

September 14, 2019
September 21, 2019

Adult Sunday School Class

Objective: Increase understanding of creation, the trinity and the mission of angels

Opening Prayer: Thank you Father, we pause now to acknowledge your presence..... I thank you that you always hear me. That you never leave me or forsake me and that you are an ever present help. I ask for a special anointing on this lesson plan and the time we will spend together today. Bless both speaker and listener. Open our hearts to receive a fresh revelation from your Spirit. I bind forces that would hinder and welcome the Holy Spirit as our teacher today. In Jesus name!

Read: Hebrews 1

Q – When was the letter to Hebrews written? - Prior to the destruction of the temple in AD 70. As a point of reference all of Paul's letters and the earliest gospels were also written prior to AD 70s.

Q – Who is the author of the letter to the Hebrews? - We can't be certain but the most likely candidates are either Barnabas or Apollos.

Q – For almost 1200 years the author was thought to be Paul. What do we know that would indicate Paul is NOT the author?

- Paul's practice was to identify himself in his letters and this author does not do that.
- Compare the first few verses of any of Paul's known letters to those of Hebrews 1.
- Romans 1, I & II Corinthians 1, Galatians 1, Ephesians 1, Philippians 1, etc.
 - Hebrews 1: 1) In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2) but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.
 - Romans 1:1) Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God— 2) the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures (This sentence continues thru verse 4.)
- There is a statement in chapter 2 that indicates the gospel was “confirmed to us by those who heard him” which is in conflict with Paul's statement in Galatians that he was taught by direct revelation.
 - Hebrews 2:3) how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him.
 - Galatians 1: 11) I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that the gospel I preached is not of human origin. 12) I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it; rather, I received it by revelation from Jesus Christ.
- There are significant differences in writing style, sentence complexity and structure. Read and compare the following examples and verbalize the punctuation marks.
 - Titus 2:11) For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. 12) It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13) while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14) who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.
 - Romans 1:1) Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God— 2) the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures 3) regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, 4) and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Hebrews 1:1) In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2) but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. 3) The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. 4) So he became as much superior to the angels as the name he has inherited is superior to theirs.
- Q – How many commas and other punctuation marks are in the longest sentences in each of these examples?
 - These may not be the most extreme examples but they will allow us to see the differences in writing styles.
 - Titus - 6 and one hyphen.
 - Hebrews - 3
 - Romans - 4, one hyphen and one colon.

Q – Which of these pieces of evidence concerning the authorship of Hebrews is the most compelling to you?

- To me the most compelling difference is the authors failure to identify himself as Paul in the letter.
- Also, the statement the author makes about confirmation by those who heard him.
- Paul said His Gospel was not from any human source but by a direct revelation of Jesus Christ.

Q – How is it that God chooses to speak to people today?

- Through the bible, God's word, that was spoken to or inspired through the authors of scripture.
- By the Holy Spirit.
- By inspired teaching, preaching and music.
- Through prophecy and tongues & interpretation or the utterance gifts, as they are sometimes called.
- On occasion He has spoken to individuals through angelic beings, e.g. Daniel, Mary, Joseph, Paul and some modern day individuals like Roland Buck, the author of Angels on Assignment.

Q – How long has God been using these methods of communication or “channels” to speak to people?

- God spoke to His people through prophets and angelic beings through-out the scriptures.
- Since being written, the scripture has been a direct communication link between God and man.
- The ministry of the Holy Spirit, as we know it today, was initiated when Jesus ascended into heaven. Jesus said, if I go away I'll send another comforter who will teach you all things.
- The utterance gifts as we know them, were first poured out on believers on the day of Pentecost.

Q – Which of the methods of communication or “channels” does God use as a primary means to speak to us and which ones are used on an exception basis?

- Bible, (reading, teaching and preaching ministries) – Primary
- Revelation, teaching and the calling to remembrance ministry of the Holy Spirit – Primary
- Prophets and utterance gifts – Exception situations.
- Angelic visitation – Extremely rare and only in exceptional situations.

Q – Can anyone assume a position of leadership in the church or do we have qualifications for our spiritual leaders?

- The scriptures spell out very specific qualifications for spiritual leadership and even for those who are being used in positions of service or administration.
- In general, individuals in positions of leadership need to be above reproach and have a track record of living according to exemplary Christian principals.

Q – Does the same or a similar standard exist for those who would lead us through the use of utterance gifts and prophetic messages?

- I believe it does.
- However my observation is the Pentecostal movement has a poor track record of up-holding the standard.

- We all too frequently hear statements like “I’d rather have wild fire than no fire.” which tends to undermine the mature qualifications required of those in leadership.

Q – What is meant by the statement “wild fire”?

