Angels
Matt. 4:11

Introduction:
A. “Angels” are a hot topic today.
   1. Popular topic in religious literature.
   2. “Touched by an Angel” – a popular TV show.
B. “Angels” = “messengers” or “ones sent”.
   1. Usually refers to spiritual or heavenly beings.
   2. Sometimes refers to men who have been sent (cf. Lk. 7:24, 27; 9:52; Rev. 2-3).
C. We want to study two aspects of angels – their nature and their work.

Discussion:
I. The Nature of Angels.
   A. They are created spirits (Heb. 1:7)
   B. They are not gods.
      1. Jesus is much better. (Heb. 1:4).
      2. Must worship Jesus (Heb. 1:6)
      3. Not to be worshiped (Col. 2:18).
   C. They are associated with the church / kingdom (Heb. 12:22, 23).
   D. They have names and ranks (Luke 1:19; Jude 9)
   E. They do not marry and procreate nor die (Matt. 22:20; Lk. 20:36).
   F. They have appeared in various ways in the past.
   G. They may be in the midst of people “unaware” (Heb. 13:2).
   H. Satan also has angels (Matt. 25:41; Rev. 12:9).

II. The Work of Angels.
   A. They serve God as ministering spirits (Psa. 104:4; Heb. 1:7).
      1. Have appeared in human form (Gen. 19).
      2. Have been instruments of revelation in the past.
         b. Involved in the giving of the Old Law (Acts 7:53; Gal. 3:19; Heb. 2:2)
         c. Revelation now by Christ through his apostles (Heb. 2:2-4)
   B. They have an active interest in God’s people.
      1. They protect them (Psa. 34:7; 35:5,6; 91:11, 12; Matt. 18:10)
      2. They rejoice in their obedience (Lk. 15:10)
   C. They remove God’s people from the earth.
      1. They carried Lazarus to Abraham’s bosom (Luke 16:22).
      2. They will come with Jesus (Matt. 25:31)
      3. They will be active in the final judgment (Matt. 13:39, 41, 49)

Conclusion:
A. We can only know what God has revealed about the general activities of angels.
B. We know little of specific acts of angel activity in God’s providence in the world.
C. We must be careful not to speculate when we think we have their work in our lives (Deut. 29:29).