

Trinity Bible Church  
 Lesson 26  
 October 27, 2010

## 14. Angelic Salvation:

- M. The "Problem Verse." Heb 2:14-18
1. The Intention and Result of the Hypostatic Union. Heb 2:14
  2. The power of Satan and result to humanity. Heb 2:15
  3. The Crux Verse. Heb 2:16
    - a. The King James Version translates Hebrews 2:16 as "For verily he took not *on him the nature* of angels; but he took *on him* the seed of Abraham." (KJV)
    - b. Usages of EPILAMBANO (to receive upon oneself):  
(It is never used of salvation.)  
Matt 14:31; Acts 21:33; Mark 8:23; Luke 14:4; Luke 20:20,26; 23:26; Acts 16:19; 18:17; 21:30; Luke 9:47; Acts 9:27; Acts 17:19; Acts 23:19; 1 Tim 6:12,19; Heb 8:9
    - c. The verb "take hold of" or "help" based on a near and intermediate context of slavery (Heb 2:15 and Heb 8:9) denotes to rescue from the slavery of the fear of physical death. Cf Exo 1:16
    - d. Angels were never subject to physical death, hence no fear of it. Isa 14:13-14
    - e. The Present Tense of EPILAMBANO looks at a present ministry of Christ specifically to the "seed of Abraham."
    - f. If salvation alone is in view in this verse, why is the "Seed of Adam" not used in whom all die? Cf Rom 5:12
    - g. The "Seed of Abraham" can refer to either his physical or spiritual "seed."
    - h. Angels do not have a "seed" since they do not procreate.
    - i. Therefore, the contrast between angels and the seed of Abraham in this verse is there is a ministry available to man concerning the fear of death and not to angels, due to the difference in their nature.
    - j. If the word EPILAMBANO did refer to salvation the present tense would teach that salvation is no longer offered to angels, not that it never was offered.
  4. The reason for taking on flesh and blood. Heb 2:17
  5. Application to Believers in time. Heb 2:18
  6. Conclusion: These verses do not prove that salvation was never offered to angels, but that it is not offered now.
- N. Additional documentation of Angelic Salvation. Rom 8:18-23
1. Present sufferings and future glory. Rom 8:18

2. The revealing of the Sons of God. Rom 8:19
  3. Total Subjection of Creation. Rom 8:20
  4. Freedom for Creation. Rom 8:21
  5. All of Creation awaits this freedom. Rom 8:22
  6. Our part in creation. Rom 8:23
- O. Possible references to Total Angelic Fall. Job 4:18; 15:15; 25:2,5
- P. Observations concerning the position that no salvation was offered to angels.
1. This position is easily derived from the Calvinistic viewpoint of volition and predestination.
  2. Specifically, the claim would be that the Godly are always Godly and the fallen always fallen.
  3. It seems plausible that Satan would like mankind to believe that no salvation was offered to angels to make it appear God uses differing weights. Cf 1 Tim 5:21
  4. This theological position would also be readily derived from a theological position of Limited Atonement.
- Q. Comparison of the offer of Angelic Salvation with the Essence of God.
1. It increases our knowledge of the greatness of His Kingship in that He has the power to forgive and show mercy to even the most despicable being.
  2. Since His Righteousness and Justice were satisfied by Christ, there is no reason to not offer salvation.
  3. With His Integrity satisfied, Eternal Life in His presence could be legitimately offered to those who knowingly sinned or were deceived.
  4. His Love is demonstrated all the more to all of His enemies.
  5. His Omniscience obviously foreknew all the angels would fall, so why not provide them with a salvation offer?
  6. His Omnipotence has the power to bring about a New Creation that is "Not Able to Sin."
  7. His Omnipresence would be a witness to their fall as well as their salvation.
  8. It is compatible and reasonable that His Immutability would offer salvation to angels in order to make the same offer to Adam and Eve.
  9. His Veracity remains intact concerning His Immutability.
  10. Angelic Salvation also increases our knowledge of the magnitude of Grace, Mercy, Propitiation, Redemption, Reconciliation and the Absolutely, Totally Unique Celebrityship of our Lord Jesus Christ!

**R. Summary of Documentation of Angelic Salvation:**

1. Any position taken must be derived from Stated Truths of Scripture as there is no one simple verse that makes a statement either way.
2. Satan counterfeited salvation to Adam and Eve before it was offered to them by the Lord, indicating a preexisting knowledge of it.
3. There is no doctrine that will explain why fallen angels would not be offered forgiveness by God when Adam and Eve were.
4. The greatest expression of Mercy is an offer of peace (Reconciliation) to one's enemies, of which Satan is declared to be.
5. Human history is a demonstration of the Immutability of God's Essence, so since He offered salvation to Adam and Eve it is reasonable that He had offered it to angels.
6. Since all the angels fell, salvation must have been offered.
7. Had no salvation offer been made to angels, Christ could have taken on angelic form to pay the penalty for sin to demonstrate how His Love, Righteousness and Justice are not compromised.
8. Angelic Salvation is compatible with the symbolism of the Tabernacle including the Ark of the Covenant, The Veil, and Curtains.
9. Our Resurrection bodies will be equal to angels because of the imputation of righteousness which is given to saved creatures. They will be similar to Christ's.
10. God as Righteous Judge shows no partiality to angels or men.  
1 Tim 5:21
11. Garments which angels are seen wearing only after the Resurrection of Christ are given as a result of salvation.
12. There was a need to offer peace to the hostility that was present in ALL creation. Col 1:20
13. Heb 2:16 proves that salvation is no longer being offered to angels, not that it never was.
14. The viewpoint that all of the angels did not fall and those who did were not offered salvation seems to come from the Calvinistic Viewpoints of Predestination and Limited Atonement.
15. All creation was subjected to a resulting void caused by sin which indicates that "all have sinned." Rom 3:23 Cf Rom 8:19-23
16. There are other passages which lend direct support to a total angelic fall, but are not sufficient as proof texts.