- It means a message intended to represent an utterance gift of the Spirit of God.
- A counterfeit message of the Holy Spirit frequently expressed in terms of authority and emotional intensity.
- At times it may contain a statement, something to the effect of “this is what God wants you to hear”.
- It may contain scriptural quotations or partial references for purposes of authentication.
- These kinds of messages frequently come from individuals who;
 - Either want spiritual recognition and/or control or
 - Become spiritually overwhelmed and are not good at managing their emotions.

Q – What are the most likely sources of a counterfeit utterance of the Holy Spirit?

- A well meaning individual who can't distinguish between a sense of the presence of God's Spirit and their own emotions.
- A prideful individual intending to take control or gain spiritual recognition.
- A disruptive spirit of satan or the enemy of our souls.

Q – How good are you at discriminating between a genuine utterance gift message and an emotional outburst or message from another source? - Most of us are not real good at discerning of spirits.

Q – Why is that?

- We are not well taught or informed on the subject.
- Frequently there has been a well meaning but wrongful validation of spirits from people who are recognized as being in positions of spiritual leadership.
- Satan is the author of deception and deception is major weapon in his arsenal.

Q – How would you define positions of spiritual leadership?

- Pastors, teachers and worship leaders.
- Individuals who are generally older and recognized as mature Christians.
- People who are frequently called upon for public prayer.
- Individuals who pray with a sense of authority, use religious tones or phrases, may at times speak in a loud voice and express strong emotions.

Q – How does the track record of this church measured up to the standard we just established for public prophetic utterances?

- Not as well as we'd like.
- However the problem is not unique to our church.
- In general, the Pentecostal movement has validated a lot of non-sense over the years in the name of the Holy Spirit.
- Also, in our lifetime, Christian media in the pursuit of sensationalism and miracles has also done a real disservice on this subject as well
- I believe wrongful validation is a primary cause of opposition to spiritual gifts in the Christian community.
- We need to do better!

Q – How would you characterize the typical way the Holy Spirit speaks to human beings?

- In a whisper or in a “still, small voice”.
- He speaks to us in our inner thoughts or to our spirits.
- He typically guides us thru impressions and a confirmation of God's word.
- Above all, He is a respecter of persons, including us as individuals.

- If He has a message for you personally He will attempt to deliver it to you personally.
- If someone says they have a word from the Lord for you and it does not confirm what the Spirit of God has already been speaking to you about be suspicious, God seldom acts that way.
 - Allow me to demonstrate this point for you from scripture.
 - Listen to what Paul said prior to the prophetic message Agabus gave about him.
 - Acts 20:22) “And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. 23) I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me.
 - Acts 21:10) After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. 11) Coming over to us, he took Paul’s belt, tied his own hands and feet with it and said, “The Holy Spirit says, ‘In this way the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will hand him over to the Gentiles.’”

Q – How good are we at recognizing when the Holy Spirit is speaking to us or perhaps more importantly, when He wants to speak to us?

- If we are perfectly honest, most of us would respond by saying “good question” or with some other diversionary technique. :-))
- Truth be told, we are not as good at this as we should be, particularly since we boldly confess we're Pentecostal or Charismatic.

Q – How did Agabus qualify his statement about Paul's pending arrest in Jerusalem? - Acts 21:10) After we had been there a number of days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. 11) Coming over to us, he took Paul’s belt, tied his own hands and feet with it and said, “The Holy Spirit says, ‘In this way the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem will bind the owner of this belt and will hand him over to the Gentiles.’”

Q – Is it accurate to paraphrase what Agabus said by saying “this is what God says”? - It is.

Q – When an individual is used in the utterance gifts are they not in-essence preceding their statements with this same phrase, “this is what God says”? - They are.

Q – Is it normal to feel a sense of heavy responsibility and a desire to avoid being required to make judgments about the validity of public utterance gifts?

- It is and for good reason.
- When you disagree with someone who is saying “this is what God is telling me to say” you want to be certain you are correct.

----- Summary of topics covered last week and remainder of Lesson Plan -----

Summary:

- The author of Hebrews once thought to be Paul is most likely Apollos or Barnabas.
 - Paul identifies himself in all of his known letters to the churches.
 - There is a statement in Hebrews chapter 2 where this author says the gospel was confirmed to him by those who heard Jesus Christ.
 - This conflicts with Paul's statement that he received the gospel by direct revelation.
 - There are significant differences in writing style and sentence complexity.
- The letter was written prior to AD 70 as it speaks of the temple without reference to it's destruction.
- The primary way God speaks to us today is through:
 - His Word, the bible being revealed to our hearts and minds by His Holy Spirit.
 - Inspired preaching, teaching and music.
 - The utterance gifts, prophesy and or tongues with interpretation.
- The qualifications for people who would assume positions of leadership in the church are;
 - Spiritual maturity.
 - A good track record or Christian reputation in family, business and social settings.

