

Names of God: Malak Jehovah – Angel of Jehovah

Genesis 16.7–10

Don Ruhl • Savage Street, Grants Pass, Oregon • December 1, In the year of our Lord Christ, 2019

Scripture Reader and Reading:

Song Leader and Song Suggestions:

Prelude:

I. There is a promise of the Lord, or

A. perhaps it is more of a declaration of a fact,

B. of something wonderful

1. that the Lord does for us.

2. I'll tell you about it toward the end of my message today.

a) However, I will tell you this much for now:

b) Something encamps all around those of us who fear the Lord.

II. Today, I want to show you the Angel of Jehovah,

A. which comes from either Malak Jehovah or Malak Adonai, but

B. I want you to see that this was not what we think of as an angel, but

1. someone else very special.

2. Someone who appeared often in the Old Testament,

a) though we typically do not think of Him

b) as appearing until later.

Persuasion:

I. The Lord and the Angel of Jehovah

A. Genesis 16 shows a conflict between Sarah and Hagar.

1. Finally, Abraham told his wife Sarah

2. that her maid was in her hand to do as Sarah pleased.

a) Sarah dealt harshly with Hagar, and

b) she fled from the presence of Sarah:

7 Now the Angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, by the spring on the way to Shur. 8 And He said, “Hagar, Sarai’s maid, where have you come from, and where are you going?” She said, “I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai.” 9 The Angel of the LORD said to her, “Return to your mistress, and submit yourself under her hand.” 10 Then the Angel of the LORD said to her, “I will multiply your descendants exceedingly, so that they shall not be counted for multitude.”

– Genesis 16.7–10

- (1) Moses wrote that the angel of the Lord found Hagar.
- (2) Yet, did you note verse 10?
 - (a) The angel of the Lord declared
 - (b) that *He* would multiply her descendants.
 - i) I thought that was something
 - ii) that God did.

B. Genesis 21 shows that problems between Sarah and Hagar erupted again and

1. Abraham had to send Hagar and her son away.
2. She wandered for a while and
 - a) her water ran out.
 - b) She placed her young son about a bowshot away,
 - c) believing that he was going to die.

17 And God heard the voice of the lad. Then the angel of God called to Hagar out of heaven, and said to her, “What ails you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is. 18 Arise, lift up the lad and hold him with your hand, for I will make him a great nation.”

– Genesis 21.17–18

- (1) I thought God was the One who makes nations.

(2) Yet, the angel or messenger of God speaks of himself as doing it.

C. Genesis 22 shows God telling Abraham

1. to go to a certain mountain and
2. to offer his son Isaac as a burnt offering.
 - a) To whom were people in Old Testament times to offer a burnt offering?
 - b) The only one that I know of is God.
 - c) In fact, offering a burnt offering to anyone else was idolatry.
3. Anyway, Abraham prepared his son as a burnt offering, but this happened:

11 But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” So he said, “Here I am.” 12 And He said, “Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.”

– Genesis 22.11–12

- a) The angel of the Lord called to Abraham and spoke with him.
- b) The angel of the Lord told Abraham not to sacrifice his son.
 - (1) Why did the angel stop Abraham?
 - (2) The angel said because Abraham
 - (a) feared God and
 - (b) that Abraham would not withhold his son “from Me.”
 - i) This equates the angel of Jehovah with Jehovah.

D. Genesis 31 makes it clear,

1. that Moses used Angel of God and God of Bethel interchangeably and
2. Moses said that Jacob claimed
 - a) that the Angel of God spoke to him,
 - b) calling himself the God of Bethel.

11 “Then the Angel of God spoke to me in a dream, saying, ‘Jacob.’ And I said, ‘Here I am.’ 12 And He said, ‘Lift your eyes now and see, all the rams which leap on the flocks are streaked, speckled, and gray-spotted; for I have seen all that Laban is doing to you. 13 I am the God of Bethel, where you anointed the pillar and where you made a vow to Me. Now arise, get out of this land, and return to the land of your family.’”

– Genesis 31.11–13

- (1) The Angel of God spoke saying that He was the God of Bethel.
- (2) Jacob never made a vow to any angel, but to God.

E. Turn to Exodus 3.

1. Who appeared to Moses in the burning bush?
2. I know you will say, “God,” and you would be correct, but
3. there is more to the answer:

2 And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. 3 Then Moses said, “I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn.” 4 So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” 5 Then He said, “Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.” 6 Moreover He said, “I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.

