

WHEN ANGELS SPOKE, #2

INTRODUCTION

In our last lesson in this 2 lesson series, we noted how and when angels are said to have spoken in Bible times, and we considered what they said. We noted that angels spoke with reference to the burning bush before Moses, and then at the giving of the law of Moses, and to the family of Lot in the condemnation of homosexuality. We continue our study of angels speaking with a few other instances of their doing such as recorded in the New Testament.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, angels spoke that man is to PROCLAIM ONLY GOD'S WORD.

- A. In the Old Testament we have the account of a man named Balak, who wanted Balaam to prophesy evil against the Israelites.
1. (Summarize the whole account from Numbers 22 and 23).
 2. Note how the angel said several times that *only the word of the Lord* should be spoken.
 - a. Balaam tried to speak against Israel, but when told to pronounce a curse, ONLY a blessing would be pronounced from his words.
 - b. Three times it is said that God's angel told him to speak ONLY the word of the Lord. Num. 22:31-35; 23:5, 11-12
- B. Today, we must teach and preach ONLY the gospel truth, the word of the Lord, apart from human doctrines. Matt. 15:9; Gal. 1:8-9; 1 Pet. 4:11

II. 2nd, angels only spoke to FURTHER, NOT REVEAL, GOD'S PLAN.

- A. God's plan of redemption involved the GOSPEL of Christ, which was to be for ALL the world (both Jews and Gentiles, or non-Jews). Rom. 1:16
1. It took about 10 years for the Jews to realize that the gospel was not for them only, but for GENTILES as well.
 2. An angel spoke to a Gentile named Cornelius, to get him in contact with a preacher named Peter. Acts 10:1-6; cf 11:15
 3. Then, Peter had a vision that some Gentiles were coming to him and he was to receive them and speak the truth. Acts 11:11-18 (Read and discuss)
- B. Today, angels are NOT messengers offering salvation, but God has chosen that the gospel be proclaimed by MEN, human beings. 2 Cor. 4:5-7
1. When Jesus appeared to Saul on the road to Damascus, He did not tell Saul what to do to be saved, but there would be a MAN in Damascus who would tell him.
 2. From the beginning of Christianity, God has used MEN to make the gospel known.

III. 3rd, an angel said GOD IS THE ONLY OBJECT OF WORSHIP.

- A. On two occasions, as John was on the Isle of Patmos receiving the contents of the book of Revelation, he was informed that GOD (not angels) are to be honored in worship.
1. 1st, some "being" admonished John not to worship HIM, for he was a servant of God, as was John, and he was to worship only God. Rev. 19:(1-9) 10
 2. 2nd, one being, **clearly an angel**, who was also a servant of God, admonished John NOT to worship him, an angel, but to worship GOD. Rev. 20:7-9
- B. We are thus reminded that ONLY GOD is our proper object of worship. Matt. 4:10; John 4:23-24

IV, 4th, we note that angels SPOKE OF THE RESURRECTION.

- A. When certain women came to the tomb where Jesus had been buried, there was an angel of God who told them that Jesus was not there, as He had arisen. Matt. 28:1-8
- B. We have the assurance of the written word that Jesus WAS risen from the grave, as the firstfruits of OUR also being risen when the Lord returns and we who have died will be raised to meet Him. 1 Thess. 4:14-17

V. 5th, we note that angels SPOKE OF THE COMINGS OF CHRIST.

- A. To the shepherds near Bethlehem, angels spoke of Jesus' birth, His first coming. Luke 2:8-14
- B. Then, to the apostles, as Jesus ascended to heaven after accomplishing His mission on earth, spoke of the ultimate second coming of Jesus at the end of time. Acts 1:9-11

CONCLUSION

- I. There may be other occasions where angels spoke, but these should be sufficient to remind us of God's will for us.
- II. God wills that all be saved by obeying the gospel of Christ.
 - A. if you have not yet obeyed the Lord in baptism, now is a good time to do it.
 - B. If you have obeyed, but have departed from God's favor, it is a good time for you to do so as well.

Don Tarbet