Beyond The Veil
Angels and Demons
Troy Knight

Key Scripture:

Psalm 91:11 (NLT)
11 For he will order his angels to protect you wherever you go.

1 Peter 5:8 (NLT)
8 Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

John 8:44 (NLT)
44 For you are the children of your father the devil, and you love to do the evil things he does. He was a murderer from the beginning. He has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Daniel 10:12–13 (NLT)
12 Then he said, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer. 13 But for twenty-one days the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the archangels, came to help me, and I left him there with the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia.

Ezekiel 28:15–17 (NLT)
15 “You were blameless in all you did from the day you were created until the day evil was found in you. 16 Your rich commerce led you to violence, and you sinned. So I banished you in disgrace from the mountain of God. I expelled you, O mighty guardian, from your place among the stones of fire.
17 Your heart was filled with pride because of all your beauty. Your wisdom was corrupted by your love of splendor. So I threw you to the ground and exposed you to the curious gaze of kings.

TALK IT OVER

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What is the most unexplainable "close call" or moment of protection you have ever experienced in your life?

Start sharing. These questions are to help get your group thinking and to create openness.

- **Read Psalm 91:11.** How does the Biblical promise of angelic protection change the way we view our physical safety? What prevents us from trusting God with the random, everyday events we typically fear?

- **Read Daniel 10:12-13**. What does Daniel’s delayed answer reveal about the spiritual battles happening over our prayers? Why is persistence in prayer a vital spiritual weapon rather than just a repetitive habit?

- Why is the angels' track record of obeying God "immediately, joyfully, and without question" the ultimate standard for believers? Which of those three traits do you find hardest to practice in your own walk with God?

- **Read 1 Peter 5:8**. Why does Satan intentionally target isolated or spiritually wounded believers instead of attacking a unified group? What role does the local church play in protecting us from becoming easy prey?

- **Read Ezekiel 28:15-17.** How does the prophet Ezekiel trace the origin of sin directly back to Satan's pride over his own beauty? Why is pride the fastest way to invite a spiritual fall in our own lives?

- **Read John 8:44**. How does Jesus' description of Satan as a murderer and a liar expose the danger of dabbling in the occult or horror media? Why is it impossible to safely compromise with demonic influences?

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Identify one area of your life where you have been hesitating to obey God. Commit to obeying Him "immediately, joyfully, and without question" this week, trusting that He sees your faithfulness.

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- Father, thank You for the unseen protection and ministry of Your angels. Help us to see the battles happening around us and the persistence to pray without ceasing. Expose any areas of pride or isolation in our lives, and give us the strength to obey You immediately and joyfully. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Devotional

Do Humans Become Angels When They Die?

During this week's message, Pastor Troy quickly debunked a popular cultural myth: the idea that humans turn into angels when they die. Whether it is Hollywood movies claiming that "every time a bell rings, an angel gets his wings," or well-meaning loved ones saying that a departed friend "gained their wings," this is a widespread misunderstanding of the spiritual realm.

As Pastor Troy noted, humans and angels are entirely different species. Here is why this biblical distinction actually offers us a much greater hope.

1. Distinct Creations God created angels before He created the earth (Job 38:4-7). They are spiritual beings designed to serve God as messengers, warriors, and ministers (Hebrews 1:14). Humans, however, were created on the sixth day of creation uniquely in the "image of God" (Genesis 1:26). Angels are never said to be created in God's image.

2. A Different Destiny Because humans and angels are different beings, they have different destinies. When angels rebelled, they became demons and were permanently eternally condemned; Jesus did not become an angel to save angels (Hebrews 2:16). But when humans rebelled, God sent His own Son in human flesh to redeem us. Because of the cross, believers will eventually be resurrected with physical, glorified bodies, not as ethereal spirits (1 Corinthians 15:42-44).

3. A Greater Glory Many people think becoming an angel is an upgrade, but the Bible reveals something far more magnificent for redeemed humans. First Corinthians 6:3 tells us that believers will actually *judge* angels. Because we are co-heirs with Christ (Romans 8:17), the eternal status of a redeemed human being is actually higher than that of an angel.

Reflection:

How does knowing you are uniquely made in God's image and redeemed by Christ's blood give you a deeper sense of worth than the cultural myth of becoming an angel?

Adapted directly from GotQuestions.org: Do people become angels after they die?