

Junior Sabbath School Lessons

FIRST YEAR, THIRD QUARTER

An angel with large, feathered white wings and a glowing halo stands on a rustic wooden bridge. She is dressed in a long, flowing white robe. Two children, a boy and a girl, are standing on the bridge with her. The boy is on the left, wearing a hat and a light-colored shirt, and the girl is on the right, wearing a red dress and a blue apron. The background is a dark, starry night sky with a bright star visible. The overall scene is peaceful and ethereal.

Angels

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SABBATH SCHOOL LESSONS

FIRST YEAR, THIRD QUARTER

ANGELS

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An Angel Walked with Me

Last night I wandered sad and lone;
The light I could not see.
Then suddenly amid the gloom
An angel walked with me.
I did not see his face but felt
His radiant presence near,
And then there was no night at all
But sunlight everywhere.

I know that some will say I dreamed
Or had a fantasy;
But I still say and always will—
An angel walked with me.
God sends His shining messengers
Again and yet again,
To soothe our weary, anxious souls
And heal our hearts of pain.

O ye who doubt, fresh courage take;
Somewhere the skies are bright,
And ever o'er earth's sin and gloom,
Shines heaven's eternal light.
Once I was wandering sad and lone;
The light I could not see;
But now my heart is filled with joy—
An angel walked with me.

—*Bessie Brent Winston*



Created Beings

MEMORY VERSE: "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." Revelation 5:11.

FACTS

When God created this earth, everything was designed and formed according to a specific order or pattern. This was true for things not only on the earth but also in heaven. On earth God started the order of families, each of which is made up of a man (husband and father), a woman (wife and mother), and their children. Similarly, the heavenly family consists of God the Father, Jesus the Son, the Holy Spirit, and the angelic host. God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit have always been in existence; but the angels were created by God. In other words, angels are created beings, just like man.

Now you may ask, "When were the angels created?" God put the following question to Job: "Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you know so much. Do you know how its dimensions were determined, and who did the surveying? What supports its foundations, and who laid its cornerstone, as the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?" Job 38:4-7, *The Living Bible, Paraphrased*.

When did this event take place about which the angels shouted for joy? It was when God laid the foundations of this earth. When were the foundations of the earth laid? Before man was created. Therefore, the angels were created before the creation of the world, for they were present at its creation. We do not know when the angels were created, but at some time in the eternity of the past they were created.

Although people and angels are created beings they are different from each other. The angels were never told to multiply and fill the heaven. Angels have never tasted death. However, they also had a testing time in their lives. Some of them proved faithful, and others did not. It is not possible for us to understand the nature of the angels, neither can we understand their existence, which is surrounded with mystery. Yet we do know that they were created by the same God who created man.

STUDY

1. **Of what family did the apostle Paul speak? Ephesians 3:14, 15.**
2. **What are the family members called? Job 1:6.**
3. **Who are part of the heavenly family? Revelation 5:11.**
4. **How many angels are there, according to the apostle Paul? Hebrews 12:22.**
5. **How did man and the angels come into existence? Psalm 8:5.**
6. **How do we know that the angels are actual beings? Genesis 18:2, 8; 19:1, 15, 16.**

RESEARCH

Some religions teach that angels are the spirits of dead people. Can we prove that this is not so? How?

PUZZLE

(Key: A=1, B=2, C=3, etc.)

“
3 8 18 9 19 20 23 1 19 20 8 5 19 15 14 15 6 7 15 4
8 5 8 1 4 2 5 5 14 15 14 5 23 9 20 8 8 9 13
2 5 6 15 18 5 20 8 5 1 14 7 5 12 19 23 5 18 5
3 1 12 12 5 4 9 14 20 15 5 24 9 19 20 5 14 3 5
”

–*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 38.



2



Origin of Evil Angels

MEMORY VERSE: “And there was war in heaven: Michael and His angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels. And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.” Revelation 12:7, 8.

FACTS

Before Satan fell into sin, he was the highest, most exalted angel, named Lucifer. He was next in honor to Christ—Christ’s own angel. He was very beautiful, intelligent, and perfect in his appearance. He had a special light shining from his face, a light that was brighter and more beautiful than that of all the other angels.

But Lucifer was not satisfied with his position. He wanted to be equal with God. He was envious and jealous of Jesus, who was above him. When all of the angels bowed to Jesus, Satan bowed with them; but his heart was full of envy and hatred. Satan resented God’s not letting him participate in the councils between Him and Jesus. He was angry that he was not allowed to know all the purposes of God.

Since Satan was an honored angel, he took advantage of his position and called all the angels together for a meeting. He told them that they were being ruled by God, who was a dictator, and that he (Satan) would no longer go along with this.

Some angels sided with Satan. Those who did not tried to talk him out of rebelling against God. But Satan refused to listen to them. He called the angels who were loyal to God slaves. He promised them a better government where freedom would rule. Satan was overjoyed when a large number of the angels agreed with him. He was sure that the victory would be his.

The loyal angels tried without result to change Satan's mind, and Jesus Himself explained what would happen if he continued on his rebellious course. God could have destroyed Satan and his angels right at that moment, but He gave Satan a chance to show what his government would be like. "It was the highest crime to rebel against the government of God.... All the heavenly host were summoned to appear before the Father, to have each case determined. Satan unblushingly made known his dissatisfaction that Christ should be preferred before him...."

"Then Satan exultingly pointed to his sympathizers, comprising nearly one half of all the angels, and exclaimed, These are with me!... Good angels wept to hear the words of Satan and his exulting boasts. God declared that the rebellious should remain in heaven no longer...."

"Then there was war in heaven. The Son of God, the Prince of heaven, and His loyal angels engaged in conflict with the arch rebel and those who united with him. The Son of God and true, loyal angels prevailed; and Satan and his sympathizers were expelled from heaven." –*The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 1, pp. 22, 23.

STUDY

- 1. Where did Satan and his angels go when they were cast out of heaven? Revelation 12:9.**
- 2. What was Satan's aim? Isaiah 14:12-14.**
- 3. What will eventually happen to him? Ezekiel 28:17-19; Matthew 25:41.**
- 4. What description is given of Satan before his fall? Ezekiel 28:12-15.**

5. How many fallen angels are there? Mark 5:9.

6. What are Satan and his angels doing today? 1 Peter 5:8.

RESEARCH

Does Satan look the same today as he did when he was in heaven? If not, why not? To find out, read *Early Writings*, pp. 152, 153.

