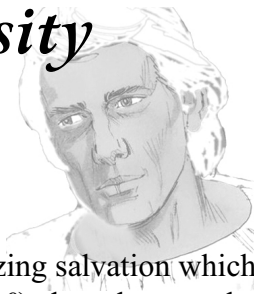


Intense Angelic Curiosity and Fascination!

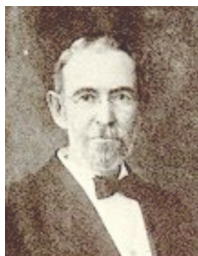
1 Peter 1:1-12



The Old Testament prophets spoke of an amazing salvation which would be accomplished by grace (*1 Peter 1:10*), based upon the sufferings of Christ and His resurrection to glory which followed (*1 Peter 1:11*). These things “the angels desire to look into” (*1 Peter 1:12*). The Greek verb “look into” means to stoop, to look with the body bent and the head bowed forward. It is used of John, Peter and Mary Magdalene stooping down to gaze into the empty tomb with puzzled amazement (*Luke 24:12; John 20:5, 11*). Here, it is used of the angels. With intense curiosity and fascination, they contemplate the drama of human redemption.

After the fall of Satan (*Ezek. 28:14-17; Isa. 14:12-14*), the angels had to make a decision that would determine their eternal destiny. They must choose either to remain faithful to their Creator, or to follow the devil in his rebellion. The majority of angels remained loyal to God, but a third of the angels followed the wicked one in spite of having a complete knowledge of who God was (*Rev. 12:4*). There is no plan of salvation for angels. No angel has ever been born again or had his sins forgiven. No angels can sing, “I’m only a sinner saved by grace.” Christ did not die for angels. God’s angels are fascinated by these realities as they intently ponder the mysteries of the salvation they have never experienced.

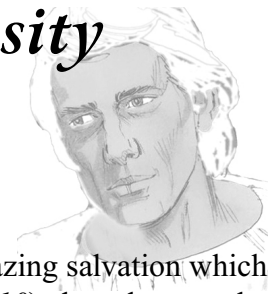
As Johnson Oatman, Jr. wrote [1894]: “Holy, holy, is what the angels sing / And I expect to help them make the courts of heaven ring / But when I sing redemption’s story, they will fold their wings / For angels never felt the joys that our salvation brings. So although I’m not an angel, I know that over there / I will join a blessed chorus that the angels cannot share / I will sing about my Savior who upon dark Calvary / Freely pardoned my transgressions, died to set the sinner free.”



~George Zeller: www.middletonbiblechurch.org

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