

Having Faith into angels

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All thanks be to Allah, the Lord of the worlds. And peace and prayers upon his messenger Muhammad.

There is an important point which needs to be made clear. That is that those worlds from an Islamic view; are reduced into two circles. The first circle includes the sensed or witnessed world. It is the world that falls under the senses. Like what we can see, like land and skies, mountains and valleys, oceans and rivers, plants and animals. That is the witnessed world. It also includes all sounds we can hear, and all scent and fragrant we can smell and all that can be tasted with the tongue and all that can be touched with the hand. All this falls into the sensed world.

The second circle includes the unseen world. It is all that which can not be sensed by the normal human senses. Such worlds are the world of angels and the world of Jinn and Satan, and the facts of the day or resurrection, the judgment, and path which will have to be crossed, and paradise and hell fire. All those are worlds which humans can not sense with one of the senses Allah gave human.

The best way to have faith in those un-sensed worlds is though following the holy Koran and the Prophet's teachings. What ever they mention of such worlds we are obliged to believe and say: We truthfully trust and believe. Why? It is because it came from the All Majesty Allah. He described Himself as the one who knows about both the un-sensed and the witnessed worlds. Allah says: **{It is He Allah who there is no other god other than Him, the one who knows both the un-sensed and the witnessed world. He is the Gracious the Merciful}** 59:22. The best to tell us about such worlds is Allah Himself, because He created them and knows of their existence and truth. We believe the messenger (ppbu) because Allah commanded us to do so when Allah said: **{He does not say what he pleases, it is all inspired revelations}** 53:4.

Believing in the angels is an obligation. The faith of a Muslim can only be complete when he or she believes in their existence. In its entirety, believing in

angels is to have faith that Allah did create another world called it the angels. The signs and proofs for this world are many. For example in the Koran Allah says: **{the messenger had faith into what was brought down upon him form His Lord, and so did the believers. Each of them believed in Allah and His angels and His books and His messengers}** 2:285.

The messenger (ppbu) talked many times of angels. In one instance he was reported saying: {Angels were created from light, and Jinn were created from the flame of fire, and Adam was created from what was already was described to you}. Allah described the angels who are responsible for hell fire when he says: **{you, who believe, protect yourself and your families, from a fire which is fueled by people and rocks. In charge of it are powerful and tough angels, who never disobey Allah whatever He commands them. And they do what they are commanded}** 66:6. Angels are also described to be magnificent in creation in their size.

The messenger (ppbu) saw angel Gabriel in his true form with 600 wings. Each wing was enough to block the horizon, and wings are of different colors of jewels and pearls of what only Allah would know. The messenger (ppbu) said: **{I saw Gabriel descending from the heavens blocking from view the entire creation of what is between heavens and earth}**. The messenger (ppbu) also said: **{I was granted permission to talk about one of the angels carrying the throne. The distance between the lobe of his ear and his shoulder is as big as a 700 years walk}**.

All the following description and characteristics of angels are mentioned in the Koran. One of the angels' characteristics is that they have wings. Some have two, and some have three and some have four and some have many more wings.

Angels look nothing like people. They do not eat, nor drink, they do not sleep, and they do not feel board. They do not tire. They are very generous, and devoted. They have the ability to change and reshape, as Gabriel was sent to Miriam in the shape of a human. Angels are extremely fast. Their speed exceeds the speed of light. In fact their speed can not be measured by human standards. The messenger (ppbu) used to be asked the question by someone, when immediately Gabriel comes down with the answer from Allah.

Angels also are given by Allah the ability to inflict punishment on to the infidels and the hypocrites. Just as happened to the people of Lut.

Angels live and inhabit the heavens. And they are of great numbers which only Allah knows. Listen to what the messenger (ppbu) talking about this thriving and flourishing house in the seventh heaven. He said: **{each and every day 70 thousand angels approach it and when they leave and they don't come back to it}** (indicating that different angels come each day). The messenger (ppbu) also said: **{almost in each and every inch of the heavens there is an angel with its forehead down kneeling to Allah}**. How about their names? We only know a few like: Gabriel and Michael (Mika-eel) as mentioned in the Koran. Gabriel is the trusted spirit and the messenger of Allah to his human prophets and messenger. Michael is charged with the rain and the plants. Another name is: Israfeel who is an angel with great fear for Allah, from the day it was created has been kneeling to Allah and has never looked up in respect and in fear of Allah. Angel Israfeel is charged with blowing the great horn which will shock everybody in the heavens and the earth except those whom Allah will not want to be shocked announcing the end of this worldly life.

