

The Ladder for the Angels

"The **angels** of God are ascending, bearing the prayers of the needy and distressed to the Father above, and descending, bringing blessing and hope, courage, help, and life, to the children of men. DA 142.4

The angels of God are ever passing from earth to heaven, and from heaven to earth. [All] The miracles of Christ for the afflicted and suffering were wrought by the power of God through the ministration of the **angels**. And **it is through Christ, by the ministration of His heavenly messengers**, that every blessing comes from God to us. In taking upon Himself humanity, our Saviour unites His interests with those of the fallen sons and daughters of Adam, while through His divinity He grasps the throne of God. And **thus** Christ is the medium of communication of men with God, and of God with men." DA 143.1

"In the vision the plan of redemption was presented to Jacob, not fully, but in such parts as were essential to him at that time. The mystic ladder revealed to him in his dream was the same to which Christ referred in His conversation with Nathanael. Said He, "Ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man." John 1:51. Up to the time of man's rebellion against the government of God, there had been free communion between God and man. But the sin of Adam and Eve separated earth from heaven, so that man could not have communion with his Maker. Yet the world was not left in solitary hopelessness. The **ladder** represents Jesus, the **appointed medium** of communication. Had He not with His own merits bridged the gulf that sin had made, the ministering **angels** could have held no communion with fallen man. Christ connects man in his weakness and helplessness with the **source** of infinite power. PP 184.2

"That scene at Jordan was but a token to evidence that I was the **Son of God**. If you believe in me as such, your faith shall be quickened, and you shall see that the heavens will be opened, and shall never be closed. I have opened them for you, and the **angels of God, that are united with me** in the reconciliation between earth and Heaven, uniting the believers on the earth with the Father above, will be ascending, bearing the prayers of the needy and distressed from the earth to the Father above, and descending, bringing blessings of hope, courage, health, and life, for the children of men." 2SP 67.1

"In the apostasy, **man alienated himself** from God; **earth was cut off** from heaven. Across the gulf that lay between, there could be no communion. But **through Christ, earth is again linked** with heaven. With His own merits, **Christ has bridged the gulf** which sin had made, **so that** the ministering **angels can hold communion with man**. Christ connects fallen man in his weakness and helplessness with the Source of infinite power. SC 20.1

Why would Christ come WITH the angels in Genesis 18 and 19 instead of just sending angels?
Is it different in the NT?

“Hereafter ye shall see heaven opened, and the **angels of God ascending and descending upon** [not from] the Son of man.” PrT May 30, 1895, par. 6

Although **our Lord ascended** from earth to heaven, the **Holy Spirit was appointed as His representative** among men. “If ye love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not,, neither knoweth Him; but ye know Him; for **He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you**. I will not leave you comfortless.” Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally; therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His Father, and send the Holy Spirit to be His successor on earth. The Holy Spirit is Himself, divested of the personality of humanity, and independent thereof. **Christ would represent Himself as present in all places by His Holy Spirit**,—as the **Omnipresent**. “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in My name, He shall [although unseen by you] teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you. . . . Nevertheless, I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you that I go away, for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you.” PrT May 30, 1895, par. 7

"The **ladder represented Christ**; he is the **channel** of communication between heaven and earth, and **angels** go to and fro in **continual intercourse** with the fallen race. The words of Christ to Nathanael were in harmony with the figure of the ladder, when he said, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.” Here the Redeemer **identifies himself as the mystic ladder, that makes communication possible** between heaven and earth." RH November 11, 1890, par. 4

"The meaning of this ladder is explained to us in the words of Christ to Nathanael, “Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.” The atonement of Christ **links** earth to Heaven, and finite man to the infinite God; for **through Christ, the communication that was broken off because of transgression, is resumed** with man. Sinners may find pardon and be **visited by mercy and grace**." ST April 17, 1879, par. 9

(Grace is the Spirit of Christ in SC 52.2) "They must have His **grace**, the **Spirit of Christ**, to help their infirmities, or they cannot resist evil."

Notice 52.3... "Strength and **grace** have been provided through Christ to be **brought by ministering angels** to every believing soul."

Whoa... that’s a big one... (Steps to Christ? Ouch!)

"Here Christ **associates** Himself, **as the Son of man, with the mystic ladder**. The **angels of God** are **ascending and descending on the one even as they did on the other**. By **means of this ladder a constant communication is kept up between heaven and earth**, and **all the**

actions and affairs of this earth are known in heaven. The counsels of heaven are executed on earth, and the doings of men are judged in heaven. 19MR 338.2

Providence does its work gradually. The ladder that man must climb is made up of successive steps heavenward like the rounds of a ladder—step above step, upward to the wisdom of God, whose glory is at the upper end of the ladder. **Angels rest not day nor night from active service in the positions assigned them.** They **ascend to bear their testimony of record of what they have done and of the state of individuals, and to receive further orders;** and they **descend to execute the orders they have received.** 19MR 338.3

Christ is the Ladder; the foot on the earth in His human nature, the top in heaven in His divine nature. His human arm encircles the race while His divine arm lays hold upon the Infinite. **All the intercourse between heaven and earth since the fall is by the Ladder.**" 19MR 338.4

"Reach up, my children, higher and still higher, taking hold of one line of faith after another. Walk and work in love to God and the poor oppressed ones, and the Lord will be your helper. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man." Jesus the precious Saviour, the Son of the living God, is the ladder uniting the celestial world with the terrestrial. His divinity lays hold of the throne of God. His humanity touches the earth. His human arm encircles the entire human race. **Through Jesus Christ the angelic ministrations in love, in comfort, in reproof, in light, reach us.** Oh thank the Lord, for He is good, and His mercies endure forever. Lt152-1896.10