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THE FUNDAMENTALS OF THE FAITH

Reading: Hebrews 1:1-14

“ WE BELIEVE THAT,”

9. THE SCRIPTURES SPEAK ABOUT THE MINISTRY OF ANGELS

Three days into D.L. Moody's voyage from Southampton, to America, he was resting on his bed, thank God for traveling mercies when suddenly he was startled by a terrible crash and shock, as if the vessel had been driven on a rock. His son jumped from his berth and rushed on deck. *He returned within a few moments to tell his father that the shaft was broken and the vessel was sinking.* Moody at first did not believe it could be so bad but he went on deck himself only to discover that the news was only too true. Moody found himself consumed with panic, and as the day wore on, his fear deepened. Evening came and Moody said, “ *It was an awful night, the darkest in all our lives. Seven hundred men, women and children, waiting for the doom that was settling upon us. No one dared to sleep. We were all together in the saloon of the first cabin, Jews, Protestants, Catholics and skeptics, the agony and suspense were too great for words.* ” The night passed then another day. On the second evening of the crisis Moody asked the captain for permission to hold a service. Nearly every passenger attended. Moody says,

“ With one hand clasping a pillar to steady myself on the reeling vessel, I tried to read the 91st Psalm, and we prayed to that God would still the raging of the sea and bring us to our desired haven. It was a new Psalm to me from that hour. The eleventh verse touched me very deeply. It was like the voice of divine assurance, and it seemed a very real thing as I read, ‘ He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.’ Surely he did it.” Moody went to his cabin, found relief in personal prayer, and fell asleep. About three o'clock in the morning, his son awoke him with the news that the steamer Lake Huron has seen their flares and was approaching to rescue them. Do you believe in the ministry of angels ? Do you even believe in their existence ? Angels have been in vogue in Hollywood and in pop culture for some time now. The demonic world has long been a popular theme in television and films. Movies, television, shows, figurines, books, magazine articles and seminars, angels are everywhere.

This would seem to be good news. After all, the Bible does have a lot to say about them mentioning them almost three hundred times. *Should we not welcome such an interest in this Biblical topic ?* Well, interest in a Biblical topic is no use if we are not Biblical about the topic. All too often, the only connect between the current angel-mania and the Bible is the teaching that angels exist. You see, the Bible takes us in an entirely different direction on the matter of angels than the current obsession with them. The modern take on angels is often nothing more than an attempt to get around God. An article in Time magazine put it like this, “ *For those who choke too easily on God*

and his rules angels are the handy compromise, all that fluff and meringue, kind and nonjudgmental. They are available to everyone like aspirin.” (Angels, Roger Ellsworth p, 11-12) But the Bible takes us in a different direction, it teaches us about angels so that we can adore the God of angels. Now while angels may be popular in the culture of the world, for too long they have been neglected in the company of the saved. Edward Bickersteth author of the hymn “ *Peace, perfect peace says,*

No part of divine truth can be neglected without spiritual loss, and it is too evident that the deep and mysterious doctrine of Revelation, respecting evil spirits and good angels has been to far too much disregarded in our age. This has arisen, on the one hand, from the wide spread of infidel principles and on the other from the unscriptural, idolatrous and extravagant attention paid to this subject in the Church of Rome, in which the good angels are worshipped and the evil spirits brought forward to foster delusions. But we gain no solid ground over Popery by omitting the truths which have been corrupted and abused. Our duty is rather to take forth the precious from the vile, and hold fast the single and plain truth for us and our children, thus shall we be as God’s mouth to His people.
(Jer 15:19)

You see, because of Catholicism, Paganism, Rationalism, and Occultism angels have been neglected. Perfection and righteousness aren’t very interesting to many people, they are much more interested in hearing about demons. Yet

the Bible affirms the existence of angels. Their existence was,

1. Denied by the Sadducees:

There have always been people who don’t believe in angels. Some religious leaders in Israel didn’t believe in angels. The Bible says, “ *The Sadducees say that there is no resurrection, neither angel, nor spirit.*” The Sadducees were the rationalists, the materialists of their day. They were Jewish liberals who did not accept the resurrection despite the teaching of the Old Testament on the subject. (Job 19:26-27 Ps 16:10) The Sadducees also denied the existence of angels. Their existence was 1, but it was,