There is also the angel of death who is charged with receiving the souls of humans at death. This angel has other angels helping him.

Another angel who is charged with hell fire and his name is Malik. And the angel charged with paradise and his name is Radwan.

Two angels called: Monkar and Nakeer they interrogate humans after death when they are in their final resting place, the grave.

One might ask: what is the relationship between angels and humans? And the answer is that the relationship is so strong with age old ties. It started since Allah ordered angels to kneel down before Adam. The relationship further matured and gave its fruits by commanding angels to communicate his revelations to his human prophets and messengers. Angels also had a roll which started at the first moment of the creation of each and every human. The messenger (ppbu) said: **{when the fetus becomes 42 nights old, Allah sends an angel to form it, and create its hearing and vision, its skin and flesh and bone. Then the angel asks: "O' Lord, a male or female?" Allah decides and the angel rights down}**.

Angels roll does not stop there. Allah charges angels with the roll of protecting that new human for the rest of his or her life. Every slave has an angel charged with protecting him/her in his sleep and awakening from Jinn and humans and monsters. Anything that approaches this human the angel will fend it away except something which Allah permitted to befalls him/her.

Allah also charged to each and every human two other angels who never leave him/her. They keep a strict watch and take note of everything the human says or does whether bad or good.

So any one who have spoken good words let them be thankful to Allah, for they will find the good later. And this whosoever spoke of other than good words, let them know that there still a chance in this life to fix that. The messenger (ppbu) said: **{the angel on the left (meaning the one responsible for writing the bad deeds) holds on for six hours in delay for the Muslim wrong doer. If he/she feels remorse, repents and asks Allah for forgiveness for that sin, then the angel drops it. Otherwise, the sin is written}**.

Finally, some angels are charged with stirring the good inclinations within the souls of the slaves. The messenger (ppbu) said: **{Allah has assigned to each human a constant companion angel and a constant companion from the Jinn}**. The messenger (ppbu) was asked: even you, messenger of Allah? He said: **{Yes, me too. But Allah has given me support over my Jinn and he became a Muslim. So, he only entices me with good}**. Those two constant companions (the angel and the Jinn) compete over this human individual. The angel entices and tempts him to good. While, the Jinn companion entices and tempts him to bad.

The messenger (ppbu) said: **{both Satan and the angel influence the human with thoughts. The influence of Satan is just a promise of bad and of denial of truth, while the influence of the angel is a promise of good and affirmation of truth. So, whoever of you finds such an influence then let them know it is from Allah, and be thankful to Allah. And whoever finds the other type; let them ask Allah to protect them from Satan}**

End of part One

So far we have talked about the general relationship that angels have with humans in general. But it is necessary to show their direct relationship with the faithful believers on one side and their relationship with the infidel and the hypocrites and disobedient on the other side.

The relationship with the believers is that angels love them. The messenger (ppbu) said: **{When Allah loves a slave He calls Gabriel saying: Allah has loved such and such person, do love him/her. So Gabriel loves that person. Then Gabriel announces into the heavens saying: Allah has loved such and such person, do love him. So the inhabitants of the heavens love him/her. And then acceptance is put for that individual on earth}**.

Angels say prayers for the believers. That means they make duaa for them and they ask Allah to forgive the believers. Which of us does not need that great grace? But, which of us deserves and which of us is entitled to such honor? Do you think those who disobey Allah will be entitled to that? Those who deal in usury? Or those that commit adultery? Or those that take alcohol or drugs? Or those that do not practice their prayers? And those that miss the prayers in congregation? Or those who teach people the bad, and teach them to rebel over the limits of Allah. Or those that make fun of and desecrate the faith or the people of faith? No, let us see who deserves such an honor:

The messenger (ppbu) said: **{Allah and his Angels and the insect ants in their homes and the whales in the sea, pray for this who teaches people the good}**. He also said: **{Angels pray for this who comes to the mosque to pray, and they say: God bless him, as long as he hurts no one in the mosque and as long as he commits no sin at the mosque}**. The messenger (ppbu) also said: **{Allah and his angels pray for those in the first row in prayers at the mosque}**

