

The Origin of Angels

A. Where do angels come from?

Angels were created at the command of God, and are commanded to praise God for it:

Psalm 148:2-5:

Praise Him, all His angels;
Praise Him, all His hosts!
Praise Him, sun and moon;
Praise Him, all stars of light!
Praise Him, highest heavens,
And the waters that are above the heavens!
Let them praise the name of the LORD,
For He commanded and they were created.

Everything that exists exists because Christ made it:

John 1:1-3, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.”

Christ was the One by and for Whom angels were created:

Colossians 1:16, “For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities —all things have been created by Him and for Him.”

B. What was the means of their origin?

Unlike men, angels do not procreate. All the angels who now exist are all the angels who will ever exist. Angels are not born.

Matthew 22:28-30, “In the resurrection therefore whose wife of the seven shall she be? For they all had her.” But Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures, or the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry, nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven.”

That angels are some times referred to as “sons of God” (Job 1:6, 2:1) may have something to do with them having been God’s direct creation. This is similar to how believers are now called “sons of God,” because as believers they are created anew in Christ.

Galatians 3:26, “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.”

Angels were all created at once. Like Adam, angels were created directly by God. Unlike Adam, however, angels were not created of previously created material (like dust).

Valley Bible Church Theology Studies

C. When were they created?

From Colossians 1:16 alone we cannot see when Christ created the angels, other than this happened some time in the past.

Although we do not know with certainty when God created the angels, in Job 38:1-10 (v. 7 in particular) we see by implication that angels were created before the creation of the material world.

D. How were they created?

Psalms 148:1-5:

PRAISE the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens;
Praise Him in the heights!
Praise Him, all His angels;
Praise Him, all His hosts!
Praise Him, sun and moon;
Praise Him, all stars of light!
Praise Him, highest heavens,
And the waters that are above the heavens!
Let them praise the name of the LORD,
For He commanded and they were created.

By God's Word! Angels were created at the command of God's word, a lot like the creation of the material world.

Angels were created holy. They were surrounded and influenced by all that is holy. Unlike man, angels lived in heaven, and most still do.

Mark 13:32, "But of that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but the Father *alone*."

Angels had, and some still have, access to the presence of God.

Matthew 18:10, "See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you, that their angels in heaven continually behold the face of My Father who is in heaven."

E. Why were they created?

1. To reveal

God has used them to communicate knowledge otherwise not yet known to us.

2. To worship - The Primary Reason

Revelation 4:8-11, "And the four **living creatures**, each one of them having six wings, are full of eyes around and within; and day and night they do not cease to say, "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, *is* THE LORD GOD, THE ALMIGHTY, who was and who is and who is to come." And when the **living creatures** give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, to Him who lives forever and ever, **the twenty-four elders** will fall down before Him who sits on the throne, and will worship Him who lives forever and ever, and will cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

Valley Bible Church Theology Studies

“Worthy art Thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for Thou didst create all things, and because of Thy will they existed, and were created.” ”

Revelation 5:11-12, "And I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne and the living creatures and the elders; and the number of them was myriads of myriads, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.””

3. To serve

Hebrews 1:14, “Are they not all ministering spirits, sent out to render service for the sake of those who will inherit salvation?”