

Where have all these angels come from?

Books about angels sell on wings. The subject makes authors rich. Hollywood producers and actors also do well by them. Some think the interest in celestial beings signifies revived religious consciousness. I'm not so sure.

Speculation about the existence of these heavenly beings and their activities compares with guesswork involved in futures markets. Many folks find comfort in thinking that a superhuman being watches over them. Many swear that angels have rescued them from dangerous situations, even death. Jesus did affirm that angels watch over children.

Here's what is troublesome about the seraph subject. Too many people get their ideas about angels from movies, magazines, books, and the Internet. Yet, the Bible gives the only authentic information and it purposely leaves us with many unanswered questions.

Consider what God's word does say. First, Scripture identifies angels as the Lord's messengers, who appear at times in human form. The Greek word is masculine. Not one Bible angel appeared in female form. Second, the devil has messengers. Third, godly angels always insisted that human beings honor only the Lord God, our creator (*Revelation 22:8, 9*). Last, the *Book of Hebrews* tells us that formerly, God spoke to people in various ways, "But in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son." People infatuated with angels face a sobering question: Why would you want to spend all your time with the guards at the entry gate when you have the privilege of going inside and visiting with the commander-in-chief? God, our Creator always hears the prayers of humble, repentant folks who pray in Christ.