

Word Search

Also in hidden are five Old Testament books and two from New Testament

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | R | A | L | A | N | A | D | N | U | O | S | E | N | O | T | S |
| O | E | S | O | N | E | R | E | U | E | L | E | L | T | R | U | T |
| U | T | H | A | I | S | R | S | M | L | E | S | N | E | C | N | I |
| N | A | M | E | H | T | A | B | B | A | S | S | A | I | H | I | P |
| T | I | M | O | T | H | Y | M | E | T | S | A | T | D | A | C | T |
| O | N | O | R | A | A | A | A | R | Z | E | I | H | U | R | O | L |
| F | I | L | E | B | A | B | B | S | E | V | I | A | L | D | R | A |
| O | R | A | T | O | R | A | E | B | E | A | M | N | W | O | N | S |
| L | A | M | A | R | E | V | E | L | A | T | I | O | N | I | R | U |
| I | T | A | L | Y | G | A | Z | A | P | S | W | R | E | N | A | M |
| V | A | S | H | T | I | I | S | P | A | H | S | A | N | G | G | E |
| E | X | O | D | U | S | P | A | I | N | O | I | S | I | C | E | D |
| S | E | L | E | D | E | N | Y | D | E | E | R | G | L | R | R | O |
| E | S | A | U | H | S | O | J | O | R | D | A | N | L | A | A | C |
| T | A | M | E | D | O | O | R | T | I | B | N | I | A | N | M | I |
| H | C | E | L | E | M | M | A | H | A | B | E | R | G | E | O | N |

LAPIDOTH METHETABEL MOUNT OF OLIVES SOUND AN ALARM THIN LINEN
 SALT PITS STONES INCENSE UNICORN ELNATHAN ASSES TURTLE EGG
 DIET HUR SNOW ARD LUD VIAL DECISION AXE SPAIN VESSEL PAN
 ARRAY UTHAI RETAIN REUEL OMAR LAMA ELMS FILE DOING DEUEL
 VASHTI AARON SABBATH CASE URI TASTE AMAL TIBNI BAVAI ISPAH
 GNASH ROE NEST RAGE SARON GALL SETH JORDAN RINGS TABOR
 OMAR CRANE VATS ANER TAXES NOSE BEAM BEAR ORATOR SWIM
 IMNA IIM GERA ITALY MOSES GAZA TAMED SELED DUTY UEL ONO
 GREEDY DENY LATE DOOR NAME MOON SAY ZEEB STEM ASH EVI
 HIP ACT

Quiz

1. To whom did Gabriel introduce himself by name
2. How many angels went to get Lot out of Sodom
3. Which trumpet signals the release of the angels bound in the river Euphrates
4. To whom did an angel say his name was secret.
5. Who wrestled with an angel
6. Who was fed angels food
7. Which type of angel guarded the garden of Eden after Adam and Eve left

CONNECT

OLDHAM SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

Filling the Gap



AUGUST 2020

SPECIAL EDITION

All About Angels

Angels, Seen and Unseen

I make no apology for the number of years which have passed since this incident occurred. I still think it is very much well worth the telling. It happened before Marilyn, my youngest sister, had taken any driving lessons, maybe she was still under driving age, I don't remember but I do remember the important facts fully.

I was driving, I think it was my first car, when it suddenly came to a stop. Marilyn was my only passenger and had no knowledge of cars or driving. It felt as though all the drivers behind us began to sound their horns immediately. I should imagine that I began to panic. We were going up a slight incline and now the car refused to move, of course I kept on trying, foot hard on the accelerator.

Nothing was happening, the car was determined not to move and the horns behind were persistent. My next idea was not my best. I asked Marilyn to get out and push the car. Yes, a slim young girl to push a car, how many times more than her weight? up an incline, plus me sitting in the car also weighing much more than her. Not a good idea.