3



Angels' Power and Glory

MEMORY VERSE: *"Bless the Lord, ye His angels, that excel in strength, that do His commandments, hearkening unto the voice of His word."* Psalm 103:20.

FACTS

The Bible tells us that when God created man He made him "a little lower than the angels" and crowned "him with glory and honour." Psalm 8:5. What this glory and honor were we only know a little; but we know that the men who lived before the Flood were strong and powerful.

We also know that Adam lived for 930 years; and Methuselah, 969 years. When we compare our lives today, which span only about 70 years full of sickness and suffering, with those of the patriarchs, we can see the huge difference between man in the beginning and people today. Considering the people in the beginning, it is easier to understand what the Bible means when it says that God made man a little lower than the angels. Always keep in mind that the angels belong to a higher order of being than does man. The angels were not created higher than man, but man was made "a little lower than the angels."

We do not have to imagine how powerful the angels are, for the Bible tells us. Recall Daniel in the lions' den! God sent His angel to shut the mouths of the lions so they would not harm the prophet. When the apostles were performing miracles and healing the sick, Peter was arrested and put in prison. During the night, an angel came, opened and then closed the prison doors without touching them, and let Peter out. Here the

angel was more powerful than iron doors, prison walls, and a whole band of soldiers.

All through the ages, the angels have performed miracles for God's people. There is no work so small that they are not glad to do it, nor is there any job too great for them, because their only wish is to obey God. They enjoy doing their best for God. They have the power that they need to carry out their responsibilities. Their power is equal to God's commands.

Another special power that the angels have is to go quickly from one place to another. They move much faster than the fastest rocket that man has been able to build. We know that light travels 186,000 miles per second; yet the angels travel much faster than that. When Daniel prayed for understanding regarding God's purpose for Israel, he was shown at the beginning of his prayer the angel Gabriel before the throne of God; and before his prayer was finished, the angel had flown from heaven to earth and the place where Daniel was.

STUDY

- 1. Who protected Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace? Daniel 3:28.**
- 2. When surrounded by the Syrians, what did Elisha see? 2 Kings 6:16, 17.**
- 3. Who strengthened Elijah, and how? 1 Kings 19:5-8.**
- 4. How did Ezekiel describe the heavenly beings' movements? Ezekiel 1:5, 14.**
- 5. What was the appearance of the angel who called Jesus from the tomb? Matthew 28:2, 3.**

6. In what words did Ezekiel describe the heavenly beings? Ezekiel 1:13.
7. What protection has God promised? Psalm 91:11, 12.

RESEARCH

“Angels are sent on missions of mercy to the children of God.” Do they sometimes act on their own to help God’s people when they are in trouble? Read what is written in *The Desire of Ages*, p. 700, and *The Great Controversy*, p. 630, to find the answer.

PUZZLE

(Key: A=1, B=2, C=3, etc.)

“ _____ , _____
 1 14 7 5 12 19 1 18 5 7 15 4 19 13 9 14 9 19 20 5 18 19

 18 1 4 9 1 14 20 23 9 20 8 20 8 5 12 9 7 8 20

 5 22 5 18 6 12 15 23 9 14 7 6 18 15 13 8 9 19

 16 18 5 19 5 14 3 5 1 14 4 19 16 5 5 4 9 14 7 5 14

 18 1 16 9 4 23 9 14 7 20 15 5 24 5 3 21 20 5 8 9 19
 _____.” —Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 34.
 23 9 12 12



4



Guardian Angels

MEMORY VERSE: *"Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you. That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of My Father which is in heaven."* Matthew 18:10.

FACTS

In every government on earth, the head of the country has many assistants who help him carry out the affairs of the nation. Not everyone has an equally important job, but each person is needed in whatever capacity he may serve. And if everyone does his job faithfully, the affairs of that country are sure to run smoothly.

Similar order applies in heaven. The angelic host assist God in managing the affairs of this earth and the universe. Not all of the angels have the same amount of responsibility. In the Bible, we are told that there are different orders of angels—"seraphims," "cherubims," "anointing cherub," "covering cherub," etc. All these titles indicate that some angels are of higher rank than others. You will recall that Lucifer, before his fall, was "the anointed cherub that covereth" and was next in order to Jesus.

When man fell into sin, the world came under the control of Satan. Man became the servant of God's enemy. Man had no power to save himself from Satan's bondage. As the time would pass, man would grow further and further away from God until finally all knowledge of God would be wiped out of his mind. At least this was Satan's plan.

But God, who is loving and compassionate, did not let this happen. Man had been led into sin by Satan, and therefore the responsibility was not man's alone. When Christ offered His life for man's sins, at the same time

all Heaven was called upon to work together to help man come back to righteousness. The angels were to help man to live a life of right doing and obedience. They would also protect God's children in danger, strengthen them when tempted, and comfort them in sorrow. To every child of God, even the children, God has given a guardian angel, who is with him always. But if a person is placed in a situation of special temptation or danger, as many angels as are needed to protect him are sent to his aid.

When you choose to follow Jesus, a guardian angel is at your side prompting you to a better course, helping you to choose good words and influencing your actions. Jesus also had angels guarding Him. "These angels had been with Christ as guardian angels throughout His life on earth. They had witnessed His trial and crucifixion." –*The Desire of Ages*, p. 793.

"Every redeemed one will understand the ministry of angels in his own life. The angel who was his guardian from his earliest moment; the angel who watched his steps, and covered his head in the day of peril; the angel who was with him in the valley of the shadow of death, who marked his resting place, who was the first to greet him in the resurrection morning—what will it be to hold converse with him, and to learn the history of divine interposition in the individual life, of heavenly cooperation in every work for humanity!" –*Education*, p. 305.

STUDY

- 1. Who were assigned to protect the tree of life? Genesis 3:24.**
- 2. Whom did Isaiah see standing around God's throne? Isaiah 6:2, 6.**
- 3. What angels will descend from heaven with the Lord when He comes? Matthew 24:31; 25:31.**
- 4. Who is Michael? Jude 9.**

Michael means "who is like God" and is Christ's name before He came to earth as a baby.

5. Who appeared to Zacharias? Luke 1:19.

Gabriel means "the strength of God." After Lucifer's fall, Gabriel became the angel next to Christ.