2. Declared in the Scriptures:

Angels are mentioned in thirty four books of the Bible for a total of some 273 times, 108 times in the Old Testament and 165 times in the New Testament. Throughout the Old Testament, angels are presented as personal beings, who are the messengers and ministers of God. Moreover, angels are inextricable part of New Testament revelation. Who announced the birth of Christ ? (Lk 2:8) Who told the shepherds were to go ? (Lk 2:12) Who came to Christ at His temptation and ministered to Him ? (Matt 4:11) Who went to Christ’s tomb and announced His resurrection ? (Matt 28:2) Who freed Peter and John from jail ? (Acts 5:19) **Angels.** Why if angels didn’t exist, accounts of their marvelous interventions would be lies, spiritual warfare would be non-existent, and the book of Revelation would be reduced to chapter headings since

angels appear nearly on every page. But do you know something ? The greatest single testimony to the existence of angels comes from the Lord Jesus Himself for He referred to angels on many occasions. (Matt 18:10, 22:30 24:31 26:53) Now I want to be selective rather than exhaustive this so I want you to notice,

(1) THE GOD OF THE ANGELS

You see, the angels ought to drive us to God. What do the angels teach us about God ? They tell us something about,

(a) *THE GREATNESS OF GOD:*

1. Have you ever considered the Power of the Angels ?

They are beings of great might and power. David talks about angels that “ *excel in strength.* ” (Ps 103:20) What does this say about God ? For God is their Creator. Once there were no angels. That means they were created. Nehemiah says, “ *Thou, even thou, art Lord alone, thou has made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all things that are in it.* ” God created heaven and earth, as well as the earthly and angelic creatures that dwell therein. The Psalmist says, “ *Praise ye him, all ye his angels, praise ye him all his hosts. Praise ye him, sun and moon, praise him, all ye stars of light. Praise him, ye heaven of heavens and ye waters that are above the heavens. Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.* ” (148:2-5) Like the heavens and the earth, angels were created by the command of God. When were they created ? Apparently

before time began, before this material universe was brought into existence. It’s obvious that angels were created before man because some of them had fallen before Satan tempted Eve to sin. In the beautiful words with which Jehovah answered Job out of the whirlwind we get a hint as to the time when the angels came into being. Look if will at (Job 38:4-7) ***What are the angels the morning stars singing and shouting about ?*** They are rejoicing at the creation of the earth, so we know their creation predates that. By one command God called into being millions of distinct angelic beings. My if the angels excel in strength what does this say about their Creator ? Is not the Creator greater than the creature ? If the angels excel in strength, how much more does God excel in strength ?

2. Have you ever considered the Number of the Angels ?

How many angels are there ? Do you recall that at the birth of Christ there appeared “ *a multitude of heavenly host, praising God.* ” (Lk 2:13) But don’t stop there. Do you remember at the Lord’s arrest He told His disciples he could have asked the Father for “ *more than twelve legions of angels,* ” to defend Him. (Matt 26:53) Now a legion consisted of three to six thousand men, that means that twelve legions would number between thirty six and seventy two thousands angels. But don’t stop there. For John says in the book of Revelation “ *I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels and the number of them was ten thousand times, ten thousand, and thousands of thousands.* ” That’s 100 million and untold thousands besides. David Jeremiah says, “ *To give you a perspective*

on many angels this is, the average football stadium in America holds about 50,000 people. It would take some 2,000 stadiums of that size to hold 100,000,000 people. The total number of angels John saw may have far exceeded 100,000,000.” (Angels, Roger Ellsworth, p, 12) But don't stop there. For the writer to the Hebrews says, “ *Ye are come unto Mount Zion and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels.* ” (Heb 12:22) My there are far too many to be counted. Now when you consider the power of the angels and the number of the angels do you not see the greatness of God ? No wonder we sing “ ***How great Thou art,*** ” for how much power does God have ? There is no way to calculate it. This much is sure. He has enough strength to save you, to keep you, and to bring you to glory. Is He not powerful enough to deal with your problems, to resolve your difficulties, to save your family ? “ *Is anything too hard for the Lord ?* ” (Gen 18:14)