We did not see where he came from but a smartly dressed man approached us. I remember his goatee beard and the folded news paper he was carrying under his arm especially. He looked middle class and about middle age. He asked us what was wrong, and we told him the car would not go.

He immediately took control of the situation, telling the other drivers "OUR car has broken down." (My emphases on the word "our" not his.) He arranged for the other cars to squeeze past my car and pushed my car into the car park that was just next to the road, I don't remember if single-handedly or if with help.

Once in the car park with only the stranger, Marilyn, and myself present, the stranger advised waiting a while before attempting to start the car, because of course the engine was flooded with petrol.

We thanked him and he set off walking diagonally across the car park.

Marilyn and I exchanged a very few words about the situation and looked again towards the direction our rescuer had taken, he was nowhere in sight. It was a large empty car park without trees or any other objects that would obscure our view. He could not have reached the corner in such a short space of time and that was the nearest building. He had disappeared. Vanished.

Just as I was thinking it Marilyn said it. "He must have been an angel" If I had said it and Marilyn had agreed it would have seemed as if she had merely agreed to what I had suggested, just the one thought. The fact that Marilyn said it just as I was thinking it, proved to me that there were two independent thoughts with the same conclusion. He MUST have been an angel.

Marilyn and I waited a little while then I tried to start the car again. Still nothing, no movement. I decided now that my earlier idea was faulty. I would leave Marilyn in the car to steer it and I would get out and push. Unfortunately, still a very faulty idea.

The car park ran parallel to the road with another very narrow access road on the far side next to a large old mill building. We were now on the top of the incline and after getting the car in motion it quickly picked up speed. I was soon left running behind, trying to catch the car with Marilyn inside it. The car veered towards the access road. The car park was separated from the narrow road by an extremely low ridge only about two to three inches high.

As the car rapidly approached the ridge, still running I was shouting repeatedly, "Marilyn the brakes." Marilyn, understandably, shouting replied "which pedal is the brakes?" Panic and sheer dread prevented clear thought. I think I eventually managed to tell her the right pedal. I think she also tried them all and thankfully managed to find the right one and stopped the car.

The car came to a stop just facing the low ridge with the very narrow road and the solid brick wall of the side of the mill looming in front.

I don't really remember what other mundane things happened next like did the car start or did we have to call out a mechanic? What I do remember though is that we also agreed that not only had we been helped by a seen angel but that we had been aided also by unseen angels in that second unwise decision.

We can only be thankful that God loves and cares for us so much that He sends His angels to protect us even when we foolishly put ourselves, or in my case, other family members, in unnecessary danger.

Thankfully, no other ideas or decisions I have made since have had such hair-raising results. Psalm 91:11 For he shall give his angels charge over thee to keep thee in all thy ways.

Hymns

Use the lines below to find the hymns - if you work out the theme it will help

1. Blending voices clear and strong, unto him who has redeemed us
2. Brighter visions beam afar, seek the great desire of nations
3. In his hands he gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes
4. To water the garden of grace
5. All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea
6. How for our sins he was tempted, yet was triumphant at last.
7. Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wing

The Missing Briefcase

It was a beautiful Sabbath, everything was going right for a Sabbath morning. We packed our bags in the car, prayed for God's protection and drove off to church. We got to church safely, and then it happened. As I sat waiting for Sabbath School to begin my husband looked at me and asked "have you seen my briefcase?"

The answer was "No, but go and look in the side room" to which he replied. "I did but it's not there"

As we sat there pondering what to do. I whispered a short prayer silently asking my heavenly father to look after the briefcase and help us to find everything in it. You see our Tithe was in that case. After sitting and thinking what we should do, we got up and made our way to the door. As we stood in the foyer, the main door opened and in walked a tall well-dressed gentleman with a case in his hand. We said "Good morning." He smiled and said, "I am here to see Mr Agard." My husband answered "I am Mr Agard"

In a gentle voice the visitor said "I brought your briefcase I saw it at your door. I know you need it. So I brought it to the church for you. Have a good day" We thanked him and said goodbye. Then we walked to the door to see which way he was going or if someone was with him. But there was no one there.