6. What was the work of the angels after man fell into sin? Hebrews 1:14.

7. How did the psalmist describe the angels' watchcare over God's people? Psalm 34:7.

RESEARCH

Does every person in the world have a guardian angel? Find the answer in *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 256, and in *The Great Controversy*, p. 512.



5



Recording Angels

MEMORY VERSE: *"Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before Him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon His name." Malachi 3:16.*

FACTS

When someone commits a crime, whether it is small or great, he brings upon himself the penalty set down in the law of his country. Before the punishment is carried out, he must go through a trial where his case is judged on the evidence of his own testimony and that of other witnesses. This same procedure takes place in our spiritual lives. God has said, "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." Hebrews 9:27.

There is a judgment where every person who has ever lived on this earth will be tried. In an earthly court, a man has to appear if he is charged with one specific crime; but in the heavenly judgment, everyone's entire life will be examined. Nothing will be hidden. Every single act of life will be brought up. Just as in an earthly court case, witnesses are present in the heavenly court. These witnesses are all our deeds recorded in a book by the recording angels. There is a record for every person who has ever lived.

"Opposite each name in the books of heaven is entered with terrible exactness every wrong word, every selfish act, every unfulfilled duty, and every secret sin, with every artful dissembling. Heavensent warnings or reproofs neglected, wasted moments, unimproved opportunities, the influence exerted for good or for evil, with its far-reaching results, all are chronicled by the recording angel." *—The Great Controversy, p. 482.*

"Ministering angels will linger in our dwellings and with joy carry heavenward the tidings of our advance in the divine life, and the recording angel will make a cheerful, happy record." –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 310.

"The animals were created to serve man, but he has no right to cause them pain by harsh treatment or cruel exaction...."

"Many do not realize that their cruelty will ever be known, because the poor dumb animals cannot reveal it. But could the eyes of these men be opened, as were those of Balaam, they would see an angel of God standing as a witness, to testify against them in the courts above. A record goes up to heaven, and a day is coming when judgment will be pronounced against those who abuse God's creatures." –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 443.

"Children and youth should never feel that it is something to be proud of to be indifferent and careless in meetings where God is worshiped. God sees every irreverent thought or action, and it is registered in the books of heaven. He says, 'I know thy works.' Nothing is hid from His all-searching eye. If you have formed in any degree the habit of inattention and indifference in the house of God, exercise the powers you have to correct it, and show that you have self-respect. Practice reverence until it becomes a part of yourself.

"Do not have so little reverence for the house and worship of God as to communicate with one another during the sermon [such as whispering or passing notes]. If those who commit this fault could see the angels of God looking upon them and marking their doings, they would be filled with shame and abhorrence of themselves. God wants attentive hearers. It was while men slept, that the enemy sowed tares." –*Messages to Young People*, p. 266.

STUDY

- 1. Of what will men give account in the judgment? Matthew 12:36, 37.**

"The recording angel writes every impatient, unguarded word spoken before them, carelessly or in jest; every word that is not chaste and elevated, he marks as a spot against your Christian character."
—*The Great Controversy*, p. 217.

2. **From what will men be judged? Revelation 20:12.**

3. **How many angels are described in the Bible as serving before God in the judgment? Daniel 7:10.**

4. **What did Solomon tell the young people to keep in mind? Ecclesiastes 11:9, 10.**

5. **How do we know that our actions are all recorded? Malachi 3:16.**

6. **What will happen to those who do not come up to God's standard? Exodus 32:32.**

7. **What is promised to the overcomers? Revelation 3:5.**

RESEARCH

Can the records made by the recording angels ever be erased? Read *The Great Controversy*, pp. 486, 487, and *Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 263, to find the answer.

6



Adam and Eve Warned

MEMORY VERSE: *"For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope." Romans 15:4.*

FACTS

"In all ages, God has wrought through holy angels for the succor and deliverance of His people. Celestial beings have taken an active part in the affairs of men. They have appeared clothed in garments that shone as the lightning; they have come as men in the garb of wayfarers. Angels have appeared in human form to men of God. They have rested, as if weary, under the oaks at noon. They have accepted the hospitalities of human homes. They have acted as guides to benighted travelers. They have, with their own hands, kindled the fires of the altar. They have opened prison doors and set free the servants of the Lord. Clothed with the panoply of heaven, they came to roll away the stone from the Saviour's tomb.

"In the form of men, angels are often in the assemblies of the righteous; and they visit the assemblies of the wicked, as they went to Sodom, to make a record of their deeds, to determine whether they have passed the boundary of God's forbearance." *—The Great Controversy, p. 632.*

Before Adam and Eve fell into sin, "God assembled the angelic host to take measures to avert the threatened evil. It was decided in heaven's council for angels to visit Eden and warn Adam that he was in danger from the foe. Two angels sped on their way to visit our first parents." Adam and Eve had "many questions to ask relative to many things which they could but indistinctly comprehend.

“The angels graciously and lovingly gave them the information they desired. They also gave them the sad history of Satan’s rebellion and fall. They then distinctly informed them that the tree of knowledge was placed in the garden to be a pledge of their obedience and love to God; that the high and happy estate of the holy angels was to be retained upon condition of obedience; that they were similarly situated; that they could obey the law of God and be inexpressibly happy, or disobey, and lose their high estate, and be plunged into hopeless despair....

“The angels cautioned Eve not to separate from her husband in her employment; for she might be brought in contact with this fallen foe.... The angels charged them to closely follow the instructions God had given them in reference to the tree of knowledge;...

“Adam and Eve assured the angels that they should never transgress the express command of God; for it was their highest pleasure to do His will. The angels united with Adam and Eve in holy strains of harmonious music;...”

After the fall into sin, “The angels of God were commissioned to visit the fallen pair and inform them that although they could no longer retain possession of their holy estate, their Eden home, because of their transgression of the law of God, yet their case was not altogether hopeless....

“The angels related to them the grief that was felt in Heaven, as it was announced that they had transgressed the law of God, which had made it expedient for Christ to make the great sacrifice of His own precious life....

“Angels informed Adam that, as his transgression had brought death and wretchedness, life and immortality would be brought to light through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.” –*The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 1, pp. 32-35, 49-51.