- The guidelines for the public use of the utterance gifts are listed in I Corinthians 14.
- Individuals being used in the utterance gifts in public are linked with other positions of church leadership in I Corinthians 12 but only in a general sense.
 - I Corinthians 12:27) Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. 28) And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. 29) Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? 30) Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? 31) Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.
- It is my belief that the church has generally failed to hold individuals being used in public utterances to the same kind of standard we require of others in positions of church leadership.
 - Well meaning but wrongful validation of utterances occurs all too often.
 - The statement of "I'd rather have wild fire than no fire." undermines the credibility of the utterance gifts in general and the spiritual maturity required of the individuals involved.
 - One of the frequent tactics of the enemy is to destroy from within and the utterance gifts are no exception.
 - Church leadership needs to do a better job of validating the genuine public utterances of God's Spirit and manage messages from other spirits more effectively .

Q – What is the source of all scripture? - God revealing Himself through the triune Godhead by revelation or inspiration to those chosen to record His message in the scriptures.

Q – Who can complete this sentence? In the beginning _____? - God created the heavens and the earth.

Q – How does John describe the origin of the heavens and earth?

- Speaking of Jesus he says, John 1:2) He was with God in the beginning. 3) Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 10) He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him.

Q - How does the writer of Hebrews say the world was made?

- Hebrews 1:1) In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, 2) but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and **through whom also he made the universe**. 3) The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

Q – To a casual reader, how is the apparent conflict in these 3 scriptural references resolved? - By an accurate explanation of the trinity.

Q – How does Genesis say God created all things?

- By speaking them into existence or by "dispatching His words" to accomplish the task.
- I'm told the original manuscripts say, God said "light be and light was".

Q – How does John clarify the process and help further resolve the differences in the way creation is described by these three authors?

- John 1:1) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2) He was with God in the beginning. 14) The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Q – What did the Centurion say to Jesus when He offered to come to his house to heal his daughter?

- Matthew 8:8) The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. 9) For I myself am a man under authority, with

soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it.

Q – Can someone give me other examples of Jesus dispatching words to accomplish His purposes?

- The fig tree that withered and died.
- Speaking to the wind and waves on the sea of Galilee.
- Calling Lazarus from the grave.

Q – How does Hebrews say the creation is being sustained?

- Hebrews 1:3) The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

Q – How is he doing that? How are all things sustained?

- It's presumptuous to believe we fully understand how God is doing this however one of the ways he sustains things is through elements of His initial design.
- Q - How is it that our bodies are able to deal with disease or significant injury?
 - Through our immune system and a self healing process or the regeneration of damaged tissue.
 - God's designs include systems of support or you might say, His designs are self supporting.

Q – Wouldn't it be great if our cars were designed to heal themselves when the fenders got dinged or the transmission started to slip? - It would be!

Q – How does the immune system of our bodies work?

- The immune system consists of a series of processes that first recognizes the type of attack that is occurring and then builds the appropriate defense.
- Think about that for a moment.
- There is not an "off the shelf" remedy for each type of illness, rather the body customizes the protection required for the specific attack.
- Immunizations provide previously built solutions from other immune system sources.
- This is an amazing aspect of one of God's self-supporting designs.

Q – What is one of the major self supporting aspects of our universe?

- The force of gravity. It holds our world together.
- A slight variation in the force of gravity would result in the world as we know it being destroyed.
- Example,
 - If a ruler was stretched across the entire universe to represent the force of gravity.
 - If the corresponding force of gravity were to be reduced by one inch on that scale it would destroy our universe and life as we know it.

Q – How does Solomon describe aspects of God's self supporting designs?

- Proverbs 16:4) The Lord has made everything [to accommodate itself and contribute] to its own end *and* His own purpose—even the wicked [are fitted for their role] for the day of calamity *and* evil. (Amplified translation)

Q – Why the transition from "has made everything" to "even the wicked"?

- I believe this thought bridges both the natural and spiritual aspects of God's creations.
- God's designs are generally consistent and His design for the reborn person includes spiritual support systems.
- For example, the scriptures tell us that
 - When we are weak, He is strong.
 - If we sin we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.
 - When the comforter comes he will teach you all things.

- I marvel at the elegance of God's designs, they fill me with wonder and astonishment!

Q – There is an element of God's design for our spiritual support that regardless of circumstances, provides for peace and contentment in the life of believers. Does anyone know how this is accomplished?