(b) THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD:

How God governs His invisible army ? Look if you will at (Col 1:16) Now notice that Paul divides creation into two distinct spheres. There is the sphere of heaven in which invisible beings exist and there is the realm of earth in which visible beings exist. The one sphere is no less real because it is invisible. Now angels are divided into ranks. Do you see how Paul puts it ? “ *Thrones, or dominions, or principalities or powers,* ” (1:16) Of course these angels were created to serve and glorify God. Now at the time Satan rebelled against God he started on a campaign

to persuade the angels to rebel against God and he was successful. Indeed one third of the angelic host followed him (Rev 12:4 Ez 28:18) and this group of angels which Satan led he brought together to form a system like God's. We see this in (Eph 6: 12) where Paul talks about “ *principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.* ” You see, these 4 ranks that Satan has instituted correspond to the 4 ranks mentioned in (Col Ch 1) that God has instituted. So these angels chose to follow Satan and they are now known as demons or fallen angels and it's through these demons that Satan carries on his work. You see, there are various types of angels. There is Michael the archangel. (Jude 9) His name means “ *Who is like God ?* ” Then there is Gabriel. His name means “ *The Mighty One.* ” (Lk 1:19) Some Christians refer to him as an archangel but without Scriptural foundation.

Then there are the Cherubim, brought before us in Ezekiel (Ch 1) and the Seraphim brought before us in Isaiah (Ch 6) High ranking angels always seen in connection with the throne of God. Then in addition to this the Bible mentions thrones, dominions, principalities and powers. You see, the different kinds of angels underscore the government of God, the wisdom of God. How very wise, God must be to be able to make such a variety of beings. ***How wise is God ?*** He is certainly wise enough to plan, to provide and to procure salvation for us. Is He not wise enough to guide when perplexed, to direct you when confused, and to instruct you when bewildered ? (a) (b)

(c) THE GOODNESS OF GOD:

Some would have us believe that God made the world only to leave it to itself. According to them, God made it and then walked away. But the Psalmist says that the angels of God are “ *ministers of his that do his pleasure.* ” (103:21) The angels are “ *ministering spirits sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation.* ” (Heb 1:14) Roger Ellsworth reminds us that the Bible abounds with instances such as these. An angel encouraged Gideon. (Judges 6:12) An angel gave guidance to Joseph (Matt 2:19-20) An angel gave directions to Philip. (Acts 8:26) An angel boarded a ship to encourage Paul. (Acts 27:23-24) An angel hurried a saint out of a doomed city. ***Another appeared to a donkey and caused a prophet to act like a donkey.*** Another baked a cake for a prophet, it was called “ *Angel Delight.* ” Another protected a man of God from becoming lunch for lions. Another engineered a jailbreak for an apostle. My do you see something of the goodness of God in giving us His angels to minister to our needs ?

(d) THE GLORY OF GOD:

The glory of God is all that God is, worthy to receive our obedience and worship. The angels obey God. The psalmist says, “ *Bless the Lord ye his angels that excel in strength, that do his commandments hearkening unto the voice of his word.* ” (Ps 103:20) Now we have seen that angels are capable of disobedience. Satan led one third of the angelic host in rebellion against God. But the angels who did not join in that rebellion surely leant lessons from

it and now serve God faithfully. Like the angels do you heed God’s Word ? (James 1:22) Do you see that rebellion only brings ruin and heartache ? The angels worship God. You see, they are praising beings. They engage in the direct worship of God. The psalmist says, “ *God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him.* ” (Ps 89:7 Rev 5:11-12 7:11-12) Isaiah says of the seraphim above God’s throne, “ *Each one had six wings with twain he covered his face, with twain he covered his feet and with twain he did fly. And one cried unto another and said, Holy, holy, holy.* ” (Is 6:3) Is that not an expression of worship ? Why when creation came into being, the angels sang. (Job 38:7) They enjoy the glory of God’s person and the glory of God’s works. What about you ? If the angels enjoy God, do you ? If the angels, find reason to praise God, do you ? The writer to the Hebrews says, “ *By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.* ” (Heb 13:15) (1)

