

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE ROLE OF ANGELS

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PART 3: ANGELS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

There were two major supernatural events recorded in the Bible. The first was the creation of Adam and Eve and the second was the incarnation of Jesus to a human body. The first event was carried out by Jesus but the second event was handled by the Holy Spirit and God's holy angels.

In this week's message I want to examine the angel participation when it came to the incarnation of Jesus.

JOHN THE BAPTIST

The angel Gabriel is stationed in the throne room of God in heaven. He was sent to inform Zacharias that Elisabeth would finally become pregnant despite her old age and that their son would be the forerunner for the Messiah. **Luke 1:5-25**

John the Baptist was prophesied to the prophet Malachi some 455 years earlier. **Malachi 4:5-6**

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Gabriel was sent to a teenaged virgin named Mary six months after Elisabeth had become pregnant. He informed her that she would soon become pregnant by the Holy Spirit and that the son she would give birth to would be the long awaited Messiah. Mary would furnish a physical body of flesh and bones and the Holy Spirit would supply the blood. This physical body was to be inhabited by the Creator, Jesus Christ. **Luke 1:26-45**

This event had been prophesied some 700 years earlier. **Isaiah 7:14-16**

Since Mary was engaged to Joseph, an angel was also dispatched to let him know that Mary had not been unfaithful but was pregnant by the Holy Spirit. In those days, a virgin who was engaged and became pregnant by another man was automatically sentenced to death. **Matthew 1:18-25**

THE PROTECTION OF JESUS

The Jewish leadership refused to accept the fact that the Messiah had been born since it threatened their leadership and livelihood. King Herod wanted to protect his vassal kingdom and tried to eliminate Jesus. **Matthew 2:7-8**

The wise men were warned by God after seeing Jesus to avoid King Herod and not meet him again. **verses 9-12**

An angel told Joseph to leave immediately and go to Egypt. **verses 13-14**

It was the Devil that influenced King Herod to kill Jesus. However, since Satan is not all-knowing, he thought that he could kill Jesus by killing all male children in Bethlehem under the age of two. **verses 16-18; Revelation 12:4**



When King Herod was dead, an angel was once again dispatched to Joseph to say that it was safe to come back to Judea and on to Galilee. **Matthew 2:19-23**

Angels came and ministered to Jesus after he was tempted by the Devil. **Matthew 4:11**

Jesus had twelve legions (72,000) of angels available as a personal bodyguard. **Matthew 26:52-53**

PROTECTION FOR PETER

The Bible does not tell us why God did not send an angel to protect the apostle James, the brother of the apostle John. **Acts 12:1-2**

The murder of James was swift and the church had no chance to react, but when Herod arrested Peter and intended to murder him the next day, the church began a prayer meeting that stirred heaven and an angel was dispatched to get Peter out of prison. **verses 3-11**

Herod got what was coming to him when an angel killed him. **verses 18-23**

UNTIL THE END

The Book of Revelation is full of angelic actions in heaven and on earth, and once Jesus comes back to the earth, an angel will be given the assignment to lock up the Devil for a thousand years. **Revelation 20:1-3**

Christians from the time of Christ until now have on occasion been visited by angels. **Hebrews 13:2; 1:13-14**

We cannot give orders to the angels; they will not obey us. However, we can ask our heavenly Father in the name of Jesus to send angelic help.