

Statements by Heavenly Beings

- THE ANGEL GABRIEL
1. Tells Zacharias that Elisabeth will give birth to John the Baptist. He is to be consecrated to the Lord and will prepare the way for the Messiah. Zacharias is struck dumb because he disbelieves Gabriel. (Lk 1:13–20)
 2. Tells Mary she is to conceive by the Holy Ghost and give birth to the Savior. (Lk 1:28, 30–33, 35–37)
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- ANGEL(S)
3. Angels announce the birth of the Savior to shepherds near Bethlehem. (Lk 2:10–12,14)
 4. An angel tells Joseph not to put Mary away, because the child she carries is of the Holy Ghost. He is the Savior and is to be called Jesus. (Mt 1:20–23)
 5. An angel warns Joseph to take Mary and Jesus into Egypt to escape from Herod. (Mt 2:13)
 6. An angel tells Joseph to return with Mary and Jesus to Israel. (Mt 2:19–20)
 7. Angels greet Mary Magdalene at the tomb of Christ. (Jn 20:13)
 8. Angels tell the women at the tomb that Jesus is risen. (Mt 28:5–7; Mk 16:15–18; Lk 24:5–7)
 9. “Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.” (Acts 1:11)
 10. “Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life.” (Acts 5:20)
 11. “Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert.” (Acts 8:26)

12. Cornelius's prayer is heard and he is instructed to send for Peter to learn the Gospel. (Acts 10:31–32)
13. An angel frees Peter from prison. (Acts 12:7–8)
14. "Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee." (Acts 27:24)

THE FATHER FROM HEAVEN

15. Voice of God at the baptism and transfiguration of Jesus. (Mt 3:17; 17:5; Mk 1:11; 9:7; Lk 3:22; 9:35)
16. "I have both glorified [my name], and will glorify it again." (Jn 12:28)

THE RISEN LORD

17. Christ greets Mary Magdalene outside his empty tomb. (Jn 20:15–17)
18. Christ shows himself to Thomas and the rest of the apostles. (Jn 20:26–29)
19. Disciples are instructed to tell the brethren that Christ will meet them in Galilee. (Mt 28:9–10)
20. Apostles of Christ must teach and baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. (Mt 28:18–20; Mk 16:15–18)
21. Christ teaches his disciples on the road to Emmaus concerning his resurrection. (Lk 24:17, 19, 25–26)
22. Christ shows himself unto the Ten apostles. (Lk 24:36–49; Jn 20:19, 21)
23. Christ instructs his disciples how to cast their nets in order to catch fish. (Jn 21:5–12)
24. "Lovest thou me more than these?... Feed my sheep." (Jn 21:15–17)

25. Christ prophesies the martyrdoms of the apostles.
(Jn 21:18–19)
26. “Follow me.” (Jn 21:19)
27. “If I will that he tarry till I come, what is that to thee? follow thou me.” (Jn 21:22)
28. The apostles shall receive the Holy Ghost and witness of Christ to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:7–8)
29. “Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?... I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.” (Acts 9:4–6; 26:14–18)
30. Ananias is called to heal and baptize Saul.
(Acts 9:10–12, 15–16)
31. “Rise, Peter; kill, and eat... What God hath cleansed, that call not thou common.”
(Acts 10:13, 15)
32. “Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: For I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city.”
(Acts 18:9–10)
33. “Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome.” (Acts 23:11)

THE HOLY GHOST

34. Paul is to be bound and imprisoned when he goes to Jerusalem. (Acts 21:11)
35. Barnabas and Saul are called as missionaries.
(Acts 13:2)

A MAN IN A VISION

36. “Come over into Macedonia, and help us.”
(Acts 16:9)

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Explanation

Modern secular minds discount the existence of angels or other heavenly beings. Yet the New Testament is full of references to them. Chart 8-3 lists the many occasions on which divine beings or celestial messengers delivered to men and women specific words of joy or knowledge emanating from the presence of God. On thirty-six occasions, such statements came from the angel Gabriel, other angels, God the Father, the risen Lord, the Holy Ghost, or a Macedonian man in a vision to Paul.

Reference

Russell M. Nelson, "Life after Life," *Ensign*, May 1987, 8–10.