STUDY

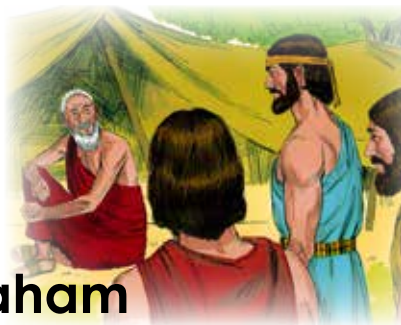
- 1. If Adam and Eve had remained true to God, what kind of relationship would they have had with the angels? *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 50, last paragraph.**

2. **What is always the result of disobedience? Joshua 5:6.**
3. **What right can be regained by obeying God? Revelation 22:14.**
4. **Are the angels continually aware of our actions? Ecclesiastes 5:6.**

QUIZ

1. **Angels are part of the heavenly _____.**
2. **Angels were created (a) just before the creation of the earth, (b) at the same time as the earth was created, (c) sometime in the past eternity.**
3. **Name four differences between Lucifer and the other angels.**
4. **Satan fell because he wanted to _____.**
5. **Man was created**
 - a. higher than the angels
 - b. lower than the angels
 - c. equal with the angels
6. **Another name for Michael is**
 - a. Gabriel
 - b. Christ
 - c. Uriel
7. **Name four different orders of angels.**

7



A Visit to Abraham

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

FACTS

"The Lord selected Abraham to carry out His will. He was directed to leave his idolatrous nation, and separate from his kindred. The Lord had revealed Himself to Abraham in his youth, and gave him understanding, and preserved him from idolatry. He designed to make him an example of faith, and true devotion, for His people who should afterward live upon the earth. His character was marked for integrity, generosity, and hospitality. He commanded respect as a mighty prince among the people. His reverence and love for God, and his strict obedience in performing His will, gained for him the respect of his servants and neighbors. His godly example and righteous course, united with his faithful instructions to his servants and all his household, led them to fear, love, and reverence the God of Abraham." *—The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 2, p. 93.*

Because of Abraham's obedience and loyalty, God appeared to him, promising him great blessings and telling him that he would become the father of a large nation whose numbers were like the stars of the heaven or the sands of the sea.

While living on the plains of Mamre, one hot afternoon as he was sitting in his tent, Abraham noticed three men coming toward him. He ran out to meet and welcome them. He invited the strangers to stay awhile, refresh themselves with a drink of water, and have a meal with him. The men agreed to do so. Abraham quickly ordered the best food to be prepared, and the men were fed.

Until now Abraham had thought that he had shown hospitality to three ordinary men on a journey, but suddenly he could see that they were really messengers from heaven. The angels repeated the promise of a son to Abraham and started on their journey toward Sodom. Abraham accompanied them part of the way. The angels revealed to Abraham their mission to go and destroy the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. Two of the messengers left; and the third, the Son of God, stayed with Abraham. Abraham pleaded with the Lord for mercy for the inhabitants if at least ten righteous persons would be found in the cities. He was assured that this would be granted. The Lord and Abraham then parted.

What thoughts must have filled Abraham's mind when he returned home in the cool of the evening! He had been visited by the angels of God, and he had talked with them face to face. He had fed the angels at his table. He had been told of God's plans. Jesus Himself had talked to Abraham as to a friend and had revealed His purposes to him. Not only that, but Jesus had also listened to Abraham's plea for the people of Sodom and Gomorrah and had given him all that he had asked for in faith.

STUDY

- 1. In what form do angels sometimes visit believers? Hebrews 13:2.**
- 2. What was the mission of the two angels when they left? Genesis 19:1.**
- 3. What was Lot's attitude toward these angels? Genesis 19:2, 3.**
- 4. When the men of Sodom threatened Lot and his visitors, what did the angels do? Genesis 19:10, 11.**

5. What was their mission in Sodom, and why? Genesis 19:13.

6. On what other occasion did the angel of the Lord intervene in Abraham's life? Genesis 22:10-12.

7. What blessing was repeated to Abraham? Genesis 22:15-18.

RESEARCH

Was Lot saved from Sodom because of his trust and faith in God? Find the answer in *Patriarchs and Prophets*, pp. 160, 161.

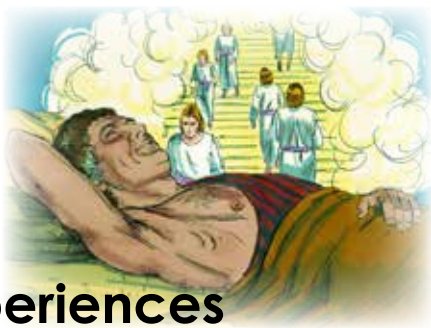
PUZZLE

1. Abraham's son of promise
2. The Lord told Abraham to offer his son for a ___ offering
3. Abraham's wife
4. Abraham lived on the plains of ___
5. ___ strangers were invited to visit Abraham's tent
6. Isaac was to be offered on Mount ___
7. Hagar's son

- | | | | | | |
|----|-----|-----|---|-----|-----|
| 1. | ___ | ___ | A | ___ | ___ |
| 2. | ___ | ___ | B | ___ | ___ |
| 3. | ___ | ___ | R | ___ | ___ |
| 4. | ___ | ___ | A | ___ | ___ |
| 5. | ___ | ___ | H | ___ | ___ |
| 6. | ___ | ___ | A | ___ | ___ |
| 7. | ___ | ___ | M | ___ | ___ |



8



Jacob's Experiences

MEMORY VERSE: "And he dreamed, and behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it." *Genesis 28:12.*

FACTS

Twin sons were born to Isaac, Abraham's son. Their names were Esau and Jacob. God, who knows the end from the beginning, knew before the boys' birth that Esau would not have a heart to obey Him. However, "Isaac loved Esau better than Jacob, because Esau provided him venison.... Jacob was the favorite son of his mother, because his disposition was mild and better calculated to make his mother happy." *—The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 1, p. 106.*

Jacob learned the blessedness of angel ministry. When he was a young man, he traded his older brother a pot of lentils for the birthright. Later, his mother convinced him to deceive his father into giving him the birthright blessing. When Esau found out what his brother had done, he determined to kill Jacob. Their mother, Rebekah, therefore urged Jacob to flee to her brother's country. As Jacob traveled alone on his lonely journey and meditated on the seeming failure of his efforts, he considered himself an outcast from home and forsaken by the God of his fathers. But God had not forgotten him, even though Jacob had made the mistake of trying to do by himself what God had promised to do for him.