While we thanked God for taking care of the case and sending it to us, we were in shock because the case was still locked so how did he know our name and where to find us.

We still talk about that experience, but we know that when we get to heaven we will meet that angel who came to church with our briefcase and he will share with us all we want to know.

Isaiah 65:24 Before we call He will answer .

God sent an angel even before we called.

It could only have been an angel.

It was a weekday morning like any other, getting ready and trying to set off for work in time to beat the rush hour traffic. The weather was good, visibility good and the traffic was good so then, nothing to worry about. As usual we talked as we journeyed, and we used the time to practice a song or two for the special Sabbath that was to happen next month. The car made a funny sound as we stopped at the traffic lights but, the engine was still running so the conclusion was that all was well and as the lights changed, we set off. We were in Newton Heath on Oldham Road travelling towards Manchester. Then it happened the car engine stopped; we were going nowhere there was one major problem. There were others on the road wanting to continue their journey but, our car engine had stopped.

The conversation that followed was made up of many phrases like I'll put on the hazards, I'll get out and push, what if you can't, we have no option I'll have to try. The other road users were not at all patient nor did any of them come to offer help. The noise of the car horns almost played a tune there were so many.

There was a knock on my window.

The conversation was: do you know him? No. Neither do I. I wonder what he wants?

The man knocking on the window was Caucasian I remember him as having blue eyes and the skin on his face was very clean, clear and almost radiant. He was not very tall neither could he be described as short. He had a bag on one shoulder and had a rolled up newspaper in one hand, more than that I cannot remember.

The funny thing is that not remembering has nothing to do with the fact that this was more than 20 years ago but by the time we were coming home neither of us could describe him. Ah but what he did!

The man said I can see you are having car trouble. You two just stay where you are. Take off the hand brake and I'll push and get the car bump started.

We didn't question how one man was going to push a car with two women sitting in it on his own, but that is just what he did.

The car started and as we opened the window to shout thanks neither of us could see him. There was no corner he could have turned, we were not on a bend he had simply disappeared. We both felt a shiver as we talked about where he could have come from in the first place and how he had disappeared, it could only have been an angel.

Like Gideon I can say

... So Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord God! For I have seen the Angel of the Lord face to face." Judges 6 :22 NKJV

Seven J's from God

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|-------------------|
| Like - | Job you can depend on Me | - | Job 19: 25-27 |
| | Joel says call and I will deliver | - | Joel 2: 32 |
| | John you are my beloved | - | John 13: 23 |
| As with: | Jeremiah I will put my words in our mouth | - | Jeremiah 1: 9 |
| | Joshua I will fight for you | - | Joshua 6: 15&16 |
| | John I will reveal my will to you | - | Revelation 1:1& 2 |
| | Joseph I will use you to feed others | - | Genesis 42: 1 - 5 |

Angels Watching Over...

The definition of an angel is a supernatural being, created by God, superior to man, and acting as a representative or messenger of God (Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary).

The Bible tells of many instances when angels have been involved in the lives of human beings. One particularly interesting story is found in Genesis 16. In this chapter we are told about Hagar who after being given to Abram for a wife by Sarai, conceived. It was at this point that the trouble began between the childless Sarai and the pregnant Hagar. Abram to solve the problem tells Sarai to deal with the problem as she sees fit. Sarai's handling of the situation led to Hagar running away and being found by the angel of the Lord (Genesis 16:7). This whole episode led to Hagar calling the Lord, the God who sees (Genesis 16:13).

The reason why I am encouraging you to read the Genesis 16 account is because it reminds me of an interaction my mother had with an angel.

In 2007 my mother was told that she needed to have dialysis. After discussions it was decided that home dialysis would be most suitable. To have this she needed to have what the doctors called a small operation. After a short wait she was admitted into hospital, the operation was carried out and after a few days she was sent home. She was sent home from hospital early one Sunday morning with some medication and the advice that she should recover in a few days.