- Philippians 4:4) Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! 5) Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6) Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, **with thanksgiving**, present your requests to God. 7) And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8) Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. 9) Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me, or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

Q – How would you apply this scriptural advice to a person who is dealing with difficult circumstances, severe illness or personal tragedy? - I'd suggest they:

- Pray a prayer like this one. Father, I thank you for being with me in the midst of my afflictions I know you will never leave me or forsake me and are an ever-present help. I ask for the grace and strength to achieve the maximum benefit from this ordeal and to be a blessing to others in the process. I know that what the enemy meant for evil you are using for my good and I thank you for the many ways you are blessing me in this situation.
- Rehearse and meditate on the many ways God has blessed them in the past and the assurance of His unchanging nature toward His own.
- When anxieties or fears arise and for most of us they will, practice the process of physically, mentally and spiritually relaxing and allowing the Spirit of God to “wash” them all away.
- Instead of being anxious, meditate on thoughts like these” In the presence of Jehovah, God Almighty, Prince of Peace, Troubles vanish, hearts are mended In the presence of the King.”

Q – Can we override the systems of support God has provided in his design for us? - We can;

- We get sick and our immune system needs all our energies directed toward fighting the disease. Instead of staying in bed and piling on the covers to stay warm we decide it's more important to get up and go to work. After all, What will they do without me?
- The Holy Spirit is sending out early warnings signals about the company we're keeping or the activity we are contemplating but we ignore them. After all, we're mature Christians, we know what we're doing.
- We choose to listen to the “poor me” thoughts of the enemy and ignore the admonition to rejoice in the Lord always that allows His peace to reign in our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Q – How would you paraphrase what is being said in verses 10 – 12?

- 10) “In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. 11) They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. 12) You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end.”
- In-essence the writer is saying the world as we know it will wear out and come to an end but the Godhead never changes.

Q – What are your thoughts concerning the world as we know it wearing out? Do you believe this will just happen or was it “programmed” into the initial design?

- I believe it was programmed in at the time of initial design.

Q – How do you envision the wear-out process of this earth will occur? - Allow me to read the descriptions from several places in scriptures.

- Matthew 24:29) “Immediately after the distress of those days “the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.”

30) “Then will appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven. And then all the peoples of the earth will mourn when they see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory.

- Luke 21:25) “There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. 26) People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. 27) At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28) When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”
- II Peter 3:10) But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. 12b) That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.
- Revelation 21:1) Then I saw “a new heaven and a new earth,” for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. 2) I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. 3) And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 4) ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

Q – Will the defense system this country is building against meteorites on a collision course with earth’s orbit be able to protect us from a large meteorite storm?

- I doubt it and meteorite storms could be symptomatic of our universe wearing out.
- If the end occurs this way the peoples of earth may not know “the day or hour” but will have some advanced warning.
- Recall what Luke said, “people will faint from terror for the fear of what is coming upon the earth”.
- Food for thought!

Q – What does this statement in verse 14 “Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?” mean to you?

- I interpret it to mean that one of the duties and responsibilities of the angels is to protect, support and serve Christians.
- Since you and I are Christians that means this level of support is extended to us as well.

Q – Are there scriptural examples of angelic support for believers? - Yes, there are:

- Acts 5:17) Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. 18) They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. 19) But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. 20) “Go, stand in the temple courts,” he said, “and tell the people all about this new life.” 21) At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people. When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin—the full assembly of the elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for the apostles. 22) But on arriving at the jail, the officers did not find them there. So they went back and reported, 23) “We found the jail securely locked, with the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside.” 24) On hearing this report, the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests were at a loss, wondering what this might lead to.
- Acts 12:6) The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. 7) Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. “Quick, get up!” he said, and the chains fell off Peter’s wrists. 8) Then the angel said to him, “Put on your clothes and sandals.” And Peter did so. “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,” the angel told him. 9) Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. 10) They passed the first and second guards and

came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.

- Daniel 6: 16) So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!" 17) A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel's situation might not be changed. 18) Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep. 19) At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. 20) When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?" 21) Daniel answered, "May the king live forever! 22) My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight.
- Acts 8: 26) Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." 27) So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means "queen of the Ethiopians"). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, 28) and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet. 29) The Spirit told Philip, "Go to that chariot and stay near it." 30) Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. "Do you understand what you are reading?" Philip asked. 31) "How can I," he said, "unless someone explains it to me?" So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. 32) This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: "He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. 33) In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth." 34) The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" 35) Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. 36) As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" 37) Some manuscripts include here *Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may."* *The eunuch answered, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."* 38) And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. 39) When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. 40) Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

Q – In addition to these examples are there other scriptural reference to the duties and responsibilities of angels?

- There are to name a few of my favorites:
 - Psalms 91:9) If you say, "The LORD is my refuge," and you make the Most High your dwelling, 10) no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent. 11) For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways; 12) they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. 13) You will tread on the lion and the cobra; you will trample the great lion and the serpent. 14) "Because he loves me," says the LORD, "I will rescue him; I will protect him, for he acknowledges my name. 15) He will call on me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him. 16) With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation.
 - Psalms 103: 20) Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word. (Some translations say who obey the voice of his word.)