(2) THE NATURE OF THE ANGELS

You see, angels are not supernatural robots, rather,

(a) THEY ARE PERSONAL BEINGS:

Probably no two alike and they have the three necessary features required of personality. They have,

1. Intellect:

Lucifer in his original state was “*full of wisdom.*” (Ezek 28:12) Do you recall that it was Gabriel who unfolded to Daniel the seventy weeks relating to the nation of Israel ? The Bible says “ *And he (Gabriel) informed me and talked with me and said O Daniel I am come forth to give thee skill and understanding.* ” (9: 22) Following the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, “ *the angel answered and said unto the women, Fear not ye, for I know that ye seek Jesus which was crucified.* ” (Matt 28:5) Angels are knowledgeable beings who are able to communicate. Do you recall that it was an angel who showed to John the judgment of the great whore in (Rev Ch 17) ? Now angels don’t know everything because they are not omniscient like God (Matt 24:36) but it seems that they are **stronger** than men (2 Pet 2:11) **smarter** than men (Dan 9:21-22, 10:) and **swifter** than men. (Dan 9:21 Rev 14:6)

Peter tells us that salvation is something the angels “*desire to look into.*” (1 Pet 1:12) Isn’t that amazing ? The word “*desire,*” is a strong word referring to a passionate look. “*To look into,*” (parakupto) is used in the gospels of Peter, John, and Mary stooping down and looking into the empty tomb. (Jn 20:5, 11) The expression is beautiful, the angels are bending down with earnest desire fixing their intense gaze on the wonders of God’s salvation. My if the angels find ever fresh fields of interest in the sufferings of Christ and the glory that should follow, should not we also ?

2. Emotion:

They display joy. They sang together at the work of creation. (Job 38:7) And don’t forget they rejoice at the work of salvation for “ *there is joy in the presence of the angels over one sinner that repenteth.* ” (Lk 15:10)

3. Will:

Why, in this opening chapter of Hebrews God is appealing to the angelic will when He says, “ *when he bringeth in the firstbegotten into the world he saith, and let all the angels of God worship him.* ” (1:6) That God invited the angels to worship the Christ child indicates that they had a choice to do so. Unfortunately, Lucifer will’s revealed itself in a prideful way and that was the cause of his downfall. (Is 14:13-14) So angels have personalities. They are not spirits floating around without personalities. They are personal beings.

(b) THEY ARE SPIRITUAL BEINGS:

“ *Are they not all ministering spirits ?* ” (1:14) Angels in their ordinary form of being are spirits without physical bodies. (Lk 24:39) This does not mean however, that they have not appeared to men in visible and even human form. Do you recall this happened to Abraham and Sarah when “ *three men,* ” (Gen 18:2) showed up at the door of their tent to announce that Sarah would have a son at the age of ninety. (Gen 17:17) The custom of the day was to be hospitable to strangers, and Abraham went all out for them. One of the men was God Himself, the Lord Jesus to be more specific in a pre-incarnate appearance because His promise to Abraham was personal “ *I will certainly*

return unto thee according to the time of life and lo Sarah thy wife shall a son.” (Gen 18:10) The other two **men** were actually angels whom God had sent to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah. (Gen 18:20-22 19:1) So when God chooses to let angels appear before human beings they nearly always appear as men (Zech 5:9) indeed when the word angel is used in the Scriptures it is always in the masculine form. So angels are (a) (b)

(c) THEY ARE FUNCTIONAL BEINGS:

They are not merely heaven’s window dressings. They are functional beings created to fulfill certain responsibilities. I think that we could say that their most important job is to worship God. Isaiah saw the cherubim in the temple and they cried out “ *Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts the whole earth is full of his glory.* (Is 6:3) The book of Revelation says that the four beasts who are angelic beings “ *Rest not day and night saying holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.*” (Rev 4:8) They also execute the program of God. E. Y. Mullins states,

Our English word is from the Greek word angelos, meaning one sent, a messenger. This Greek word is a translation of the Hebrew word malakh, which also means messenger. Angels then are God’s servants or messengers. They do His will in many ways. They are also servants of the saints of God on earth.

