

Angels

Luke 1:5-25

What's a favorite Christmastime encounter with angels? Where, when, and why?

Read [Luke 1:5-7](#). What's included in the backstory as expressed in these verses?

Read [vs. 8-17](#). Put yourself in Zachariah's sandals. What would have been so surprising?

Read [vs. 18](#). Can you relate to Zach's fear and disbelief? How and why? When have you felt this way?

What might feel very fearful in your life right now, a situation where you struggle to trust/believe God for something better?

Read [vs. 19-20](#). What do you find most astounding about the angel's response? Why?

Read [vs. 21-25](#). What happened?

Consider these angelic insights:

The title "angel" means "messenger or one who is sent by God on a mission."

Angels were created by Christ, to give him praise. ([Psalm 148:1-5](#); [Colossians 1:16](#))

Angels are "ministering spirits" who serve for the benefit of God's people. ([Hebrews 1:14](#))

They always serve to spotlight Jesus, his fulfillment of the kingdom story. ([Colossians 2](#); [Hebrews 1](#))

Which of these insights supply clarification, new understanding or fresh reminders and encouragement?

For additional insight, read [Psalm 103:20](#) and [Hebrews 13:2](#).

How might we respond today and across Advent 2023?

- Be extra-hospitable, on mission with God, especially with strangers.
- Don't live in fear. Let this be your season for greater growth in faith!
- Pray with bold and tenacious anticipation.
- Drop your overly analytical, play-it-safe outlook.
- Be angelic in your joyous worship, obedient service, responsive to his sending, and eager to share the good news of his gracious, kingdom agenda!

Which of the above might give you some necessary traction and helpful perspective in this season?

Get Ready for Next Week:

Read each day from [Luke 1:26-38](#).