

The Angels

“Advent”

"And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, 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' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth--peace, good will toward men.'" Luke 2:9, 10, 13, 14.

“I can remember that night so long ago as if it were yesterday. Why, sometimes, when so much seemed to be going our way, we almost thought we were in charge on that beautiful night.

“It was the busiest we have ever been through. There were angels everywhere and all of us were so joyful to have been given this great story to tell.

“We had made many visits to earth in the past. We had pleasant tasks and unpleasant tasks. The visit to Lot was not exciting, but it had to be done.

“The visit to Jacob when we appeared to him was very exciting. There were thousands of us.

“David spoke of us many times in the Psalms. Some of us had spoken to Moses, and appeared as flame in a burning bush.

“Some of us were with God when he spoke to Sarah and told her that her seed would multiply exceedingly, and that she would bear Isaac; some were with Moses in the burning bush.

“After John had baptized our Lord, he was tempted of Satan and we were allowed to minister to him.

“We were there when our Lord was crucified, buried, and then arose. It was a sad time, but we were privileged to give the good news to the women that came to the empty sepulcher.

“But never a message as sweet as we sang so many years ago on that Christmas Eve as we told the entire world of "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward all men.”

Prayer: Our Heavenly Father, as we approach this wonderful season, help us to have the same joyful feeling to tell the good news as the angels had. We know that God gave his only son, and that through this wonderful gift we have eternal life. Help us to want to spread that news to all people so that all may accept Christ as a personal Saviour. Amen

1. How would you react if a group of angels appeared to you when you were outside in the dark of the night?
2. How would it be reported in the newspapers, or would you be afraid to tell anyone?
3. Are we given the job of angels here on earth today?
4. What is the purpose of angels today? Do you think they are still appearing to people?

Notes: There are many references to angels in the Old and New Testament, but the one we associate with the angels immediately before the birth of Christ is found in Luke 2:15. An angel appears to Mary in Luke 1:26-35, 38 to foretell the birth of Christ. Joseph is visited by an angel to be told of the birth of Christ in Matt 1:20-24. Then, Joseph is visited again by an angel after the birth of Christ telling him to flee to Egypt in Matt 2:13.