The messenger (ppbu) said: **{Angels pray for one of you as long as he remains still sitting where he finishes his prayer as long as he does not leave or commit a sin}**

The messenger (ppbu) said: **{Allah and His angels pray for those who join and fill the rows in a prayer. And this who fills a space in a row, for doing so, Allah will elevate him a grade}**

The messenger (ppbu) said: **{Anyone who prays for me, the angels will pray for him/her as long as he keeps on praying for me. Let each slave do that as plenty as they wish}**

The messenger (ppbu) said: **{any Muslim who visits another Muslim who is sick, Allah will send 70 thousand angels praying for him during a day until the night; or at night until the morning}**

Allah tells us that the angels' prayers for us will take us out from the darkness of disobedience and association and sins to the light that each of us needs.

Angels always say: **"Amen"** to any prayer the believers say. The messenger (ppbu) said: **{the prayer of a person for a brother of his unknown to his brother, such a prayer is guaranteed to be answered. At his head there is an angel that says Amen. For each prayer he says for his brother, the angel says: Amen and the same to himself}**

Angels ask for forgiveness for those humans on earth. (42:5). Angels look for the faithful at the learning circles. The messenger (ppbu) said: **{whenever a group of people met in one of Allah's houses, reciting and studying the book of Allah, peace descends upon them, and they would be contained with mercy, and angels surround them, and Allah speaks of them into an assembly present before Him}**. There are other angels who search for the believers who attend at Fajr and Asr prayers in congregation and they register their names. The messenger (ppbu) said: **{there are angels amongst you who take turns (like they operate in shifts) at night and angels at day. They meet at Asr and Fajr prayers. The coming angels meet those angels who are leaving you, Their Lord asks them; and He already knows, He say: How were my slaves when you left them? They answer: we left them while they were praying and we came to them while they were praying}**.

Angels also go into fights on the side of the faithful (8:12). There are many many more things that angels do for the believers which we shall not have time to mention it all here. What is important is to know that tracing angels in what Allah and His messenger have commanded can only be good for a human being. The messenger said: **{in a prayer, when the Imam says: "Amen", angels in the heavens say "Amen". Any one who says "Amen" in synchronous with the "Amen" said by the angels, all his or her previous sins will be**

forgiven}. And in another occasion the messenger (ppbu) said: **{during a prayer, when the Imam says: “سمع الله لمن حمد” “Allah listens to those who give thanks”, then do say: “اللهم ربنا لك الحمد” “Lord God all thanks be to you”}. whosoever says that in synchronous with the angels when they say it, then all his or her previous sins will be forgiven}**.

For all that dear brothers and sisters, we must believe in angels, revere them respect them, love them. We must refrain from what hurts them. And this that hurts them most is doing the acts of disobedience and committing sins. Angels do not enter a home where there is a dog or a picture, or a sculptured statue, or someone who has not done purification after intercourse, or a drunken person. Angels become hurt from anything which hurts a human being in things like bad smells and dirt. The messenger (ppbu) said: **{any of you who eats garlic or onions or leek, let them not come near our mosque. For angels do get discomforted just as the children of Adam do}**.

About what angels do for the infidel, and unbelievers is that angels curse them. Allah says: **{Those who disbelieve and die as unbelievers. They are cursed by Allah, and by the angels and by all the people} 2:161.**

Angels can bring down punishment just as happened with the people of Lut and others. When it comes to cursing, angels do not just curse those who don't believe, they also curse those who commit some specific sins even Muslims. The messenger (ppbu) said: **{when a man invites his wife to bed and she refuses, and if he sleeps angry, then angels will curse her till the morning comes}**. The messenger (ppbu) also said: **{who ever points a bar of iron or a weapon against his brother then the angels will curse him}**.

The messenger (ppbu) also said: **{this who commits a wrong towards Allah's religion, or who provides protection to such a transgressor, then they will be cursed by Allah, and by the angels and by all the people}**.

There may be enough knowledge in today's talk for us with this great corner of faith which we all are required to implement. I ask Allah to be amongst those who listen to what is being said, and amongst those who follow the best of it.