**God’s Will in Heaven**

**Introduction:**

Matthew 6:9-10 “In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.” NKJV In this model prayer given by Jesus, He affirms that God’s will is done in heaven by those who dwell there – the angels.

**Body:**

1. **What Are Angels?**

* They are created beings, created by the Eternal One, Jehovah. (Colossians 1:16) “For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.” NKJV
* They do not marry, but are spirit beings who are less than God but greater than man. (Matthew 22:30) “For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.” NKJV (Psalm 8:4-5) “What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? For You have made him a little lower that the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor.” NKJV
* They are not to be worshipped. (Revelation 22:8-9) “Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. Then he said to me, ‘See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.’ ” NKJV
* They do not know all things. (Matthew 24:36) “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.” NKJV
* They have limited power which comes from God. (Psalm 103:20-21) “Bless the Lord, you His angels, Who excel in strength, who do His word, Heeding the voice of His word. Bless the Lord, all you His hosts, You ministers of His, who do His pleasure.” NKJV
* The number of angels cannot be counted. (Hebrews 12:22) “But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels,” NKJV

1. **What Is their Heavenly Ministry?**

* Angels witnessed the creation. (Job 38:4-7) “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone, When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy?” NKJV
* They praise Jehovah. (Psalm 148:2) “Praise Him, all His angels; Praise Him, all His hosts!” NKJV (Revelation 5:11-12) “Then I looked, and I heard the voices of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice: ‘Worthy is the Lamb who was slain To receive power and riches and wisdom, And strength and honor and glory and blessing!’ ” NKJV
* They rejoice when a sinner repents. (Luke 15:7) “I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents that over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.” NKJV
* They always see the face of the Father in heaven. (Matthew 18:10) “Take heed that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven.” NKJV
* They tend to the golden censer in heaven. (Revelation 8:3-4) “Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel’s hand.” NKJV

1. **What Is their Earthly Ministry?**

* God used angels in the episode of Abraham and Isaac.

(Genesis 22:10-12) “And Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. But the Angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, ‘Abraham, Abraham!’ So he said, ‘Here I am.’ And He said, ‘Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.’ ” NKJV

* God used angels to guide the Israelites. (Exodus 23:20-23) “Behold, I send an Angel before you to keep you in the way and to bring you into the place which I have prepared. Beware of Him and obey His voice; do not provoke Him, for He will not pardon your transgressions; for My name is in Him. But if you indeed obey His voice and do all that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries. For My Angel will go before you and bring you in to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites and the Hivites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites and Hivites and the Jebusites; and I will cut them off.” NKJV They protected Daniel from lions. (Daniel 6:22) “My God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you.’ ” NKJV
* They fed Elijah in the wilderness. (I Kings 19:3-8) “And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there. But he himself went a day’s journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, ‘It is enough! Now, Lord, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!’ Then as he lay and slept under a broom tree, suddenly an angel touched him, and said to him, ‘Arise and eat.’ Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water. So he ate and drank, and lay down again. And the angel of the Lord came back the second time, and touched him, and said, ‘Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you.’ So he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God.” NKJV
* They warned Joseph to flee to Egypt. (Matthew 2:13) “Now when they had departed, behold an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, ‘Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him.’ ” NKJV
* They strengthened Jesus in the wilderness. (Matthew 4:11) “Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and ministered to Him.” NKJV They strengthened Jesus in Gethsemane. (Luke 22:43) “Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him.” NKJV
* They escorted the soul of Lazarus to Abraham’s bosom. (Luke 16:22) “So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s bosom. The rich man also died and was buried.” NKJV
* Angels are ministers to Christians. (Hebrews 1:14) “Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? “ NKJV
* They will accompany Christ on the last day. (II Thessalonians 1:7-8) “and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.” NKJV (Matthew 13:41-42) “The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that attend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth.” NKJV (Matthew 25:31) “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory.” NKJV

**Conclusion:**

The angels’ adoration of God and their obedience to His will are to be imitated in the life of the Christian. They leave us an example to follow.

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