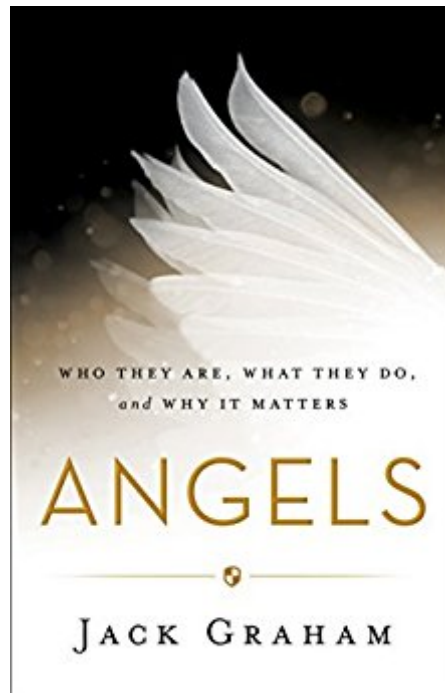




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Angels: Who They Are, What They Do, And Why It Matters



Synopsis

Leading Baptist Pastor Teaches the Truth about Angels
Myths about angels are everywhere. Do we become angels when we die? Are angels always hovering nearby, on guard to protect us from danger? Can we talk to them? Many of our ideas about angels come from the media, which is more interested in ratings and ticket sales than truth. As Christians it's important to understand what angels really are. Pastor Jack Graham walks readers through Scripture, revealing the truth about angels and their roles as worshipers of the Lord, witnesses to his glory, and warriors fighting on his behalf. Focusing on practical application, Dr. Graham separates fact from fiction, encouraging you to become a better worshiper, warrior, and witness. Includes end-of-chapter questions. A small-group curriculum DVD will also be available.

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Customer Reviews

Pastor Jack Graham has written a great book here about angels and their divine inspiration and mission in guiding and protecting those who love and follow God. The overall focus of the book,

however, is centered on Jesus Christ. We have a loving Heavenly Father who is for us every step of the way and whose angels are with us as we go. Angels respond to the will of God and faithfully point us toward Christ. Angels were present at every critical moment in Jesus' life, and angels are present to guide and protect those who love and serve God today. I have been a big fan of Pastor Graham for the past several years. I enjoy his podcasts, full sermons, and of course his books. If you've ever listened to him preach you know that he powerfully and boldly preaches the Word of God. He is very straightforward and sticks to the Bible. This comes through in his writing as well. I read an article today from The Gospel Coalition by Jared C. Wilson that stated "Sometimes gifted preachers are gifted writers and sometimes gifted writers are gifted preachers, but more often than not, guys gifted to preach aren't necessarily gifted to write (and vice versa)." Jack Graham is definitely a gifted preacher and writer. This book begins with an excellent heartfelt foreword by Roma Downey (of Touched by an Angel fame). Roma reminds us that if we have a solid faith in God that we will see His divine activity all around us. Although the Bible says very little about angels, this book is saturated with scripture that, as mentioned earlier, serves to point us toward Christ. In his last book "Unseen", Jack Graham devoted one chapter to angels. In this book he lays out fifteen key aspects of Christ's sufficiency made manifest by angelic dealings in the biblical account. He also gives depictions of what Heaven will be like, as told in the scriptures. Pastor Graham includes commentary and quotes from noted pastors and biblical scholars. Personal stories are also included where people have experienced angelic intervention or presence. One thing I found intriguing is the use of several different translations of the Bible throughout the book. The majority of scriptural quotations come from the ESV, but he also utilizes The Message, The Amplified Bible, The Living Bible, KJV, NKJV, NASB, and NLT. I see nothing wrong with this, rather I believe certain translations can make the content more illustrative or relevant to today's society. I wanted to include this point so that other readers would be aware of it. If you believe in God, and you believe that the Bible is His infallible and inerrant Word, then you believe in angels. Pastor Graham points out the ABCs of divine protection in this book: "For those who have placed their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, protection is Available, protection is Beneficial, and protection is Constant." That, brothers and sisters, is a comforting thought. I would recommend this book to all Christians, young and old. May it serve as a reminder of the divine presence that encompasses us all as we live each day for Christ. I received this as a free ARC from Bethany House Publishers on NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.

This is a book about angels unlike any I've read before. Rather than merely facts about angels,

although there are some, Graham has provided readers with spiritual concepts and practical lessons for life from biblical stories about angels. From Isaiah's account of angels giving God glory, crying, "Holy, holy, holy," we learn the importance of holiness and what it means to us. He includes an acronym for holy with four points to help us on our own journey of holiness. From the story of Jacob and the stairway to heaven we find that angels constantly live in the presence of God. "...[Angels] have determined that the only way to live out their true purpose is to obey God and accomplish his purposes. They have made it their sole aim in life to connect the glory of heaven with the realities of planet earth." Graham includes practical ways for us to know the will of God and do it too. Other lessons include the coming judgment, angels as an example of spiritual fervor, how to combat temptation, that we are never alone, that God equips us for what He asks us to do, and a few more. I appreciate that, in general, Graham does not speculate. He sticks to Scripture in describing what angels can and cannot do. He does tell some great stories about himself and contemporary people and their encounters with angels. My only hesitancy with the book is Graham's use of Psalm 91 when writing about our guardian angels and our protection. While he tells some wonderful stories of angels protecting believers from harm, I couldn't help but think of cases where believers have been tortured and martyred. I still have plenty of questions about the promises in Psalm 91 and the reality of Christians being persecuted today. I found the exploration of angels and their choices very interesting. Angels have (had) free will. We know this because some rebelled. The ones remaining in God's presence remain perfectly obedient to His will, Graham writes. "The evidence of angelic free will we find in God's Word shows up at their creation, but never again after that." This is the first I've read about this "one time" free will for angels and I am still trying to think it through. This book would be a good resource for a pastor or teacher preparing for a series on angels. It's good for all Christians as Graham is very personable in his writing. It is an encouragement to be made aware of all that angels do in our lives and what that means for our own spiritual walk. I received a complimentary galley of this book from the publisher for the purpose of an independent and honest review.

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