**ANGELS**

**LESSON FOUR: The Danger of Idolizing Angels**

**The Danger of Perverting The Gospel**  (read Galatians 1:6-9 )

1. What does Paul say will happen to anyone who promotes a “gospel” other than that which he preached – the good news of grace (vv. 8-9)? (take a moment to summarize the good news of the Gospel of Christ.)
2. The Galatian believers were Greeks unfamiliar with Jewish laws and customs; those who were confusing them and perverting the Gospel were zealous Jewish Christians who believed that the Old Testament practices such as circumcision and dietary restrictions were required of all believers to be acceptable to God for salvation. How did this “add to” and contradict the true Gospel?
3. Which is more dangerous: 1) Those who directly attack the Gospel, or 2) those who add something new to biblical truth claiming that their new revelations came from angels (e.g. Mohammed claiming the angel Gabriel led him to found Islam; Joseph Smith claimed that the angel Moroni influenced the writing of the Book of Mormon; new age books claiming angelic authority)? Why?

## The Dangers of Losing Touch with Christ (read Colossians 2:18-19)

1. What were these false teachers doing? What were the results?
2. The Bible teaches that angels are God’s servants. What does it say about worshipping them? (see Exodus 20:3,4; Revelation 22:8,9)

## The Danger of Moving Into The Demonic (read 1 Corinthians 10:19-20)

1. Worshipping idols (statues of wood and stone) by sacrificing an animal was the major expression of pagan religion in Corinth. Paul warned these new Christians that continued participation in idol worship indicated an allegiance to the demons. How might someone’s devotion to angels, which is idolatry, be serving a demon in disguise who seeks to blind them from the truth of God? (see 2 Corinthians 11:14)

## The Danger of Slipping Into Paganism (read Deuteronomy 32:15-18; Psalm 106:35-37)

1. These passages describe Israel’s (Jeshurun) descent into paganism. How did this happen . . . what did they do?

How may the current fascination with angels be the leading edge of a new paganism? How can Christians withstand these ideas?