After spending twenty years in Padan-aram with his uncle, Laban, Jacob in obedience to directions from heaven took his family and servants, flocks, and herds to return home. "As Jacob went on his way, the angels of God met him. And when he saw them, he said, 'This

is God's host.' He saw the angels of God, in a dream, encamping around about him." –*The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 1, p. 117.

When Jacob was told that Esau was coming to meet him with four hundred men, he was greatly distressed. "In his distress he prays to God all night. An Angel was represented to me as standing before Jacob, presenting his wrong before him in its true character. As the Angel turns to leave him, Jacob lays hold of Him, and will not let him go. He makes supplication with tears. He pleads that he has deeply repented of his sins, and the wrongs against his brother, which have been the means of separating him from his father's house for twenty years....

"All night Jacob wrestled with the Angel, making supplication for a blessing. The Angel seemed to be resisting his prayer, by continually calling his sins to remembrance, at the same time endeavoring to break away from him. Jacob was determined to hold the Angel, not only by physical strength, but by the power of living faith. In his distress Jacob referred to the repentance of his soul, the deep humility he had felt for his wrongs. The Angel regarded his prayer with seeming indifference, continually making efforts to release Himself from the grasp of Jacob. He might have exercised His supernatural power, and forced Himself from Jacob's grasp, but He did not choose to do this. But when He saw that he prevailed not against Jacob, to convince him of His supernatural power He touched his thigh, which was immediately out of joint. But Jacob would not give up his earnest efforts for bodily pain.... He would not let go his hold of the Angel until He blessed him....

"Jacob's persevering faith prevailed. He held fast the Angel until he obtained the blessing he desired, and the assurance of the pardon of his sins." –*The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 1, pp. 118, 119.

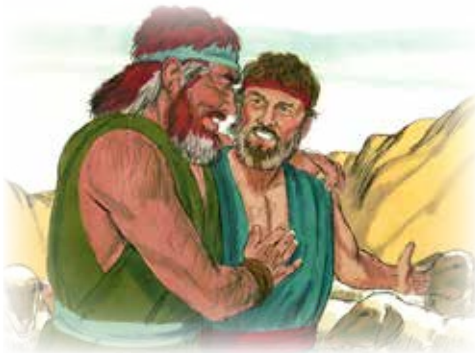
STUDY

- 1. When Jacob fled from his home, did he do that night? Genesis 28:11.**

2. Who comforted him in his loneliness, and how? Genesis 28:12-15.
3. What were his feelings when he woke up, and what did he do? Genesis 28:16-19.
4. Years later, what was Jacob's situation when he wrestled with the Angel? Genesis 32:24.
5. What was the result of his perseverance in the struggle? Genesis 32:27, 28.
6. What did Jacob request of the Angel? Genesis 32:29.
7. What name did Jacob give to that place, and for what reason? Genesis 32:30.

RESEARCH

What did the dream that Jacob saw in Bethel mean? *Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 184.



PUZZLE

ACROSS:

1. The name Jacob called the place where he wrestled with the Angel
2. This is how Jacob felt when he heard that Esau was coming with 400 men
3. ___ did not forsake Jacob
4. At Bethel Jacob saw a _____
5. He wrestled with Jacob
6. Jacob's brother
7. He was represented by the ladder that was shown to Jacob
8. Jacob's new name
9. The angels of God _____ around Jacob

DOWN:

Jacob's country of exile

1.		█	_____
2.	_____	█	_____
3.	_____	█	_____
4.	_____	█	_____
5.		█	_____
6.	_____	█	_____
7.	_____	█	_____
8.	_____	█	_____
9.	_____	█	_____



9



The People of Israel Helped and Sustained

MEMORY VERSE: "This is he, that was in the church in the wilderness with the Angel which spake to him in the mount Sina, and with our fathers: who received' the lively oracles to give unto us." Acts 7:38.

FACTS

God had told Abraham in vision that his descendants would be in a land that was not theirs for four hundred years but that afterward they would inherit their own country. This came to pass when the Israelites, after having lived in Egypt, including a time in slavery, were miraculously delivered. The angels of God helped to oppose the pursuing Egyptians. "The Egyptians dared to venture in the path God had prepared for His people, and angels of God went through their host and removed their chariot wheels." –*Spiritual Gifts*, vol. 3, p. 235.

"And the children of Israel did eat manna forty years, until they came to a land inhabited." Exodus 16:35. "For forty years they were daily reminded by this miraculous provision of God's unflinching care and tender love...."

"'Man did eat angels' food'—that is, food provided for them by the angels." –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 297.

"They knew it was just the food God wished them to have, and that it was healthful for them and their children." –*Spiritual Gifts*, vol. 4, p. 15.

God ministered to the children of Israel continually, night and day, through the presence of the heavenly angels. "In all their affliction He was afflicted, and the Angel of His presence saved them: in His love and in

His pity He redeemed them; and He bare them, and carried them all the days of old." Isaiah 63:9.

When the Israelites neared the Promised Land, they passed through the borders of Moab. Far to the north of Moab, in Aram, lived Balaam, who had once been a prophet of God but now had lost his spirituality. Balak, the king of Moab, wanted to curse the people of Israel because he saw that the Israelites were a powerful people, which made him and his people exceedingly afraid.

When Balaam, ignoring God's command, consented to go and curse the people, his journey was interrupted by an incident involving a heavenly angel. "The angel of the Lord stood in the way for an adversary against him." Balaam's donkey "saw the divine messenger, who was unperceived by the man, and turned aside from the highway into a field. With cruel blows, Balaam brought the beast 'back into the path; but again, in a narrow place shut in by' walls, the angel appeared, and the animal, trying to avoid the menacing figure, crushed her master's foot against the wall. Balaam was blinded to the heavenly interposition and knew not that God was obstructing his path. The man became exasperated, and beating the ass unmercifully, forced it to proceed.

"Again, 'in a narrow place, where there was no way to turn either to the right hand or to the left,' the angel appeared, as before, in a threatening attitude; and the poor beast, trembling with terror, made a full stop, and fell to the earth under its rider." –Patriarchs and Prophets, pp. 441, 442.

