

The Trumpet Call

Messages and Reports

March - April, 2007

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Lessons from Angels and Heavenly Beings. Part II: Cherubim and Seraphim

“They rest not day and night, saying, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.”—Rev. 4:8; “Then flew one of the seraphim unto me, having a live coal in his hand. . .and he laid it upon my mouth.”—Isaiah 6:6, 7.

God has created celestial beings to serve Him in special ways. Among these are the cherubim and seraphim, or cherubs and seraphs. Their ministry is chiefly praise and worship around the throne. They are the covering cherubs symbolized by the figures over the ark of God. The mercy seat is between them and there the Shekinah light, the fire of God’s glory, would appear. Cherubs and seraphs have also ministered to men of God, confirming their callings and empowering them with holy fire.

Isaiah, Ezekiel and the Apostle John all experienced similar visions of these angelic beings worshipping around God’s throne. These prophets fell on their faces in humility and were changed forever. They were awestruck as they beheld the dazzling beauty and blazing glory of these heavenly creatures, whose appearance and power were supernatural. They had faces, voices, hands and feet. Seeing these human traits amidst the divine gives us hope that our humanness can also reflect the glory of God. Our faces can shine, our voices can praise God. Our hands and feet can do His will! We can emulate these character traits of cherubs and seraphs:

Constant praise and worship: The Apostle John witnessed cherubs and seraphs in constant worship. He said, “They rest not day and night saying, Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty, which was and is and is to come” (Rev. 4:8 -11). There were “ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands saying with a loud voice ‘worthy is the Lamb that was slain’” (Rev. 5:11-14). Ezekiel and Isaiah heard similar praises and saw God’s glory filling the temple (Eze. 10:3-5; Isa. 6:1-3). Cherubs and seraphs fill heaven and earth with their praises. The heavens are still declaring the glory of God! (Psa. 19:1-3). We should fill the earth around us with the praise of our God!

Keen Spiritual Vision: The supernatural eyesight of the cherubim is multi-directional and multi-dimensional. The cherubs that Ezekiel saw had rings of eyes around about them (Eze. 1:18) and their whole bodies were full of eyes (Eze. 10:12). The living creatures which John saw were also full of eyes (Rev. 4:8). These amazing celestial beings are able to see in all directions at the same time. They have heavenly insight, hindsight and foresight. Our human vision is not like this, but we may be given divine insight. “The eyes of our understanding being enlightened” (Eph. 1:18) the Holy Spirit will reveal the things of Christ (John 16:13-15). Our spiritual vision will enable us to look within ourselves to see our motives, to look back and see God’s hand in our lives, to look forward to fulfill His call, and to look around to see the needs of others. Most importantly, it will help us to look up to Christ!

Quick and perfect obedience: Cherubs and seraphs are celestial beings whose spirits are in perfect union with the Spirit of God. Ezekiel saw God’s glory surrounding the cherubs as a fiery wheel, a circle rainbow, like a spinning halo of glorious fire and light. The Spirit of the living creature was within the wheel. Ezekiel said it was like a wheel in the middle of a wheel. Whenever the cherubs went, the wheels went; if they were lifted up, the wheels were lifted up. Wherever the Spirit went, that is where they went, running and returning as the appearance of a flash of lightning (Eze. 1). These angelic beings only move as the Spirit moves, obeying as quickly as a flash of lightning. So we ought to obey God quickly! We need the Holy Spirit in and around us like a fiery wheel. Dwelling in the midst of His glory, we will be safe in the center of His will!

Loyalty and unwavering service: The prophet Ezekiel saw the cherubim joining their wings one to another. He said, they turned not as they went, they went everyone straight forward. Whither the Spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not as they went (Eze. 1:9, 12). This was unity, loyalty and straight forwardness. We should join with our fellow Christians and not turn away from our purpose or from each other. Obedient servants should be consistent, loyal, and honest.

Humility, reverence and respect: The prophet Isaiah saw a vision of God’s glory with seraphim above His throne. These seraphs shouted His praises until the temple shook and was filled with glory. They worshipped in humility, having no personal identity. In modesty and reverence, they covered their faces and feet in the presence of God (Isa. 6:2; Eze. 1:23). If angelic beings humble themselves before God,

how much more should we humble ourselves to worship before God? We should cover our shameful faces and our wayward feet in God's holy presence. Robed in our fallen flesh, how can we do less than fall on our faces before a Holy God and cry for mercy as Isaiah did?

Able to handle holy fire: Both Isaiah and Ezekiel saw cherubim or seraphim holding hot coals of holy fire. One of the seraphim touched Isaiah's lips with a live coal. The heavenly fire purged his sins and made him a burning messenger for God (Isa. 6:6, 7). Ezekiel saw cherubs with holy fire all around them. One of them placed coals of fire in the hands of a man of God clothed in linen. He was instructed to scatter them over the city (Eze. 10:1 – 7). No earthly fire, this was the holy fire of God that purges sin. God offers this fire to His people today! It is the fire of the Holy Spirit to cleanse and empower us. In prayer, with seraphic reverence, we may enter the heavenly temple. By faith, we may go into the Holy of Holies. Behind the veil, we may appeal to God before the mercy seat of heaven. Between the covering cherubs over the heavenly ark of God, the Shekinah light of God's holy fire can shine upon us. The cherubs of heaven may touch our lips and fill our hands with revival fire to scatter over our cities.

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