

# ANGEL PROTOCOL

## HEBREWS 1:4a

*How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)*

BACKGROUND: Kent Hughes states that “Angels are mentioned over one hundred times in the Old Testament and more than 160 times in the New Testament” and “The Hebrew word for angel is malak and the Greek angelos. Both mean ‘messenger,’ designating their essential functions as divine message-bearers.” R. Kent Hughes, Hebrews, Volume One: An Anchor for the Soul, pp. 34, 35. Because of the superiority of Christ, you must not give inflated importance to angels (or man) and worship them or pray to them, thus violating God’s divine protocol.

***JEWISH BELIEF ABOUT ANGELS*** was embellished. Although angels were used as messengers of God, they are not the message. If the president of the United States invited you to visit with him, this would certainly not be the time to become enamored with the workers in the rose garden and miss the appointment with the president. Many of the Jews’ ungodly fantasy about angels led to Gnosticism, which includes the worship of angels. (Hebrews 1:4a, fn 1:4ff, Hebrews 2:2, 3, fn 2:2, 3, Galatians 3:19, 20, fn 3:19, 20, Colossians 2:18, 19, fn 2:18[1<sup>st</sup>], fn 2:18[2<sup>nd</sup>], Romans 1:25, fn 1:25) *Who should you pray to and why? Who should you not pray to and why?*

***BIBLICAL TRUTH ABOUT ANGELS*** can be seen in Scripture. Angels were all created at one time and a third of them rebelled and were thrown out of heaven becoming demons. They are spirit beings and they have some form of bodies but not flesh and blood. “They do not marry and are unable to reproduce. Angels are capable of appearing as humans, are very intelligent, have emotions, and can speak to humans. They minister to God and are used by Him to do His bidding.” John MacArthur, The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: Hebrews, pp. 22-24. (Hebrews 1:4a, Matthew 22:23-30, Matthew 28:1-7, fn 28:5-7, Hebrews 13:1, 2, fn 13:2, Jude 6, 14, fn 5-7, fn 14[2<sup>nd</sup>], Matthew 16:27 fn 16:27, Hebrews 1:14, fn 1:14, Matthew 4:11, fn 4:11) *Who has authority over the angels, and why is this important for you?*

***YOUR COMPARISON OF JESUS THE CREATOR*** to angels He created helps determine the true depth of your belief in the immensity of God. (Hebrews 1:4a, Genesis 1:26, fn 1:26[1<sup>st</sup>], Psalm 102:25-27, fn 102:25-27, Hebrews 1:10-12, fn 1:10-12, Mark 9:2-7, fn 9:3ff) *When you have a special time in worship, how big does your Lord seem?*

*As you daily study the truths about Jesus, in what ways is the presence of the Holy Spirit revealing to you God’s majesty and glory?*