Balaam beat the animal even more cruelly, and God opened the ass's mouth. She spoke, reproving his cruel actions, for she had always served him faithfully. "Balaam was beside himself with rage. The speaking of the beast was unnoticed by him as anything remarkable, for he was blinded by passion. As the angel revealed himself to Balaam, he was terrified, and left his beast and bowed in humility before the angel. He related to Balaam the word of the Lord, and said, 'I went out to withstand thee, because thy way is perverse before Me.' After the angel had impressively warned Balaam against gratifying the Moabites, he gave him permission to pursue his journey." –*Spiritual Gifts*, vol. 4, p. 44.

STUDY

1. **What commission was given to the angels during the construction of the tower of Babel? Genesis 11:7; see also Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 119.**

2. **How was Enoch taken to heaven? Genesis 5:24.**

“God would not permit Enoch to die as other men, but sent His angels to take him to heaven without seeing death.” –*Spiritual Gifts*, vol. 3, p. 57.

3. **What is recorded about Moses’ death? Deuteronomy 34:5, 6.**

“But angels of God buried the body of His faithful servant, and watched over the lonely grave.” –*Patriarchs and Prophets*, p. 478.

4. **What did an angel do for Elijah? 1 Kings 19:5-7.**

5. **What was special about that meal? 1 Kings 19:8.**

6. **What event was Elisha privileged to witness? 2 Kings 2:11.**

“Not for him [Elijah] the descent into the tomb, but the ascent with God’s angels to the presence of His glory.” –*Prophets and Kings*, p. 228.



PUZZLE (KEY: A=1, B=2, C=3, ETC.)

“
 20 8 5 12 15 18 4 20 8 18 15 21 7 8 8 9 19 1 14 7 5 12
 9 14 19 20 18 21 3 20 5 4 4 1 22 9 4 1 14 4 7 1 22 5
 8 9 13 1 16 1 20 20 5 18 14 15 6 20 8 5 8 15 21 19 5
 23 8 9 3 8 19 15 12 15 13 15 14 19 8 15 21 12 4 2 21 9 12 4
 6 15 18 8 9 13 1 14 1 14 7 5 12 23 1 19 3 15 13
 13 9 19 19 9 15 14 5 4 20 15 19 20 1 14 4 2 25 4 1
 22 9 4 23 8 9 12 5 8 5 23 1 19 23 18 9 20 9 14 7
 15 21 20 6 15 18 20 8 5 2 5 14 5 6 9 20 15 6 19 15 12 15
 13 15 14 20 8 5 9 13 16 15 18 20 1 14 20 4 9 18 5 3
 20 9 15 14 19 9 14 18 5 7 1 18 4 20 15 20 8 5
 1 18 18 1 14 7 5 13 5 14 20 15 6 20 8 5 8 15 21 19 5
 -The Spirit of Prophecy, vol. 1, pp. 387, 388.”

10



Jesus' Protection and Support

MEMORY VERSE: "And there appeared an angel unto Him from heaven, strengthening Him." Luke 22:43.

FACTS

No other record in the Bible so fully illustrates the ministry of angels as do the events surrounding Christ while He was on this earth. The angels were commissioned by God to attend Jesus and to protect Him until His work on earth was finished. Although the angels ministered to Christ, their presence did not make His life easy and free from temptation.

Before His birth, the angels came unseen to Jerusalem to see how the people of God would receive the Messiah. "With amazement the heavenly messengers beheld the indifference of that people whom God had called to communicate to the world the light of sacred truth." *—The Desire of Ages*, p. 44.

In addition, Mary and Joseph were accompanied by the angels when they traveled from Nazareth to Bethlehem. "Above the hills of Bethlehem are gathered an innumerable throng of angels. They wait the signal to declare the glad news to the world." *—The Desire of Ages*, p. 47.

"And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them [the shepherds], and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:9-11.

"As the angels disappeared, the light faded away. And the shadows of night once more fell on the hills

of Bethlehem. But the brightest picture ever beheld by human eyes remained in the memory of the shepherds.”
–*The Desire of Ages*, p. 48.

The wise men from the East had studied the prophecies, and on the night that Jesus was born they saw a mysterious light in the sky. It was not a star or a planet. “That star was a distant company of shining angels.”
–*The Desire of Ages*, p. 60.

It later guided the wise men to Bethlehem. “After the mission of the wise men had been accomplished, they were purposing to return, and bear the joyful news to Herod of the success of their journey. But God sent His angel in the night season to turn the course of the wise men.” –*The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 2, p. 25.

During Christ’s childhood, the angels were His attendants. “Every child may gain knowledge as Jesus did. As we try to become acquainted with our heavenly Father through His word, angels will draw near, our minds will be strengthened, our characters will be elevated and refined.” –*The Desire of Ages*, p. 70.

But we must always remember not to be found in the company of those who are careless of Christ’s presence “and who engage in conversation having no reference to their Redeemer, in whom they profess their hopes of eternal life are centered. Jesus shuns the company of such, so also do the angels who do His commands. These heavenly messengers are not attracted to the crowd where minds are diverted from heavenly things.”
–*The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 2, p. 37.

“From His earliest years Jesus was guarded by heavenly angels, yet His life was one long struggle against the powers of darkness.” –*The Desire of Ages*, p. 71.

STUDY

- 1. What part did the angels have in protecting the life of the baby Jesus? Matthew 2:13.**
- 2. How did Joseph know when it was safe for his family to return to Nazareth from Egypt? Matthew 2:19, 20.**

- 3. How much easier was it for Christ than it is for us not to sin? Hebrews 4:15.**
- 4. Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness. What commission was given to the angels? Matthew 4:11.**

"The angels of heaven had watched the conflict,... The angels now ministered to the Son of God as He lay like one dying. He was strengthened with food, comforted with the message of His Father's love and the assurance that all heaven triumphed in His victory." –*The Desire of Ages*, p. 131.

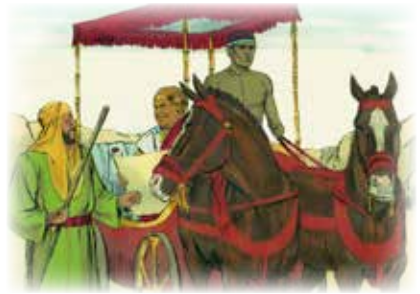
- 5. Why was it dangerous for Christ to go to Judea? John 11:7, 8.**
- 6. Were the disciples able to change Jesus' mind and keep Him from going? John 11:16. Why, or why not?**

"During this time Jesus had the guardianship of heavenly angels; and even in the regions of Judea,... no harm could come to Him." –*The Desire of Ages*, p. 528.