As the days went by, unfortunately instead of recovering Mum got much worse. Each day the pain became greater. Finally, it was Thursday and Mum could hardly move. She took to her bed and finally after vomiting blood we had to call an ambulance. She was taken to the local hospital. Unfortunately, this was not the hospital that had carried out the operation, nor was it a kidney specialist hospital, which is what she needed. The doctors said she needed to

be transferred to the original hospital but there was no bed available there. Each day we visited Mum she was getting worse, but the specialist hospital had instructed the local hospital not to touch her, just give pain medication. We were extremely worried, but we should always remember that God sees, and hears our prayers. One senior doctor at the hospital saw us visiting one day and told us not to worry, she would not die, but he had prepared things and if the specialist hospital did not do something soon, he would take care of things.

After five days the specialist hospital arranged for Mum's transfer. Even that did not go well as she was almost killed in the ambulance, but that is another story.

The specialist hospital was more than an hour drive away from our house, but we did not mind as we thought that things would be put right. At the specialist hospital they examined Mum and did many tests. Finally visiting time ended at 8:00pm and we all left the hospital to go home.

At around 9:00pm at home I was preparing something to eat when the telephone rang. It was a nurse at the hospital who said Mum needed an emergency operation that same night and we needed to come back to the hospital. As I had left one hour early, I was already at home, but some members of the family were still on the motorway. To cut a long story short we all rushed back to the hospital and around midnight Mum went back into the operating theatre for emergency life saving surgery.

After many hours of surgery, the medical staff took Mum to intensive care. They were reluctant to answer any of our questions, but we could see that Mum was in a great deal of pain and was connected to many machines and monitors. As the days went by all we could do was watch and pray, but God sees.

After about a day Mum was still noticeably quiet and disinterested in anything. We would talk to her and pray, and it all seemed like slow progress.

The next part of the story was told to me by Mum. After we went home, she said she felt very weak and unable to do anything. She said she heard voices at the head of her bed, but because she was connected to so many machines, she could not really turn to see who was talking. It was when she felt at her weakest, when suddenly someone reached from over the head of the bed and with two strong hands held her firmly around the middle and put her back together. She said she felt the presence and the firm healing touch of the large strong angel. She said she felt soothed and put back together.

The next day Mum was much happier and told us about the two strong hands that put her back together again. She said she knew it was an angel and so did we because no ordinary person could possibly reach that distance and the hands had also reached underneath all the medical equipment. After some time she made a full recovery.

Next time you need help remember, God sees, God hears and God acts today, just as he did in the days of Hagar.

Angel Related Quiz

Rearrange the letters and then pair up line one with two and three

1. AAABML LADINE AACHASIRZ RMYA DEGINO

2. AILU SKABN DALG IINDGST ZAHNRTEA

3. AEENNELDUV AECKS AAILNM EKOPS

Must Have Been An Angel or the Hand of God

My mother was a marvel. As a very new driver she never once flinched or hesitated to get in the car with me. Even when one evening having picked her up from work, the car broke down in the middle of a dual carriage way, in a 40 MPH zone and had to be pushed across three lanes to a side street.

This story happened not long after on another evening on our way home from work. I was still a fairly new inexperienced driver. We were about three quarters of a mile from home on an ordinary road only wide enough for one lane of traffic going in each direction. As I looked ahead in the oncoming lane, I saw two cars coming towards me, suddenly the one behind pulled out to overtake.

The only problem was he was now in the lane (my lane) heading straight towards me and rapidly running out of empty road! He was next to the car he was trying to overtake. I was directly in front of him and on either side there was pavement and houses and nowhere to go.

As a new driver I had no idea what to do so did the only thing I could think of. I gripped the steering wheel, said "LORD HELP" and closed my eyes tight for what felt like a split second. When I opened my eyes the road ahead was clear and in my rear view mirror I saw the car disappearing in the distance.