– Exodus 3.2–6

- a) The Angel of the LORD (notice all caps), said that He was God.
 - b) Moses feared to look upon God, but it was the Angel of Jehovah.
4. In Galatians 3.19, Paul said that angels worked with Moses.

F. Exodus 23 provides insight into why the angel of Jehovah and God

1. are used interchangeably.
2. I believe the Father speaks here:

20 “Behold, I send an Angel before you to keep you in the way and to bring you into the place which I have prepared. 21 Beware of Him and obey His voice; do not provoke Him, for He will not pardon your transgressions; for My name is in Him. 22 But if you indeed obey His voice and do all that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries. 23 For My Angel will go before you and bring you in to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites and the Hivites and the Jebusites; and I will cut them off.

– Exodus 23.20–23

G. Judges 2 shows the angel of Jehovah speaking as God:

1 Then the Angel of the LORD came up from Gilgal to Bochim, and said: “I led you up from Egypt and brought you to the land of which I swore to your fathers; and I said, ‘I will never break My covenant with you. 2 And you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall tear down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed My voice. Why have you done this? 3 Therefore I also said, ‘I will not drive them out before you; but they shall be thorns in your side, and their gods shall be a snare to you.’”

– Judges 2.1–3

H. Judges 6 introduces the angel of Jehovah but quickly calls him someone else:

11 Now the Angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth tree which was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites. 12 And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him, and said to him, “The LORD is with you, you mighty man of valor!” 13 Gideon said to Him, “O my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, ‘Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the LORD has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.” 14 Then the LORD turned to him and said, “Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?”

– **Judges 6.11–14**

- I. By now, what Judges 13 says should not surprised us:

21 When the Angel of the LORD appeared no more to Manoah and his wife, then Manoah knew that He was the Angel of the LORD. 22 And Manoah said to his wife, “We shall surely die, because we have seen God!”

– **Judges 13.21–22**

II. The Angel of Jehovah Is Jesus of Nazareth

- A. When you open the New Testament and read John 1 you discover this:

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

– **John 1.1**

14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

– **John 1.14**

1. Why is Jesus is labeled as the Word?
2. Jesus is the Message of God.
3. Jesus is the Message and the Messenger of God.
4. The Messenger of God is the Angel of God.
5. The Message of God is Jesus.
6. Jesus is the Message and the Messenger of God.

- B. Malachi 3 speaks of two messengers:

1. Remember that angel simply means messenger.
2. In fact, the name “Malachi,” means messenger or angel.

**1 “Behold, I send My messenger,
And he will prepare the way before Me.**

**And the Lord, whom you seek,
Will suddenly come to His temple,
Even the Messenger of the covenant,
In whom you delight.
Behold, He is coming,”
Says the LORD of hosts.**

– Malachi 3.1

3. The first messenger is John the Baptist, but
4. the Messenger of the covenant is Jesus Christ.

Exhortation:

I. Turn to Psalm 34.

A. Now for that promise of the Lord, or

1. that declaration of a fact,

B. of something wonderful

1. that the Lord does for us.
2. Psalm 34 shows what David had learned in life:

**7 The angel of the LORD encamps all around those who fear Him,
And delivers them.**

– Psalm 34.7

II. Second Kings 6 shows that in reality:

16 So he answered, “Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.” 17 And Elisha prayed, and said, “LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.” Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

– 2 Kings 6.16–17

III. Second Chronicles 32 shows the understanding of King Hezekiah:

7 “Be strong and courageous; do not be afraid nor dismayed before the king of Assyria, nor before all the multitude that is with him; for there are more with us than with him. 8 With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God, to help us and to fight our battles.” And the people were strengthened by the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.

– 2 Chronicles 32.7–8

IV. First John 4 makes a wonderful promise:

4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

– 1 John 4.4

V. Did not Jesus make the promise that He would be with us unto the end?

VI. Question: Do I believe all of this?

- A. Yes, I do believe all of it, and
- B. I have staked my life and my death upon these truths that I have shown you,
 - 1. especially the last part about
 - 2. the Angel of the Lord surrounding me and the Lord being with me.

VII. Another question: Do you believe all of this?

- A. If so, what do you about it?
- B. Do you live in peace and faith,
 - 1. knowing that the Angel of the Lord surrounds you, and
 - 2. that Jesus is with you through all of the issues of life that you experience?
- C. Have you become a follower of Jesus Christ?
 - 1. If not, do you want to become one?
 - 2. Come forward and I will tell you what you must do.