- 7. On the night before His crucifixion, Jesus went with His disciples to Gethsemane to pray. He took Peter, James, and John a little distance from the others so they could pray with Him. But all of the disciples slept. Who ministered to Jesus? How great was His agony? Luke 22:43, 44.**
- 8. How and by whom was the stone removed from the tomb when Jesus rose from the grave? Matthew 28:2-6.**

RESEARCH

Read the story in *The Desire of Ages*, pp. 693, 694, about the angels' interest and help in Gethsemane, and tell the story in class.



Advancement of the Gospel

MEMORY VERSE: *"But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said. Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life." Acts 5:19, 20.*

FACTS

After the stoning of Stephen, persecution of all the believers began in Jerusalem. The persecution was so severe that all the believers were "scattered abroad throughout the regions of Judaea and Samaria,..." Acts 8:1. The persecution was God's blessing in disguise. When they left Jerusalem, the people had to travel to distant lands; as they journeyed, they shared the gospel message with people they met in places where otherwise it would never have gone. "Therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word." Acts 8:4.

Among those who left Jerusalem at the time of the persecution was Philip. He was one of the seven deacons chosen to share the disciples' burden of church administration. Philip fled to Samaria, and while he was there, he "preached Christ unto them." A great work was done in that city. Unclean spirits were cast out of the people who were tormented by them. Many others were also healed of various sicknesses; those who were the victims of palsy or who were lame and halt are particularly mentioned in the Bible. Many sinners turned from their evil ways, accepted Jesus, and found happiness in the truth. "And there was great joy in that city." Acts 8:8.

While Philip was still in Samaria, the Lord now sent His angel to Philip, "saying, Arise, and go toward the

south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert." Philip obeyed God's instructions, and left on the journey without hesitation. "And, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure, and had come to Jerusalem for to worship, Was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Esaias the prophet." Acts 8:26-28. Philip saw him but had no reason to go to talk to him until the Spirit commanded him, "Go near, and join thyself to this chariot." Philip quickly obeyed and ran to the chariot. When he heard the Ethiopian reading the prophecy of Jesus written by Isaiah, he asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

The Ethiopian answered, "How can I understand unless someone explains it to me?" Then he asked Philip to get in the chariot and sit beside him. "Philip understood the desire of his heart, and preached unto him Jesus Christ revealed in prophecy, and His mission to the earth to save sinners....

"The eunuch's heart was all ready to receive the light and truth, and he accepted with gladness the gospel preached by Philip. 'And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water; and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? and Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God,... and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.' Acts 8:29-38....

"In this instance we have an illustration of the care of God for His children. He called Philip from his successful ministry in Samaria, to cross the desert and go to Gaza to labor for a single inquiring soul." *-The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 3, pp. 304, 305.

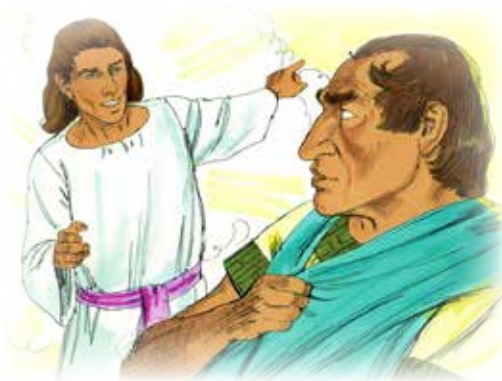
STUDY

- 1. What Scripture verse did the Ethiopian man have trouble understanding? Isaiah 53:7, 8; Acts 8:32, 33.**
- 2. What kind of person was Cornelius? Acts 10:1, 2.**

3. Who visited Cornelius one day? Acts 10:3.
4. What was the reason for the visit? Acts 10:4-6.
5. Did Cornelius follow the advice that he was given? Acts 10:7, 8.
6. What kind of man was King Herod? Acts 12:1-4.
7. How was his persecution of Peter brought to nothing? Acts 12:6-11.
8. How did Herod displease God further? Acts 12:20-22.
9. How did God destroy Herod? Acts 12:23.

RESEARCH

How far did the results of Cornelius' obeying the angel reach? Read "A Seeker for Truth," beginning on p. 131 of *The Acts of the Apostles*.



12



Sister White Guarded

MEMORY VERSE: *"For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone."* Psalm 91:11, 12.

FACTS

Ellen and James White were about to leave on a journey to Wisconsin from Jackson, Michigan. Their train was to leave at 10:00 in the evening. As they were preparing to leave home to catch the train, they felt a special need for prayer. They knelt down and, weeping, asked God for protection on their journey.

When they arrived at the station, they looked for high-backed seats in a car toward the front so they could sleep during the trip. However, since they could not find any empty seats, they had to go into the next car, where they did find seats.

When they sat down, they spoke to each other about the strange feelings they had, as if they were waiting for something. The train started, and they had traveled about three miles out of Jackson "when the train's motion became very violent, jerking backward and forward, and finally stopped."

Sister White "raised the window and saw a car standing up on one end, and heard most distressing groans and great confusion. The engine had been thrown off the track." But the car where the Whites were was on the track, separated from the others by about 100 feet. The express car was totally wrecked. The second class car was crushed, and pieces lay on both sides of the track. The car where they had first tried to get seats was wrecked, with one end up on the heap of ruins. Four people died, and many more were injured. Sister White

wrote: "I had opportunity to reflect upon the care God has for those who serve Him. What separated the train, leaving the car we were in back upon the track? I have been shown that an angel was sent to preserve us." –*Spiritual Gifts*, vol. 2, pp. 190, 191.

On another occasion, Sister White was again in Jackson, Michigan, visiting the believers. She and her husband were staying with Brother and Sister Palmer. When Sister White was talking to Sister Palmer, she suffered a shock of paralysis. It was the third time something like this had happened. The right side of her body and her head were affected. She wrote of this experience: "For a short time I did not expect to live.... And although within fifty miles of home, I did not expect to see my children again.... The earnest prayers of my friends were ascending to heaven for me, and soon a prickling sensation was felt in my limbs, and I praised the Lord that I could use them a little.... That night I suffered much, but the next day I was sufficiently strengthened to return home." –*Life Sketches of Ellen G. White*, pp. 162, 163.