To this day I don't know what happened. I asked mum and she didn't know either. I don't know if the Lord moved my car or the reckless driver, whatever He did, the head on collision didn't happen and more than twenty years on I am still alive to tell the story and with the certainty that God saves, physically, mentally and Spiritually.

He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. Psalm 91:15

AN ANGEL WITHOUT WINGS

It was an ordinary morning in the remote village of Muima. The sun was bright, the day started normally and I had to ride a bicycle for about 5 miles or more to another village 'Ngasale' . This village is situated further away from the main road where we take public transport. Ngasale was the family's holiday home when we retired from city life.

I left the house where I spent a night to prepare for the morning ride, as it was unsafe to travel alone in the evening. Something unusual happened as I lifted my right leg to mount on the bicycle. I felt a sharp pain in the leg which I was balancing on to support my weight while holding the bicycle with both hands. It was serious!

The attempt to carry on with my scheduled trip was to no avail. I gave up. Returning to the relative's yard and entering through the gate, my head was brought low as it seemed so unreal. It was like a joke, I didn't want to spend another night there.

I was attended to and my knee was dressed in a first aid bandage. Not knowing what to do, I decided to go to the clinic. I limped to the main road as it was close to the house. By God's grace, I managed to catch a bus, it might have been a minibus as this was what was popular.

After a few steps I alighted at the clinic but by this time my knee had swollen and the pain had worsened. I dragged myself to the clinic which was metres away from the bus stop. After waiting for a while, I was seen by a medical professional who advised me to go to the hospital.

My life was simplified by crawling, so I did until I reached the bus stop on the main road where I sat down in a lying position to wave the passing by traffic. I waved at every passing public transport until I decided to change my criteria.

Desperate People Do Desperate Things.

My wisdom was increased, I needed to act fast as the day was nearing to an end and my leg became unbearable. I waved at any kind of transport that headed to my desired direction. I was vulnerable and cared less about being hurt in any way as I was still a young lady.

Some Angels Have No Wings.

Matthew 6: 1- 4.

I persevered in my approach of getting the means to get to the hospital. Suddenly I noticed a white family car that intended to pass by but then it pulled over and reversed slowly to inquire about such an awkward way of getting transport. The matter was briefly explained to the driver and he soon assisted me into the car being mindful that I'm a lady. He probably thought of me as he thought of his daughter. As soon as I got into the car, all my senses were rebooted. I started to pray. My fears were awakened. What if he speed away? what if....? What if ...?. I prayed silently.

The man noticed how tense I was and kindly offered me a lunch box of home cooked rice. This proved that he was a decent family man, for his wife would have prepared a meal for him to take away on his long business trip. He carefully asked me questions but nothing personal. This eased my tension a little bit as we approached the village town centre stop. I asked that we pass by my relatives house to explain that I needed hospital treatment. He didn't hesitate. The clinic was the opposite direction to the hospital and we had to go via my home bus stop.

Seeing that I had returned back in a car with a man, the story seemed too fabricated for my brother in laws to believe. Isaiah 55: 8. Mr Kamwana was disappointed for the attention we received. He decided to find my parents. He inquired about directions to my village and we set off for a village road trip. What a relief! I could swallow my rice in peace. I started talking and the pain was somehow eased. We drove all the way to the interior part of Shire valley towards Liwonde game reserve.

Upon arrival on the farm, we were greeted by my mum who was on the field along the street. Her face was filled with disappointment, an expression of being let down by her baby girl. She was also not convinced by my story. She decided to walk to the house while we drove.

My worries grew and the pain was rekindled. At the house I was confined to my seat in the car as I could not move. The Samaritan walked out of the car, a sign of respect to my mother and waited while she got ready for hospital. We were sure we had to spend a night there as it was sundown.

