WHEN ANGELS SPOKE, #1

INTRODUCTION

Angels of God are simply "messengers", who being present in the creation, rejoiced (Job 38:7). In the matter of inspiration and revelation, angels "desired" to know more about God's scheme of redemption, as it unfolded. 1 Pet. 1:12; Eph. 3:10-11. Then, often times the record will use the word "angel" interchangeably with "God" in various accounts of scripture.

There are several occasions where "angels spoke" in the present of man. Bear in mind that angels were never messengers of the <u>plan of salvation</u> itself, but sometimes appeared as <u>men</u>, and were involved indirectly with God's will being revealed. Let's look t a few of these occasions in the Bible.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, an angel speaks of REVERENCE FOR DEITY.

- A. An angel appeared at the burning bush, yet when something was said, it was attributed to GOD. Exo. 3:1-6
 - 1. At any rate, Moses was told to remove his shoes for the place he was standing on holy ground, being in the presence of deity.
 - 2. Moses respected the command, and was afraid to even look at the Lord.
- 3. The Israelites in Ezra's day showed reverence for God when His word was read to the people when preparing to rebuild the walls around Jerusalem upon their return. Neh. 8:5-6
- B. This reminds us of the reverence we need to have when assembling for, and engaging in, worship for God. Heb. 12:28
 - 1. Our physical appearance should be with a realization that God is present.
 - 2. A time of silence and meditation should characterize Christians while preparing to worship the Lord God, and the one making the opening announcements should not be half way through his announcements before those in the audience stop talking and laughing.
 - a. Wouldn't it be wonderful if women, and especially teenage girls, would cover their bodies and legs better than they sometimes are prone to do when they come into the worship assembly? 1 Tim. 2:9
 - b. In one large congregation, the men told the elders they were having indecent thoughts when they passed the emblems of the Lord's Supper down certain isles, when all they could see were bare legs.
 - c. From an article in Gospel Digest, June, 1961, are the following words by some unknown brother, entitled "THE WORLD KNOWS WHAT IS MODEST" Then, the words:

I recently came across an item of interest concerning the behaviour of American women aboard the Santa Maria when Portuguese rebels took over the ship. These women were afraid that the rebels might have 'designs' on them, so they left off wearing 'enticing' clothing. And what did these women of the world consider 'enticing apparel?' The very kind of clothing that preachers have been trying to convince Christians is immodest. It seems that the world knows what 'Christians' do not.

These women stopped appearing in shorts and halters, and quit swimming in the pool until they were satisfied the rebels had no designs on them. They had sense enough to know that such lack of clothing would tend to arouse lust in these men, so they wore clothing which covered more of the body.

But what about Christians? Do they have a responsibility to appear modestly dressed only when they are in imminent peril of bodily harm? Or, are they always responsible for dressing modestly? To ask that question should be enough. Christian girls and women, be sure you always behave yourselves in ways which are becoming as women professing godliness—**always**.

II. 2nd, angels are said to have "SPOKEN THE LAW".

- A. Though the Old Testament account speaks of GOD speaking the law, "angels" were somehow involved in the giving of the law of God.
 - 1. It is said that angels "ordained" the law (Gal. 3:19; Acts 7:53), and "spoke" the law (Heb. 2:2). [examine all 3 passages]
 - 2. Many times the scripture tells what angels did, yet the account is give <u>as if</u> it were God actually doing it.
- B. The law of God through Moses and ordained by Moses, represents the will of God for the Mosaical age, lasting from Mt. Sinai until the cross of Jesus.
 - 1. Angels are on the side of **law**, which involves commandments, obedience and punishment when disobeyed.
 - 2. The law was "stedfast" and handed out punishment for the disobedient. Heb. 2:2
 - 3. The law of the Lord for the gospel age was given by Christ, the Word of God, and revealed through His apostles, and recorded or our benefit, and it also requires strict obedience. Heb. 10:28-29

III. 3Rd, angels SPOKE AGAINST HOMOSEXUALITY.

- A. In Gen. 18 and 19, we have the story of 3 angels visiting Abraham, while one appears to be the Lord, while the other two appear as men, when they went to Sodom to visit with Lot, the nephew of Abraham.
 - 1. When they arrived in Sodom, the men of Sodom, being sexually perverted as homosexuals, wanted to lie sexually with the angels, and being stricken blind, they wearied to find the door to get to the angels who were in Lot's house.
 - 2. Finally, the angels told Lot and his family to get out of Sodom, and not look back, as God was going to destroy the city. Gen. 19:15-17
- B. This reminds us that we are to "get out" of evil when immorality is occurring in the form of homosexuality, (people of the same sex engaging in sexual perversion), and if we have ever been involved in such, to not look back at it with any enjoyment or even returning to such activity. Rom. 1:24-28; Jude 7;1 Cor. 6:9-10 (NASB); 1 Thess. 5:21-22; Luke 17:32

CONCLUSION

- I. There are other instances where angels spoke, that will be good for us to consider at a later time.
- A. Speaking of angels, it is said that they rejoice (speaking before God?) when sinners on the earth repent. Luke 15:1-10
- B. If you are lost in sin and have not yet obeyed the gospel, why not repent, and realize that angels in heaven rejoice at your repentance,
 - 1. Angels are not mediators, for we have only ONE mediator, who is Christ. 1 Tim. 2:5
 - 2. But, for angels to rejoice in your behalf shows they are on your side.
- II. If you are subject to the Lord's invitation, we urge you to respond, as together we stand and sing the song that has been selected.

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