For several weeks she felt numb. She often staggered and fell when she tried to walk. At this time, she began to write the book on the great controversy between Christ and Satan. In June 1858, she was shown in a vision what this sudden attack was. "Satan intended to take my life, in order to hinder the work I was about to write; but angels of God were sent to my rescue." –*Life Sketches of Ellen G. White*, p. 163.

On June 10, 1878, Sister White travelled on a boat from San Francisco to Oregon. She wrote about that trip, "The wind was against us, and the steamer pitched fearfully, while the ocean was lashed into fury by the wind." But she took courage from God's promises and said, "This great vessel was a mere chip upon the merciless waters; but she was guarded and protected on her course by the heavenly angels, commissioned of God to do His bidding." –*Life Sketches of Ellen G. White*, pp. 229, 230.

Often she was very sorrowful about the problems in the church, but God had promised her that "If I felt an influence affecting my testimony, no matter where I might be I had only to cry to God, and another angel would be sent to my rescue. I already had one guardian angel attending me continually, but when necessary,

the Lord would send another to strengthen and raise me above the power of every earthly influence." –*Spiritual Gifts*, vol. 2, p. 52.

When Sister White was shown the subject matter for *The Great Controversy* in vision, she was told to write it down. She was also shown "That I should have to contend with the powers of darkness, for Satan would make strong efforts to hinder me, but angels of God would not leave me in the conflict." –*Spiritual Gifts*, vol. 2, p. 270. And while she was writing the book, she "was often conscious of the presence of the angels of God." –*Colporteur Ministry*, p. 128.

In all the visions that Sister White received, there was an angel who showed her things and drew her attention to issues of specific importance. She referred to this angel as "my accompanying angel." This angel also explained the things that she was shown and could not understand. When she was shown that angels were constantly guarding her during her life, she said, "I was inspired with confidence and trust in God." –*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 1, p. 347.

STUDY

- 1. Why did God take such special care of Sister White? Psalm 91:14, 15.**
- 2. Can we have the same protection and care? Psalm 34:7.**

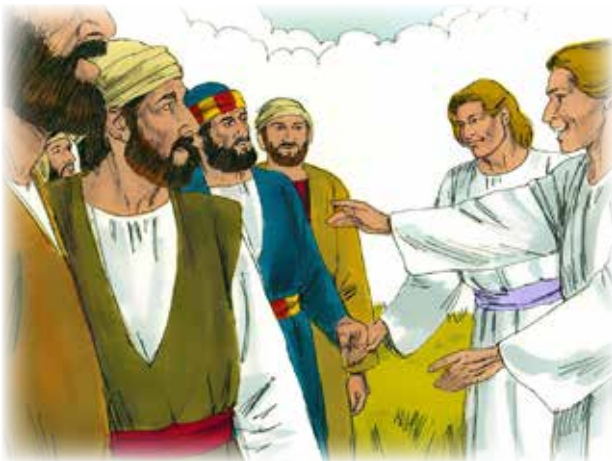
"In all ages, angels have been near to Christ's faithful followers. The vast confederacy of evil is arrayed against all who would overcome; but Christ would have us look to the things which are not seen, to the armies of heaven encamped about all who love God, to deliver them." –*The Desire of Ages*, p. 240.

- 3. What was Sister White's mission? Jeremiah 23:28, first part.**

4. What promised blessing is for all who accept and follow the messages of God's prophets? 2 Chronicles 20:20, last part.
5. How closely does God watch over those who love Him? Matthew 10:29-31.

RESEARCH

In what different ways do the holy angels minister to God's children? Look for the answer in *The Acts of the Apostles*, pp. 153, 154.



13



At the End and in Heaven

MEMORY VERSE: *“And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.” Matthew 24:31.*

FACTS

The climax of this earth's history will be when Jesus comes back to earth in glory. According to Bible prophecy, this event is very near. Ever since Adam fell into sin, God's people have looked forward eagerly to Jesus' second coming as their greatest hope. The angels have worked tirelessly to bring mankind back to its original sinless state. They have shielded, guided, and strengthened sinners in their struggle to be free from Satan's power.

Before Jesus comes, there will be a period called the “time of trouble,” when it will seem that God has forsaken His people. But even then, “that God who cared for Elijah will not pass by one of His self-sacrificing children. He who numbers the hairs of their head will care for them, and in time of famine they shall be satisfied. While the wicked are dying from hunger and pestilence, angels will shield the righteous and supply their wants....

“The heavenly sentinels, faithful to their trust, continue their watch.... None can pass the mighty guardians stationed about every faithful soul. Some are assailed in their flight from the cities and villages; but the swords raised against them break and fall as powerless as a straw. Others are defended by angels in the form of men of war....

“Could men see with heavenly vision, they would behold companies of angels that excel in strength

stationed about those who have kept the word of Christ's patience." –*The Great Controversy*, pp. 629, 631, 630.

When He appears in the clouds of heaven, Jesus will be accompanied by the angelic host. Your guardian angel will be the first one to greet you on the resurrection morning. Little children separated by death from their parents will be carried by the angels to their mothers' arms. "But many of the little ones have no mother there.... The angels receive the motherless infants...." –*Selected Messages*, book 2, p. 260.

During the time the saints spend in heaven and all through eternity, they will be in the company of the angels. "But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels." Hebrews 12:22.

The angels who have always been with God and who have studied His works and the plan of salvation will be our teachers and friends. They will teach us about the works of God. With them we can visit other worlds whose inhabitants have never fallen into sin. With the angels, we will worship God. Through unending ages, we will enjoy their companionship and get a deeper and deeper understanding of God's power, majesty, wisdom, and love.

STUDY

- 1. Who was the first person to prophesy about Jesus' second coming? Jude 14,15.**
- 2. How will Jesus come? Matthew 16:27.**
- 3. What position will man then be given? Luke 20:36.**
- 4. What was Abraham looking for? Hebrews 11:10.**

5. What will be the fate of Satan and the evil angels? Jude 6; Revelation 20:10.

6. How soon will Jesus come? Revelation 3:11.

RESEARCH

What kind of homes do the angels love to visit? Look for the answer in *The Adventist Home*, pp. 28, 31, 445, 17; *Messages to Young People*, p. 295; *Child Guidance*, pp. 99, 147.

