

**Bible Study: Entertaining Strangers—or Are They Angels?**  
**Discussion #1**  
**Campus Lutheran Church**  
**Facilitator: John Butcher**

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares."  
—Hebrews 13:2.

"You should be certain that angels are protecting you when you go to sleep. Yea, that they are protecting you also in all your business, whether you enter or leave your home."  
--Martin Luther

"Christians should never fail to sense the operation of an angelic glory. It forever eclipses the world of demonic powers, as the sun does a candle's light."  
--Billy Graham

"When my time to die comes an angel will be there to comfort me. He will give me peace and joy even at that most critical hour, and usher me into the presence of God, and I will dwell with the Lord forever. Thank God for the ministry of His blessed angels." --Billy Graham

"Angels are spirits, but it is not because they are spirits that they are angels. They become angels when they are sent. For the name angel refers to their office, not their nature. You ask the name of this nature, it is spirit; you ask its office, it is that of an Angel, which is a messenger."  
-- St. Augustine

"An angel is a spiritual creature created by God for the service of Christendom and the church."  
--Martin Luther

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**Discussion I (Myths and Old Wives' Tales):**

I. How should we go about examining the Scriptures, especially in studying a popular subject like angels? Why should we study angels? Are there any caveats for Christians in approaching this topic?

- a. 1 Tim. 4: 7-8
- b. Rom. 10: 17
- c. Luke 17:5

II. Myths about Angels

A. We can't discover much about angels from the Bible. We need to look at tradition and other sources.

B. We can't grow spiritually if we study angels.

C. God fired the angels after the OT was fulfilled in Christ.

- a. Gal. 3: 24-25
- b. Col. 2: 14
- c. 2 Peter 1: 20-21

D. God doesn't need angels. After all, He's God!

- a. 2 Tim. 3: 16-17
- b. Acts 23: 6-9
- c. Matt. 18: 10; Heb. 1: 14

E. Some angels are female.

- a. Gen 18: 2; Mark 16:5
- b. Matt. 22: 29-32; Luke 20: 35-37

F. Angels have wings, halos, harps, etc.

- a. Isa. 6: 1-6 (Seraphim have 6 wings.)
- b. Gen. 3: 24
- c. 2 Sam. 22: 11; Ps. 18:10 (celestial vehicles)
- d. 1 Cor. 13

G. Angels are pure spirit, not body.

- a. Phil. 2: 5-7; 3: 20-21
- b. Heb. 1: 1-13;
- c. Col 2. :8-9
- d. 1 Cor. 15: 40-42

H. Christians should not worship angels.

- a. Col. 2: 18
- b. Ex. 20: 3-5
- c. Acts 10: 25-26 (Peter)
- d. Rev. 19: 10; Rev. 22: 8-9

I. Angels do not have personal feelings.

- a. 1 Peter 1: 10-12
- b. Lk. 15:10

This discussion series will also consider the following weekly topics:

Discussion II: Angels in OT

Discussion III: Angels in NT

Discussion IV: Jesus and Angels

Discussion V: The Work of Angels

Discussion VI: Iconography of Angels

Discussion VII: Fiction and Angels

Discussion VIII: Grand Finale

If you have any other suggestions or just want to write to me, I'm at my e-mail:

[jwbutcher@mchsi.com](mailto:jwbutcher@mchsi.com) or home phone: 449-0223.

In Christ,  
John Butcher