

# Can You Hear the Angels Singing?

Pastor Tracy Stephens

*December 16, 2018*

TEXT: Luke 2:8-14

Angels Have Three Primary Responsibilities:

**RESPONSIBILITY #1: They \_\_\_\_\_ God.**

## **Revelation 5:11-12**

**11** *Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands,*

**12** *saying with a loud voice: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!"*

**RESPONSIBILITY #2: They are \_\_\_\_\_ of God.**

**RESPONSIBILITY #3: They \_\_\_\_\_ to people.**

## **Hebrews 13:2**

**2** *Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.*

Let's look at three different angelic encounters that intersect the Christmas story in order to help us see that which is ultimately real:

**ENCOUNTER #1: Don't be afraid of God's \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Luke 1:26-38**

**26** *Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,*

**27** *to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary.*

**28** *And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"*

**29** *But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was.*

**30** *Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.*

**31** *And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus.*

**32** *He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David.*

**33** *And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."*

**34** *Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?"*

**35** *And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.*

**36** *Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren.*

**37** *For with God nothing will be impossible."*

**38** *Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.*

**ENCOUNTER #2: Don't be afraid when everything seems to go \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Matthew 1:20-24**

**20** *But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to*

*take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.*

**21** *And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.”*

**22** *So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying:*

**23** *“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which is translated, “God with us.”*

**24** *Then Joseph, being aroused from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took to him his wife.*

### **Romans 8:28**

**28** *And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.*

**ENCOUNTER #3: Don't be afraid of the \_\_\_\_\_ .**

### **Luke 2:8-18**

**8** *And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.*

**9** *And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.*

**10** *And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.*

**11** *For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.*

**12** *And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.*

**13** *And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,*

**14** *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (KJV)*

**15** *So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, “Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.”*

**16** *And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.*

**17** Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.

**18** And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

**Luke 2:20**

**20** Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

Three Things That Good Angels Never Do:

**ANGEL NO-NO #1: Angels Never Take the Place of the \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Revelation 1:1**

**1** ... And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John.

**ANGEL NO-NO #2: Angels Never Take the Place of \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Revelation 22:8-9**

**8** Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things.

**9** Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."

**ANGEL NO-NO #3: Angels Never Take the Place of \_\_\_\_\_, the \_\_\_\_\_.**

**1 Timothy 2:5**

**5** *For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus.*

**Luke 15:10**

**10** *Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.*