

Letter 927c
An Exegesis of Acts Chapter 12
2024-07-06

Dear **Yeshua**,

Saturday, 6 July 2024, 9:30AM

The Book of Acts
Chapter 12
Verses 1 Through 29

1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church.

2 Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

3 And because he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to seize Peter also. Now it was during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

4 So when he had arrested him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to keep him, intending to bring him before the people after Passover.

5 Peter was therefore kept in prison, but **constant prayer** was offered to God for him by the church.

6 And when Herod was about to bring him out, that night Peter was sleeping, bound with two chains between two soldiers; and the guards before the door were keeping the prison.

7 Now behold, an **angel of the Lord stood by him**, and a light shone in the prison; and he struck Peter on the side and raised him up, saying,

“Arise quickly!”

And **his chains fell off his hands**.

8 Then the **angel** said to him,

“Gird yourself and tie on your sandals”;

and so he did.

And he said to him,

“Put on your garment and follow me.”

9 So he went out and followed him, and **did not know** that what was done by the **angel** was real, but **thought he was seeing a vision**.

10 When they were past the first and the second guard posts, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city, which opened to them of its own accord; and they went out and went down one street, and immediately the **angel** departed from him.

11 And when Peter had come to himself, he said,

“Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His **angel**,
and has **delivered** me from **the hand of Herod**
and from **all the expectation of the Jewish people.**”

12 So, when he had considered this, he came to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose surname was Mark, where many were gathered together praying.

13 And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a girl named Rhoda came to answer.

14 When **she recognized Peter's voice**, because of her gladness she did not open the gate, but ran in and announced that Peter stood before the gate.

15 But they said to her,

“You are beside yourself!”

Yet she kept insisting that it was so.

So they said,

“It is his **angel.**”

16 Now Peter continued knocking; and when they opened the door and saw him, they were astonished.

17 But motioning to them with his hand to keep silent, he declared to them how the **Lord** had brought him out of the prison.

And he said,

“Go, tell these things to James and to the brethren.”

And he departed and went to another place.

18 Then, as soon as it was day, there was no small stir among the soldiers about what had become of Peter. **19** But when Herod had searched for him and not found him, he examined the guards and commanded that they should be put to death.

And he went down from Judea to Caesarea, and stayed there.

END ACTS 12.

Please join me as I observe a some key points, coming from verses 5-11.

I OBSERVE THAT:

Vs. 5 - Peter is in prison, **HOWEVER**, the Church is in constant prayer for him.

Vs. 6 - It is made clear that Peter is bound in chains between two soldiers. He is also asleep.

Vs. 7 - Here is where Jesus begins the process of answering the prayer of the church in v.5. An angel of the Lord is revealed as standing next to Peter. The angel wakes up Peter, while at the same time the shackles fall off of Peter's hands.

Vs. 8 - The angel speaks instructions from Jesus; **a.** get dressed, **b.** put on your shoes, **c.** follow me.

Vs. 9 - It is not clear to Peter whether what is happening is "earth-space actual" or a vision. At first he goes with the vision concept.

Vs. 10 - The angel leads Peter past 2 guard posts, then through the iron gate, which opens "by itself". Outside the prison, after going some distance down the street of egress, the angel departs.

Vs. 11 - Peter now realizes that he is indeed out of the prison, and says to himself: "Now I know for certain that the **Lord** has sent **His** angel, and has delivered me from the hand of Herod and from all the expectation of the Jewish people."

To summarize, Peter goes on a 4-step journey from ...

a. ... Imprisonment,

to ...

b. ... A "Mission Impossible" style angel-assisted jail-break,

to ...

c. ... Freedom and bewilderment,

and finally to...

d. ... The realization for fact-certain the truth of what had just happened.

The main point in this study is that Jesus sent an angel to say and do certain things in answer to the prayers of His Saints. The details of that answer are made known in what took place. According to the [Lord Holy Spirit](#), this is exactly and precisely what Jesus wanted to occur.

Since this is true, and I can find in Scripture no other use of the word "angel" other than to mean a spirit person originally from Heaven (and some of these having rebelled against Yahweh), I cannot agree with those who want to say that the 7 Angels of the 7 Churches in Revelation 2-3 are human.

P. S. An exegesis of Vs. 11 alone will yield a vast quantity of gifts.

P. P. S. The writer is aware that there may be certain exceptions to definitions of words in Scriptural texts. If it can be shown by two or more witnesses in the Bible that the 7 Revelation Church angels are indeed human, he is willing to change his mind and agree with the truth of the subject.

Many Blessings, and Much Shalom...

R. C. Theophilus