Once we started off, we were all in one spirit and started chatting. I guess my mum was still puzzled about the whole scenario. How, a total stranger, a mature, presentable man, offer such kindness to a young lady who would not even move from her seat. All for nothing? At the same time she was disappointed that my brother in laws did not offer to help me.

We arrived at the hospital after sunset. I was wheeled to the hospital ward I was allocated for the night. The man was involved in all this and assisted me to the ward, to my bed. He then gave my mum 200 kwachas to help with anything I might need while in hospital. Luke 10: 33-35.

This was a lot of money in those days. He left his name and contact details and mentioned that he worked in personnel, I didn't question much as he needed to go home.

I spent 5 days in hospital before being discharged. My mum did what she could to pass on the gentleman's details for my brother to express our gratitude. We never heard anything about him. I am uncertain if my brother made any effort to contact him. Only God knows.

As for me, he was an Angel sent from God to fulfil this purpose in my life.

JOSHUA

When Joshua was near to Jericho he looked up and saw a man with a sword in his hand. Joshua said..

Are you for us
or for our
enemies?

No, but as
captain of the
Hosts of the
Lord I come.

Joshua began to
worship and said

The captain of the Host
of the Lord said to
Joshua ...

What says my
Lord to His
servant?

Take your shoes off
your feet because the
place where you are
standing is Holy. I have
given Jericho into your
hand with the king and
all the people.

Joshua told the priests and the men of war all that the Captain of the Lord's host had instructed him.

The priests are to go first with ram horn trumpets, followed by the Ark of the Lord and all the men of war.

Rahab's house was on the wall of Jericho and she was promised that her and all her family would be kept safe if she left the scarlet line (which she had used to rescue the spies) in the window and they were all in the house with her.

The people walked around the walls of Jericho quietly once a day for six days.

TO BE CONTINUED.....

Joshua

Three key points to remember from this point of the story

Faith is the first step in obedience.

Faith leads to action.

Faith leads to recognition of special help.

Bible Study On Angels - Part One

Introduction

Have you ever had an experience that left you in awe and convinced that it must be supernatural? Have you ever escaped unharmed from a dangerous incident? Wouldn't you like to have an explanation for what seems unexplainable? There is a reason why you have felt protected. Your creator God is showing you how much He loves you. He sends His angels to look out for you and protect you. You may not see them or hear them but they are there. This study will show you exactly who angels are, where they come from and what they are doing for the human race right now. Through the angels God gives yet another demonstration of how much He loves you and me.

PART I ANGELS: WHO ARE THEY?

1. How did angels come into existence? Read Psalm 148: 1-6, Nehemiah 9:6 and Colossians 1:16

These Bible verses confirm that the angels are part of God's heavenly hosts who praise Him and were created by Him. The angels are again referred to as the heavenly host as they hailed Jesus' birth in Luke 2: 10-16.

2. What is the nature of angels? Read Hebrews 1:7

From the above Bible verses we can conclude that angels are Spirits, having neither flesh nor blood. Matthew 22:30 tells us that the angels do not marry or procreate.

3. How many angels are there? Read Hebrews 12:22

Angels are innumerable. The number of them is beyond what we can fathom. In Luke 20:36 we are told that the angels cannot die.

4. What is the rank of angels with respect to human beings? Read Psalm 8 verses 4 and 5, and 2 Peter 2: 9-11

Angels are far superior to man in wisdom, power and strength. While the angels are superior to us, we are not to worship them. Like us, they were created to worship God. He alone is to be worshiped. Jesus Himself stated that only God is to be worshiped and an angel also made it clear to John. See Luke 4:8 and Revelation 19:10.

5. Are angels equal with God? Hebrews 1: 1-6 and 1 Peter 3: 22

The angels themselves worship God and His Son Jesus and are subject to their authority. In Psalm 103: 20 we are told that in addition to giving praise to God, they also do His commands and obey His word.

Did You Know....?