In other words, they are God’s staff to carry out His will.

(Dan 4:13, 17 Rev 7:2-3) Now the Lord could do it all Himself, but He has chosen to work through His creatures, angels and believers to execute His will. The third job of angels is the one you are probably most interested in because it affects us most directly. We’re told that angels are “ *ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation.*” (1:14) Angels minister to the saints in cooperation with the will of God. But there is no evidence that unbelievers benefit from the ministry of angels. Well, what is,

(3) THE MINISTRY OF THE ANGELS

Well think of their ministry,

(a) IN RELATION TO GOD:

1. They Worship God:

John says “ *And I beheld, and I heard the voice of many angels round about the throne and the beasts and the elders and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands saying with a loud voice, worthy is the Lamb*” (Rev 5:11-12) You see, the primary ministry of the angels is to worship God. 1.

2. They Serve God:

What a picture we have of Gabriel in relation to the birth of Christ, waiting until God gives specific orders to carry out. The words of Gabriel are significant, “ *I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God.*” (Lk 1:19) Apparently

Gabriel stood in God's presence until he received orders. His order in (Lk Ch 1) was to announce to the virgin Mary that she would soon bear the Son of God. (Gal 3:19 Rev 7:2-3) Angel serve God, they are active behind the scene of governments (Dan 4:13-17 10:13) they assist God in plans He has for world government. (Rev 8:1-8)

(b) IN RELATION TO CHRIST:

Did angels not announce His birth ? (Lk 2:9) Did they not protect His life ? It was an angel that warned Joseph to leave Israel, it was an angel that told him to return. (Matt 2:19) Do you recall that in the Garden of Gethsemane “ there appeared, an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him.” (Lk 22:43) Was it not angels who announced the resurrection of Christ ? (Matt 28:6) What about His second coming ? Did angels not predict it ? (Acts 1:10-11) Indeed, will angels not participate in it ? (Matt 25:31)

(c) IN RELATION TO BELIEVERS:

Look if you will at (Heb 1:14) Roger Ellsworth says, “ *It is an incredible irony that so many are trying to use the angels to bypass Christ, while the angels themselves are commissioned to serve only those who know Christ.* ” (Angels, Roger Ellsworth, p, 84) Now how do the angels minister to the saints ?

1. BY WATCHING:

- *They Watch the Elders:*

For in the context of pastoral instruction, Paul says to Timothy, “ *I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality.* ” (1 Tim 5:21)

- *They Watch the Church:*

Paul tells us in (Eph 3:10) that God is using the church here and now as an object lesson for angelic beings good and evil to teach them some of His manifold wisdom. *We never think of the angels when we come to worship do we ?* But they are watching us, looking at our appearance and dress. (1 Cor 4:9) When a Christian woman or girl comes into a gathering for worship with her head covered she becomes to the angels an object lesson of divine submission. What a rebuke she is to the wicked angels for remember there was a time when within the angelic ranks one of the angels rose up in rebellion against the headship of God. (Rev 12:4) There was rebellion against the authority of God, and now what God is doing is this. He's showing the redeemed people to the angels. God is saying, “ *I will show you in another company that I have redeemed, and who love me, headship in action.* ” My what a wonder to the angels as they peer into the fellowship of God's people to see a man with his head uncovered and a woman with her head covered accepting God's order of things.

2. BY PROTECTING:

Was it not an angel who protected three godly men in the midst of a burning fiery furnace ? (Dan 3:25) Was it not an angel who “ *shut the lion’s mouth ?* ” (Dan 6:22) Was it not an angel who protected Paul in that ship that was being driven across the Mediterranean ? (Acts 27:23) My God’s angels protect God’s people from physical danger. John G. Paton was a missionary in the New Hebrides Islands. Hostile natives surrounded his mission headquarters one intent on burning the Patons out and killing them. John Paton and his wife prayed all during that terror-filled night that God would deliver them. When daylight came they were amazed to see the attackers leave. They thanked God for delivering them. A year later the chief of the tribe was saved, and Mr. Paton remembering what had happened, asked the chief what had kept and his men from burning down the house and killing them. The chief replied in surprise, “ ***Who were all those men you had with you there ?*** ” The missionary answered, “ *There were no men there just my wife and I.* ”

