

# Fulfilled Prophecies

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**Matthew 22:30 -  
Could "like angels"  
describe covenant  
privilege (direct  
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presence) rather  
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(Matthew 22:30)**



By Dan Maines

**Could "like angels" describe covenant privilege (direct  
access to God's presence) rather than a change in physical  
nature? (Matthew 22:30)**

Yes, from the fulfilled perspective that makes perfect sense. Jesus was answering the Sadducees, who denied resurrection altogether. They thought in terms of earthly marriage laws (Levirate marriage), but Jesus lifted the conversation to covenant realities. "Like angels" does not mean humans become spirit beings or lose bodies. Angels represent those who stand in God's presence (Luke 1:19, Matthew 18:10). In

the resurrection, the saints gain that same covenant privilege, direct access to God through Christ, no longer separated by temple, priesthood, or genealogy.

This fits the covenant shift. Under the Old Covenant, Israel needed sacrifices, priests, and rituals to approach God. After the resurrection and covenantal fulfillment, believers have full access in Christ (Hebrews 10:19-22). So "like angels" is not about physical nature, but about status before God, enjoying His presence without the barriers of the old system.

Let's walk through it carefully and see if Scripture supports it:

## **1. Angels and Access to God's Presence**

Luke 1:19 - Gabriel says, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God."

Matthew 18:10 - Jesus says children's angels "always see the face of My Father who is in heaven." This shows the defining feature of angels is their nearness to God, not their physical makeup.

## **2. Covenant Access Promised to Believers**

Hebrews 10:19-22 - "We have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus... let us draw near with a sincere heart."

Ephesians 2:18 - "For through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father." These verses show that resurrection life means full access to God's presence, which mirrors the angelic privilege.

**3. Context of Matthew 22:30** The Sadducees were concerned about Levirate marriage (Deuteronomy 25:5-6), where raising up children kept covenant inheritance alive. Jesus says in the

resurrection "they neither marry nor are given in marriage."  
Why? Because inheritance is no longer by physical lineage, but through Christ. That old system is gone.

**4. Parallel with 1 Corinthians 15** Paul says resurrection is about being raised in Christ, moving from the "natural" (Old Covenant body tied to Adam) to the "spiritual" (New Covenant body in Christ). This is covenantal, not physical biology.

**Conclusion** So yes, "like angels" fits covenant privilege:

Angels = direct access to God's presence.

Resurrected saints = granted that same access, no temple veil, no marriage law inheritance.

Scripture strongly supports this interpretation. It keeps the context, fits the covenant transition, and avoids the error of thinking believers lose bodies or become angelic beings.

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