1. That angels carry swords? Genesis 3:24, Numbers 22:23 and Joshua 5:13

2. Angels administer justice. Revelation 15:1, 2 Kings 19:35 and Daniel 4:14-17

3. Angels give instructions to God's people. Judges 13:2-5 and Acts 7:53

4. Angels existed before the creation of our world. Job 38:4-7 and Genesis 3:24

5. Angels are a higher order than human beings. Hebrews 2:6&7 and Psalm 8:4&5

6. Angels have freedom of choice to obey or disobey God. Jude 6

7. Angels are heavenly beings created by Christ. Psalm 148:2&5 and Col. 1:16

Angels on Assignments

I am sure that we all have had what we might refer to as strange experiences in our brief time on this planet. After we have had time to consider what happened, we may have concluded that some of the experiences were not strange after all. However, on the other hand, we are often left with a deep conviction that, something strange had undeniably happened. Let me share with you one such story.

I was, relatively speaking, a young Christian, a fledgling in the faith you might say, and one day, I was not feeling well at all. I was not feeling physically sick, I just felt like there was a great cloud hanging over my head. What I mean is that I was feeling incredibly sad and I really had no reason for feeling like that. I remember that it was as if a deep depression had suddenly come upon me.

I was in the front room with this dark cloud hovering over me when someone rang the doorbell. On opening the door, I saw what I would describe as a tall and pleasant looking lady, and without a second thought I invited her in. I do not recall that we introduced ourselves or exactly what we spoke about but, other than that a part of the conversation was about the newspapers that I was accustomed to read.

I do not know how long the conversation lasted or why no one came to see who I had invited into our home, and to whom I was talking, and that was unusual. After we had finished our conversation she stood up and said, "I will see you again." I showed her out and after briefly considering how strange this experience was I went outside to see her and to my amazement she was nowhere to be found.

It was at this point that I became convinced that I was visited by an angel, for the purpose of dispelling the cloud of darkness which had been hanging over my head. I was, and I am still very certain that I was visited by an angel in my time of need.

Paul wrote: Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. (Heb 13:2) Jesus said "See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven."
Matthew 18: 10

Pastor Taylor

Night Angel

I was fast asleep when my sleep was disturbed by a very unusual dream or at least that is what I thought it was. Let me start at the beginning. Many years ago I worked as secretary for a steel stockholding company and that's where I met Sharon.

Sharon was a rather unusual young lady. She came to work with me as an office junior, it was her first job. The day she started work she came in her school uniform, a grey skirt and a white blouse. I fully expected that after a few weeks she would dress differently but she continued to wear her school uniform until winter and then she changed to black cords and her school jumper. She worked with me for about three years and she never wore anything else.

Sharon was also very particular about what she ate. She always brought her lunch, cheese sandwiches, made on sliced white bread and a green apple. That is all she ate for three years and if as an office staff we went out for a meal she would never come because she said they wouldn't serve cheese sandwiches.

Sharon lived at home with her parents and a younger brother but her mother was the only one she would really speak to. She did not speak to her father because he bought her a television for her room and she felt that he did that because he did not want her in the same room as him. She mostly sat in her bedroom with only her mother allowed in there as long as her favourite programmes were not on.

She was very set in her ways and was addicted to an Australian soap. She would pretend that she was the main girl in the story and she would plan how she would handle every situation the girl found herself in. When that programme was on TV she could not be disturbed, even her mother could not speak to her.

Back to my disturbed sleep! As I said I was in a deep sleep but then I became aware that I was seeing the inside of a small terraced house and I saw Sharon's mother walking up some very narrow, slightly dark stairs, carrying a vacuum cleaner. As I watched she lost her footing and fell backwards and lay still on the floor. I knew that she was dead and the shock of what I saw woke me up.

The dream was so vivid that I remembered it all clearly. The whole thing was very unusual. I had never met Sharon's mother but I knew it was her, I knew she worked as a home help but I didn't know exactly what she did but somehow I knew that that would be the house she would be working in the next day.

