Intro:

I. Angels need to be respected not worshiped – 1 And the Lord appeared to him by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. 2 He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth 3 and said, “O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. 4 Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, 5 while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on— since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” Genesis 18:1-5

a. Angel ambassadors will bring a blessing or a curse

• There was a two-fold reason why the three angels were meeting up with Abraham. One was to give him the message of his upcoming pregnancy of Sarah. Second, was to bring judgment down (by God’s hands) on the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. Do you think that angels can do something to us today?

° 49 He let loose on them his burning anger, wrath, indignation, and distress, a company of destroying angels. Psalms 78:49

b. We need to show respect when we meet an angel

• I am not saying that we are to worship them, but I am saying that respect angels is nothing more than what we are to do with each other. How do I know that I am talking to an angel? While I think that you will know when you see one. This is what Abraham did. He notices them and who they are immediately.

° 7 The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear (*respect[[1]](#footnote-1)*)him, and delivers them. Psalms 34:7

c. We need to understand that they have come on the behave of God

• Angels can never do anything on their own behave. Even satan could not do anything to Job until he got approval from God Himself. They are under the control of God, satan and his demons can’t enter a person unless they are invited in. They are not all-powerfully beings, but their power is limited to what God gives them and what to give up to them.

° 43 “When the unclean spirit has gone out of a person, it passes through waterless places seeking rest, but finds none. 44 Then it says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ And when it comes, it finds the house empty, swept, and put in order. 45 Then it goes and brings with it seven other spirits more evil than itself, and they enter and dwell there, and the last state of that person is worse than the first. So also will it be with this evil generation.” Matthew 12:43-45

II. Angels can bring good news of God’s promises – 10 The Lord said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. 12 So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?” 13 The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son.” 15 But Sarah denied it, saying, “I did not laugh,” for she was afraid. He said, “No, but you did laugh.” Genesis 18:9-15

a. Angels brought Abraham and Sarah good news of the Covenant

b. It is hard for us to believe that angels can bring the good news of God

• It is hard for us to understand or even believe that we have angels today that still bring us the good news of the gospel. We have been programed to believe that it is Jesus who gives us the blessing and not that he gives us blessing through the ambassadors of God, angels.

° 10 And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!” Luke 2:10-14

III. Angel are sent to show mercy before destruction – 4 But before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both young and old, all the people to the last man, surrounded the house. 5 And they called to Lot, “Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us, that we may know them.” 6 Lot went out to the men at the entrance, shut the door after him, 7 and said, “I beg you, my brothers, do not act so wickedly. 8 Behold, I have two daughters who have not known any man. Let me bring them out to you, and do to them as you please. Only do nothing to these men, for they have come under the shelter of my roof.” 9 But they said, “Stand back!” And they said, “This fellow came to sojourn, and he has become the judge! Now we will deal worse with you than with them.” Then they pressed hard against the man Lot, and drew near to break the door down. 10 But the men reached out their hands and brought Lot into the house with them and shut the door. 11 And they struck with blindness the men who were at the entrance of the house, both small and great, so that they wore themselves out groping for the door. Genesis 19:4-11

a. They went to Lot to tell him of the impending judgment

• It was Abraham’s prayer and request to spear Lot and his family that was in the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. It was not Lot’s life, it was not Lot’s walk with God, it was not Lots request for justice, that speared his life, it was his uncle’s relationship with God that speared his life.

° 32 Then he said, “Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there.” He answered, “For the sake of ten I will not destroy it.” 33 And the Lord went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place. Genesis 18:32-33

b. They can only perform miracles by the power of God

• I know that there are those who think that angels have some kind of miracle working power, but really that don’t. They only have the power to do what the Lord gives them to do. If the devil had the power to miracle power resurrect the dead, we would have a “walking dead apocalypse” daily. Only God has the power of giving life and eternal life. The devil has no power other than what the Lord allows him to have so he can do the Lord will and purpose.

° 1 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Romans 13:1

c. Lot’s daughters were virgins but married – Hum!

• Just a side not how many couples who are made never have intercourse with their spouse. None that I can think of. But in this story, we have Lot how has virgin daughters that are married. Even Lot said that they were!! Men not wanting to have intercourse with their wives are living in a dream world of something other than the marriage.

IV. Amid judgment angels were still helping the inexcusable – 17 And as they brought them out, one said, “Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away.” 18 And Lot said to them, “Oh, no, my lords. 19 Behold, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have shown me great kindness in saving my life. But I cannot escape to the hills, lest the disaster overtake me and I die. 20 Behold, this city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me escape there—is it not a little one?—and my life will be saved!” 21 He said to him, “Behold, I grant you this favor also, that I will not overthrow the city of which you have spoken. 22 Escape there quickly, for I can do nothing till you arrive there.” Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar. Genesis 19:17-22

a. The angels gave them directions for escape – “Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away

• The only reason Lot was shown an escape route out of the city was because of Abraham. Lot would have died in the city if were not for his uncle Abraham. Over the years of ministry, you hear it all. People trying to tell me that they know that they are alright with God because they have an angel watching over them. Listen, this is why many pastor will not tackle this issue, because they don’t want to give you the wrong impression of angiology. But I don’t have that problem. You don’t have an angel watching over you unless you have a Christian praying, defending, pleading on your behalf. This does not give you a right to live like a devil and one of God’s guardian’s watching over you. Stop it. The Godly angels will always lead you to Christ, the demons will always lead you away from Christ.

° 37 He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. 38 The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, 39 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. 40 Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. 41 The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, 42 and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 43 Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear. Matthew 13:37-43

b. Angels can’t do nothing unless God approves it – “for I can do nothing till you arrive there”

• The ruin of Sodom was suspended till he was secure. What care God does take of His people! What a proof of the love which God bore to a good though weak man! God rained fire and brimstone down on the earth not the angels, but angels can do nothing unless God approves it. But was it through the hands of the angels that God used to bring judgment or was it by the hands of God Himself. Both interoperations have merit. Just remember angels can do nothing unless God gives them the Ok.

° 11 For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways. Psalms 91:11

1. This is my interpretation of what this word means [↑](#footnote-ref-1)