2-7 / Joh 20:11 Luk 2:8-20 Act 27:21-26 Rev 1:1-2
Instruct	Jud 5:23 Jud 6:20 2Ki 1:3 1Ch 21:18 Act 10:3-6
Jesus with Angels	Mat 16:27 Mat 24:29-31,36 / Mar 13:24-27,32 Mat 25:31 Joh 20:11-17 Heb 12:22-24
Leading	Exo 14:19 Exo 23:20,23 Exo 32:34 Exo 33:2 Num 20:16 I sa 63:9
Measure up	Zec 2:1-2
Meeting	Gen 18:2 Gen 32:1-2
Multiply descendants	Gen 16:10 Gen 21:17-18 Gen22:15-18
Offering	Jud 6:21 Jud 13:16,19
Prevent	Num 22:22
Protect	Dan 3:25,28 Dan 6:22
Rebuke	Jud 2:1-4
Redeem from evil	Gen 19:12-23 Gen 32:30 / Gen 48:16
Release from jail	Act 5:17-20 Act 12:5-11
Return	Gen 16:7-9
Strengthen	Mat 4:11 / Mar 1:13 Luk 22:41-44 Dan 10:18
Undercover	Heb 13:2
Wicked Angels	Mat 25:41 2Pe 2:4 Jude 6 Rev 12:7,9
Wrestle	Gen 32:24 / Hos 12:4

Michael

His humble nature

Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!" (Jude 9)

They are not afraid to speak evil of dignitaries, whereas angels, who are greater in power and might, do not bring a reviling accusation against them before the Lord. (2Pe2:10-11)

Appearance

I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in colour, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude. (Dan 10:5-6)

And out of the temple came the seven angels having the seven plagues, clothed in pure bright linen, and having their chests girded with golden bands. (Rev 15:6)

Michael the Leader of angels

"But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia." (Dan 10:13)

"But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince. (Dan 10:21)

Then Michael, one of the holy and honored angels who was with me, and was their leader, spoke. (Enoch 24:6)

"At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book." (Dan 12:1)

And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. (Rev 12:7-9)

The seven holy angels and Phanuel

These are the names of the holy angels who watch.

Uriel, one of the holy angels, who is over the world, turmoil and terror.

Raphael, one of the holy angels, who is over the spirits of men.

Raguel, one of the holy angels, who takes vengeance on the world of the luminaries.

Michael, one of the holy angels, set over the virtues of mankind and over chaos.

Saraqael, one of the holy angels, who is set over the spirits, who sin in the spirit.

Gabriel, one of the holy angels, who is over Paradise and the serpents and the Cherubim.

Remiel, one of the holy angels, whom God set over those who rise.

(Enoch 20:1-8)

And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. (Rev 8:2)

And after that I saw thousands of thousands and ten thousand times ten thousand, I saw a multitude beyond number and reckoning, who stood before the Lord of spirits. And on the four sides of the Lord of spirits I saw four figures, different from those that did not sleep, and I learned their names; for the angel that went with me told me their names, and showed me all the hidden things. And I heard the voices of those four presences as they uttered praises before the Lord of glory. The first voice blessed the Lord of spirits for ever and ever. The second voice I heard blessing the Elect One and the elect ones who depend on the Lord of spirits. And the third voice I heard pray and intercede for those who live on the earth and pray earnestly in the name of the Lord of spirits. And I heard the fourth voice fending off the Satans (advisories or accusers) and forbidding them to come before the Lord of spirits to accuse them who dwell on the earth. After that I asked the angel of peace who went with me, who showed me everything that is hidden: 'Who are these four figures which I have seen and whose words I have heard and written down?' And he said to me:

'This first is Michael, the merciful and long suffering; and the second, who is set over all the diseases and all the wounds of the children of men, is Raphael; and the third, who is set over all the powers, is Gabriel and the fourth, who is set over the repentance and those who hope to inherit eternal life, is named Phanuel.' And these are the four angels of the Lord of spirits and the four voices I heard in those days. (Enoch 40:1-10)

Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand. Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and threw it to the earth. And there were noises, thunderings, lightnings, and an earthquake. So the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to sound. (Rev 8:3-6)

The books of 1Esdras and 2Esdras are all about Ezra. view his genealogy in Ezra 7:1-10. The angel Uriel is sent to Ezra to answer some of the many, many questions he had been asking God.

The angel Uriel, who had been sent to me, replied, "You can't even understand what happens in this world. Do you think you can understand the ways of God Most High?" "Yes, sir I do!" I answered. The angel continued, "I have been sent to ask you to solve three riddles about what happens in this world. If you can explain even one of them to

me, I will answer your questions about God's ways and teach you why the human race has an evil impulse." (2Esdras 4:1-4)

But, Ezra, you should be thinking about the glory that is waiting for you and those like you. For all of you, Paradise has been opened, the tree of life has been planted, the world to come has been made ready, all your needs have been provided, the heavenly city has been built, full rest from your labours has been offered, goodness and wisdom have been perfected. The source of evil has been sealed off, so that it cannot reach you; all sickness has been removed, death has been taken away, hell is gone, and corruption has disappeared. All suffering has been taken away and the treasure of immortality is at last revealed. So don't ask any more questions about the large number of people who are lost. (2Esdras 8:51-55)

The book of Tobit is all about a righteous man, Tobit, who is initially well off but later becomes blind and poor. God sends the angel Raphael to :

- 1) recover a large amount of money, which Tobit stored with a relative, during the good times,
- 2) restore Tobit's sight, and
- 3) bless him with a daughter-in-law for his son Tobias.
- 4) The daughter-in-law Sarah was suffering from demon possession and had prayed to God for the demon to be expelled. She had seven previous husbands; but each time on her wedding night, the demon would manifest and kill her new husband even before he could get to bed.

The restoration of Tobit's sight and everything else that happens, take place through the actions of Tobias, obediently following the sound advice of the angel Raphael.

"I have already told you that a king's secret ought to be kept, but the things God does should be told to everyone. Now I will reveal to you the full truth and keep nothing back. Tobit, when you and Sarah prayed to the Lord, I was the one who brought your prayers into His glorious presence. I did the same thing each time you buried the dead. On the day you got up from the table without eating your meal in order to bury that corpse, God sent me to test you. But he also sent me to cure you and to rescue your daughter-in-law, Sarah, from her troubles. I am Raphael, one of seven angels who stand in the glorious presence of the Lord, ready to serve Him." Tobit and Tobias were terrified and fell to the ground, trembling with fear. But Raphael said to them, "Don't be afraid; everything is all right. Always remember to praise God. He wanted me to come and help you; I did not come on my own. So sing God's praises as long as you live. When you thought you saw me eating, I did not really eat anything; it only seemed as if I did. While you are on this earth, you must praise the Lord God and give Him thanks. Now I must go back to Him who sent me. Write down everything that has happened to you."

Then Raphael disappeared into the sky. Tobit and Tobias stood up, but they could no longer see him. They began to sing hymns of praise, giving thanks for all the mighty deeds God had done while His angel Raphael had been with them. (Tobit 12:11-22)

The quotes from Enoch are taken from 'The lost book of Enoch' by Joseph B. Lumpkin. The quotes from 2Esdras and Tobit are from 'The Good News Bible'.

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