I started to pray, begging the Lord to just let it be a foolish dream because I knew that if it wasn't, it would destroy two lives. At that time Sharon could not manage without her mother.

After praying I went back to sleep and then went in to the same dream with the same results. Again I woke up and again I prayed that it would not happen.

Once again I went back to sleep and once again into the same dream with the same results.

Having dreamt the same dream for the third time this time I really pleaded with the Lord saying, Lord, I understand that this accident is going to happen but if it is at all possible please let the outcome be different. If possible Father please let her live. Please if it has to be let her be hurt from the fall but don't let her die.

Next morning I knew I had to ask Sharon about her mother and where she was working. She told me about the house her mother was at and just as I was trying to find a way to tell her about my dream Sharon's father called to ask her to come home because her mother had had an accident. She had fallen backwards down a narrow flight of stairs in a small terraced house where she was working and she was being rushed to hospital.

Sharon was distraught but I was able to reassure her that her mother would be alright. Sharon's mother had badly damaged her back and had to have bed rest for several weeks but eventually recovered. As for me, well any time I wake in the night thinking about someone, I always pray for them.

But verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer. Psalm 66: 19

Answer to Crossword

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| ¹ J | A | ² M | E | ³ S | ⁴ A | ⁵ N | ⁶ D | J | ⁷ O | ⁸ H | ⁹ N | | ¹⁰ O | ¹¹ P | ¹² T |
| E | | A | | ¹³ E | S | A | U | | ¹⁴ N | E | E | D | | ¹⁵ E | D |
| ¹⁶ R | ¹⁷ E | D | ¹⁸ S | E | A | | S | | ¹⁹ E | A | R | | ²⁰ G | N | |
| ²¹ U | R | | A | | | ²² S | T | Y | | V | | ²³ N | E | T | ²⁴ S |
| ²⁵ S | A | T | U | ²⁶ R | ²⁷ D | A | Y | | ²⁸ H | E | | ²⁹ O | P | E | N |
| A | | | ³⁰ L | O | O | P | S | | ³¹ E | N | ³² O | S | | ³³ C | A |
| ³⁴ L | ³⁵ I | ³⁶ S | T | E | N | | ³⁷ T | ³⁸ I | N | | ³⁹ T | E | N | O | R |
| ⁴⁰ E | L | A | H | | ⁴¹ K | ⁴² A | R | T | A | N | | | | ⁴³ S | E |
| ⁴⁴ M | A | T | E | | ⁴⁵ E | D | E | N | | | ⁴⁶ R | ⁴⁷ O | ⁴⁸ O | T | S |
| | I | | ⁴⁹ A | ⁵⁰ N | Y | | E | | ⁵¹ D | R | U | N | K | | |
| ⁵² T | | ⁵³ A | P | E | S | | T | | A | | ⁵⁴ S | O | | ⁵⁵ D | |
| H | | | O | | B | | ⁵⁶ S | A | R | ⁵⁷ A | H | | ⁵⁸ C | I | ⁵⁹ S |
| ⁶⁰ R | A | ⁶¹ W | S | O | R | E | | | ⁶² I | R | I | | ⁶³ U | S | E |
| E | | ⁶⁴ A | T | | A | | ⁶⁵ F | | U | | | ⁶⁶ N | I | E | C |
| ⁶⁷ E | A | R | L | Y | Y | E | A | ⁶⁸ R | S | | G | | | ⁶⁹ I | R |
| D | | ⁷⁰ M | E | | E | | ⁷¹ U | P | | ⁷² S | W | ⁷³ E | E | P | |
| ⁷⁴ A | H | A | | ⁷⁵ I | D | ⁷⁶ O | L | S | | ⁷⁷ I | I | G | | ⁷⁸ L | ⁷⁹ A |
| Y | | I | | N | | ⁸⁰ W | T | | ⁸¹ T | O | N | G | U | E | S |
| ⁸² S | T | R | A | N | G | E | S | O | U | N | D | S | | ⁸³ S | S |