

What Do We Learn About Angels from Genesis 18:1-19:29?

Introduction: The Hebrew word *malak* ([4397](#)) means “messenger.” One has to determine from the context whether the messenger is merely a human messenger or if it is a supernatural messenger sent from God. This account reveals what two particular messengers looked like and what supernatural powers they possessed. It is a very revealing incident from a Biblical historical narrative.

A. Abraham provides hospitality for 3 visitors. Gen. 18:1-8

1. Who appeared to Abraham one day? (Gen. 18:1)
2. Whom did Abraham see? (Gen. 18:2)
3. What did Abraham request? (Gen. 18:3-5)
4. What did Abraham do? (Gen. 18:6-8)

B. God makes a prediction. Gen. 18:9-15

1. What did the men ask? (Gen. 18:9)
2. What did one of them predict? (Gen. 18:10a)
3. Who overheard the conversation? (Gen. 18:10b)
4. What was Sarah’s reaction, and why? (Gen. 18:11-12)
5. What was the first question the LORD asked Abraham? (Gen. 18:13)
6. What was His second question? (Gen. 18:14a)
7. What did He assert? (Gen. 18:14b)
8. What did Sarah deny? (Gen. 18:15a)
9. What did the LORD reassert? (Gen. 18:15b)

C. God reveals coming judgment upon Sodom. Gen. 18:16-33

1. Who rose up to go look down in the valley at Sodom? (Gen. 18:16)
2. Who begins talking? (Gen. 18:17)
3. What complicated question did the LORD ask? (Gen. 18:17-19)
4. What does the LORD say is the problem, and what is He going to do about it? (Gen. 18:20-21)
5. Who turned away and headed toward Sodom? (Gen. 18:22)
6. Abraham begins a lengthy bargaining session with the Lord. (Gen. 18:22)
Summarize this bargaining session in your own words. (Gen. 18:23-32)
7. As soon as the conversation ended, what happened to the two main characters? (Gen. 18:33)

D. Lot extends hospitality to two visitors. (Gen. 19:1-11)

1. Who came to Sodom in the evening? (Gen. 19:1)
2. What invitation did Lot extend? (Gen. 19:2a)
3. How did the two visitors respond? (Gen. 19:2b)
4. On what did Lot insist? (Gen. 19:3)
5. Even before bedtime, what happened? (Gen. 19:4)
6. What did they order Lot to do, and why? (Gen. 19:5)
7. What alternative did Lot offer? (Gen. 19:6-8)
8. How did the men of Sodom respond? (Gen. 19:9)
9. Who reached out to rescue Lot? (Gen. 19:10)
10. What powers did these two men have? (Gen. 19:11)

E. The messengers frantically rescue Lot. (Gen. 19:12-22)

1. What did the two men tell Lot to do, and why? (Gen. 19:12-13)
2. What success did Lot have? (Gen. 19:14)
3. What did the two messengers urge upon Lot, and why? (Gen. 19:15)
4. What did the two men do? (Gen. 19:16) And why? (Gen. 19:16b)
5. What did instructions did they give to Lot? (Gen. 19:17)
6. Lot was afraid to flee to the mountains. What compromise did he request? (Gen. 19:18-20)
7. How did the men respond? (Gen. 19:21-22)

F. What happened after Lot escaped to Zoar? (Gen. 19:23-29)

1. What time was it when Lot arrived in Zoar? (Gen. 19:23)
2. What did the LORD do? (Gen. 19:24-25)
3. What did Lot's wife do, and what happened to her? (Gen. 19:26)
4. What did Abraham see when he arose early and retraced his steps to the place where he had stood the previous day? (Gen. 19:27-28)
5. What is the summary of this portion of the narrative? (Gen. 19:29)

G. Drawing some conclusions.

1. What did the LORD look like when He appeared to Abraham?
2. What did the two messengers who accompanied the LORD look like?
3. Who did the men of Sodom think that Lot's two visitors were?
4. What special powers did these two men have?
5. What lessons do we learn from Genesis 18-19?

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An inductive Bible Study

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