The chief argued that they had seen many men standing guard, hundreds of big men in shining garments with drawn swords in their hands. They seemed to circle the mission station so that the natives were afraid to attack. *Did God dispatch a legion of angels to His protect His servants ?* It wouldn’t have been the first time. Do you recall when Elisha and his servant were surrounded by the Syrian army ? “ *And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master how shall we do ? And Elisha prayed and said, Lord I pray thee open his eyes that he may see. And the Lord opened the eyes of the young man and he saw and*

behold the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha. ” (2 Kings 6:17) The psalmist says, “ *He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways.* ” (Ps 91:11) My God’s angels are truly amazing beings. They protect us, and that knowledge should free us from many of the worries that we tend to have about accidents, disease or other kinds of danger. *What about the matter of guardian angels ?* Well, look at (Matt 18:10) Now why are the angels of these children looking into the face of God ? Surely, in the context of Christ’s warning, they are waiting for God to tell them what He wants them to do with the person who is messing over His kids. *Does this not suggest that children have guardian angels ? What about adults ?* Do you recall when Peter was released from prison he went to the house of Mary where believers had gathered to pray for his release ? However, the believers refused to believe that God had answered their prayer. Do you recall what they said to Rhoda when she came insisting that Peter was at the door ? “ ***It is his angel.*** ” (Acts 12:15)

In other words there was a belief in the early church that believers had angels assigned to them. Certainly Peter did because his angel showed up and got him out of jail. You know we speak of each believer having his or her guardian angel, but I wonder are we cheating ourselves ? For the psalmist speaks of all the angels being rallied for the protection of one saint. (Ps 91:11-12) Spurgeon says, “ ***Not one guardian angel but all the angels are here alluded to in (Ps 91) They garrison the body, soul, and spirit of the saint. Whether they repel demons, counteract spiritual plots or even ward off the subtler***

physical forces of disease, we do not know. Perhaps we shall one day stand amazed at the multiplied services which the unseen bands have rendered us.” Isn’t it wonderful to know that God’s angels protects us ? They take care of us on the motorway, on the plane, in the ship. They protect our children. I tell you God’s invisible army can do things for them that I couldn’t do even if I were with them.

3. BY ENCOURAGING:

Do you recall it was an angel that ministered to Elijah when he was under a juniper tree ? (1 Kings 19:5) Do you remember that it was an angel that encouraged Paul in the midst of the storm ? (Acts 27:24) An angel strengthened the Lord Jesus after His temptation and in the Garden of Gethsemane. (Matt 4:11 Lk 22:43) And is it not encouraging to know that angels attend the death beds of saints ? “ *And it came to pass that the beggar died and was carried by the angels into Abraham’s bosom.* ” (Lk 16:22) In his life time, the beggar had dogs as his companions but, at death a retinue of angels bore him to a land that is fairer than day. Can you imagine it, having angels as your convoy at death, to bring you into the presence of the King ?

**Angels of mercy, angels of light
Waiting to welcome, pilgrims of the night**

Should we worship angels ? No. Don’t let anyone trick you into worshipping angels. John fell down at the feet of

an angel to worship him but the angel said to him, “ *See thou do it not, worship God.* ” (Rev 19:10 Col 2:18) *You see, the angels ought to drive us to God, for how good God is.* We have the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, ministering to our spiritual needs, we have angels around us taking care of our physical needs. *The angels ought to drive us to Christ, for how great Christ is.* No angel is ever addressed as Son. Angels are servants and they worship Christ as the Divine Son. (1:7-8) Christ is superior to angels in **Sonship:** (1:2) in **Worship:** (1:6) in **Heirship:** (1:2) in **Kingship:** (1:3) and in **Rulership.** (1:13) Our trust then is not in angels but in Christ “ *who displays superior power and guardian grace.* ”

